The Llywydd's Committee
Y Gwir Anrh/Rt Hon Mark Drakeford AS/MS

Y GWIR ANRIAKT HON MARK DRAKETORD AS/M Prif Weinidog Cymru/First Minister of Wales LIC(5)-01-20 - Paper 3

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref FM -/01626/20

Ann Jones MS Chair Llywydd's Committee Senedd Cymru

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2 November 2020

## Dear Chair

I am writing in response to your letters of 9 October to myself and the Minister for Housing and Local Government, about the Electoral Commission's financial estimate for 2021-22 relating to its work on devolved Welsh elections and its five-year plan for 2020-21 to 2024-25.

While we are yet to confirm the level of funding, which will be transferred to Wales by HM Treasury in relation to these costs, we anticipate it will be broadly in line with the estimate. Any sums not covered by the transfer would have to be found from elsewhere within the resources available to Wales, thereby reducing the sums available for other activities covered by the Annual Budget Motion.

I can also confirm that the activities described by the Electoral Commission in the estimate and five-year plan are in line with the Welsh Government's expectations about what will be required during the periods these cover. I would highlight to the committee however, that expenditure for the 2021 Senedd election is likely to fall within the current financial year and the 2021-22 financial year.

My officials are working with the Electoral Commission to conclude a payment agreement, which will set out how the Welsh Government will pay it from the Welsh Consolidated Fund, according to the budget agreed by the Senedd. I will share that agreement with you in due course.

Best wishes

MARK DRAKEFORD

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