

NICHOLLS

Communities, Equality & Local Government Committee,  
Welsh Assembly,  
The Senydd Building  
Cardiff.

17th February 2012

Dear Sirs,

Reading the article – Assembly to assess effect of art cuts – in the Evening Post 15<sup>th</sup> February, caused me to assess the retrograde steps we have been forced to take in the past 2 to 3 years regarding the progression of our Art Society Self Help Group. We are Oystermouth Arts Society who had a static membership of 18 to 20 regular active participants, due to cuts this is now down to 9 because of the absence of professional workshops. Prior to the cuts made by the Arts Council of Wales we used to receive a grant of just £1000.00 per year, which enabled us to engage the services of professional artists and tutors to run workshops on 4 or 5 occasions, depending upon their fee.

On the occasion of workshops we always attracted in excess of 15 enthusiastic budding artists who paid a small participating fee which enables us to attract further one or two professional artists and cover the costs of venues, this process became self perpetuating until the grant was withdrawn.

We are anxious to learn if the Community, Equality and Local Government Committee can lead us back into favour for grants thus enabling us to expand and enhance the progression of our group and provide satisfaction to a requirement which exists in this locality, restoring Community activity,

Yours sincerely,



Margaret R Nicholls  
Secretary Oystermouth Art Society.