

**Y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol
Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee**

Carl Sargeant AM
Minister for Local Government and Communities
Welsh Government
5th Floor, Tŷ Hywel
Cardiff Bay
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Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



9 November 2012

Dear Carl

**The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) Wales Regulations
and the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) Wales
Regulations**

Thank you for your letter of 5 November about the above Regulations.

I appreciate the difficulties you face as you have outlined in your letter. We will always endeavour to work flexibly to assist the Welsh Government and, as such, to consider Statutory Instruments in a shorter period than the 20 days set by standing orders (particularly where the instrument in question is short or we have considered it in draft). However, we must also balance this approach against our obligations to scrutinise legislation effectively and in an open and transparent way.

I understand that each set of Regulations is some 200 pages long and, as you indicate in your letter, that they are complex in nature. Furthermore, it is not expected that the Regulations will be laid before the National Assembly until the 15 or 16 November.

Regrettably, for these reasons, I cannot guarantee that the Committee will be in a position to consider and report on these Regulations within the timeframe proposed by your letter.

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Nevertheless, please be assured that as soon as the Regulations are laid before the National Assembly, they will be reviewed and brought to the attention of the Committee as soon as possible.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Melding". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

David Melding AM
Chair