Dear Suzy,


The Finance Committee has published its report into its inquiry into the implementation of the Wales Act 2014 and operation of the Fiscal Framework. As we approach the end of the Fifth Senedd, Members of the Committee felt it was important to reflect on the implementation of these powers and the effectiveness of the Fiscal Framework.

Our report found that whilst awareness of fiscal devolution is increasing in Wales, the awareness of devolved taxes amongst businesses, professionals and other stakeholders is low. The Committee believes that more needs to be done by both the Welsh Government and the Senedd to raise awareness of fiscal devolution in Wales. As such we have made the following recommendation:

Recommendation 3: The Senedd also has a role in educating, engaging, and informing the Welsh public on fiscal devolution and the Committee recommends that the Senedd Commission considers how it can contribute to this in the Sixth Senedd.

The Senedd is further mentioned later in the report in paragraph 162, where the Committee states: “Awareness raising for WRIT has primarily fallen to the Welsh Government and HMRC but there is a role for the Senedd in increasing
knowledge of WRIT and fiscal devolution, and the Committee would like to see additional engagement activity in this area as mentioned in recommendation 3.”

As you will recall the Committee has taken an interest in the Communications Strategy of the Senedd, and it would be helpful if these considerations can be incorporated within the strategy.

A Plenary debate on the Committee’s report is provisionally scheduled for Wednesday 24 March. I would be grateful for a response to this recommendation, by Tuesday 16 March to allow it to inform the debate.

Yours sincerely,

Llyr Gruffydd MS
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.