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Minister for Finance and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS
Chair of Finance Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

14 November 2023

Dear Peredur,

I am writing in response to your letter regarding the review of the statement of principles for Directly Funded Bodies (DFBs).

I note the feedback you have received regarding the fiscal information in the annual letter I provide to the Committee to support forward planning for those bodies. As you say, the Welsh Government's own financial position beyond the current year is often not clear, so it is not always possible to provide detailed guidance on future fiscal prospects. However, I am happy to consider whether it's possible to provide additional longer run information if that would be helpful, looking at different potential future funding scenarios.

I already provide a Written Statement following the UK Government's Autumn Statement, setting out the implications for the Welsh Government's Budget. In addition, the Chief Economist's Report, published alongside our Draft Budget, includes information regarding medium term fiscal prospects. This takes account of the UK Government's Autumn Statement and the latest forecasts from the Office for Budget Responsibility.

Supplementary budgets are routinely published in June and February of each financial year. The exact timings can be dependent on both the Senedd calendar in respect of when recess falls and the expected publication of the UK Government's Main and Supplementary Estimates. In practice, the DFBs are notified of the dates of supplementary budgets when I inform the Committee. However, going forward I will copy my letter to the Committee to the DFBs to formalise our communication of those dates.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Evans AS/MS
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Minister for Finance and Local Government

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.