

Ken Skates AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi, Trafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru
Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-983
Ein cyf/Our ref KS/05022/20

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Member of the Senedd
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19 August 2020

Dear Janet

Thank you for your letter of 5 August to the Minister for Finance and Trefnydd, regarding Petition P-05-983 - Give grant aid to Bed and Breakfast businesses in Wales that pay council tax and not business rates. I am replying due to my portfolio responsibilities.

I recognise that not all businesses will benefit from our current package of support, the package has been designed to be affordable within the available funding, and we had to take difficult decisions on the eligibility criteria. There are alternative options that these types of businesses may wish to consider such as UK Government level funding including the Bounce Back Loans, Self-Employment Income Support Scheme and the Business Interruption Loan Scheme.

Regarding your second question on whether future funding from the UK Government could be used for B&Bs, we will continue to engage with a range of stakeholders and review our package of support to see whether we can do more through it. It is clear that we need the UK Government to step up and provide the additional funding needed to see Welsh business through this pandemic.

Business Wales has a wide range of non-financial advisory support available. Any business affected is encouraged to visit the Business Wales website <https://businesswales.gov.wales> or contact the Business Wales helpline on 03000 6 03000.

Yours sincerely

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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.