



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-967
Ein cyf/Our ref: RE/00581/20

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Chair of the Petitions Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN
Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

28 July 2020

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter about non-domestic rates and the Welsh Government's support for businesses.

I met with the Chair of Debenhams, Mark Gifford, on 12 May to learn more about the company's position and I asked officials to explore whether alternative support might be an option.

On 23 June, Ken Skates MS, Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales and I attended the Welsh Retail Consortium's board meeting. The meeting was attended by representatives of numerous businesses impacted by the decision to limit rates relief to properties with a rateable value of up to £500,000. Attendees included representatives from those in the retail sector as well as representatives from large supermarkets.

Businesses not eligible for non-domestic rates support have been able to apply for financial support from our £500m Economic Resilience Fund. Our direct funding support has been complemented by access to loans and UK Government schemes, including the Job Retention Scheme.

Businesses which have not been eligible for financial support have been assisted with advice and guidance from Business Wales. We have also enhanced our support for employees and people facing redundancy.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Correspondence.Rebecca.Evans@gov.wales
Gohebiaeth.Rebecca.Evans@llyw.cymru

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.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Evans.

Rebecca Evans AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd

