

Ken Skates AM

Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport

Dafydd Elis Thomas AM

Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport

14 November 2017

Dear Cabinet Secretary and Minister

Welsh Government Draft Budget 2018–19

As you will be aware, the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee's remit covers the 'physical, mental and public health and well-being of the people of Wales'.

Following the cabinet reshuffle on 3 November, it has not been possible to arrange a mutually convenient time for you to attend Committee to give evidence in connection with the Welsh Government's draft budget 2018–19 within the required deadline. The Committee has therefore asked me to seek written information from you.

I would be grateful to receive information on the budgetary matters highlighted in Annexe 1 to this letter. It would be helpful if you could provide the Committee with your response to these matters by Thursday 23 November.

Yours sincerely



Dai Lloyd AC / AM

Cadeirydd / Chair



Annexe 1

Request for information from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport and Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport from the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee to inform scrutiny of the draft budget 2018–19

1. What is the rationale for separating sport and physical activity from public health again, given that the [evidence paper](#) submitted for the budget scrutiny session with the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services and Minister for Children and Social Care, highlights that sport and public health were brought together in this Government due to the important contribution of sport to physical activity levels?

2. The previous Minister with responsibility for public health and sport clarified the remit of Sports Wales last month:

- Will the change in Ministerial portfolios have an impact on this, or the new outcomes framework Sport Wales has been tasked with developing?
- Does the Minister share the same vision for Sports Wales?

3. The previous Minister set out a requirement for Sport Wales and Public Health Wales to work together to deliver the commitment to significantly increase physical activity levels:

- Will this continue to be a Government priority?
- If so, how will the two portfolios be aligned across Government to deliver these objectives?

4. The Welsh Government has protected overall sport and physical activity resource funding at its current level (£22.3m), but should physical activity be given a higher priority in funding terms if the Welsh Government is serious about the preventative agenda?

5. What proportion of the sport and physical activity funding is allocated to increasing the physical activity levels of children and young people, and is this substantially different from previous years?

6. Sport Wales has been tasked with developing a new approach to physical activity, targeting communities which are least likely to meet Chief Medical Officer's guidelines. Sport Wales' resource budget has not increased for 2018–19:

- How confident is the Minister that Sport Wales has the capacity to deliver this?
- Will delivery of the new approach be evaluated on effectiveness and value for money?
- What will be the contribution of Public Health Wales to this new approach?

7. The WLGA and ADSS Cymru told the Committee that local authorities have responded to financial pressures by prioritising statutory services, often at the expense of non-statutory services like leisure centres which have a preventative role:

- Has the Welsh Government undertaken any assessment of the impact of cuts to community leisure centres and services on physical activity levels?
- How does the Welsh Government plan to mitigate this?