Rebecca Evans AS/MS Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Llywodraeth Leol Minister for Finance and Local Government



Eich cyf/Your ref

Ein cyf/Our ref: RE-585-21

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS Chair, Finance Committee Senedd Cymru Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA

14 September 2021

Dear Peredur,

Further to my recent letter advising you of the Finance Ministers' Quadrilateral Meeting on 20 July, I write to briefly report on the discussions.

There was a robust conversation around the agenda items including the upcoming Spending Review, Covid response and recovery, as well as economic growth and investment in Wales, and arrangements for future Quadrilateral meetings.

I continued to press for early certainty and enhanced transparency around UK Government financial decision making to enable us to plan more effectively for the future and reflected on how the Barnett guarantee had been a useful tool to assist with budgetary management and planning last year.

I also took the opportunity to emphasise the need for a flexible approach to UK-wide Covid support schemes, including the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme to ensure they are able to continue to help shield our economies and protect our communities, and to make permanent the £20 uplift to Universal Credit.

Following last week's announcement by the Chancellor that the Spending Review will conclude on the 27 October alongside an autumn budget I am seeking an urgent Quadrilateral meeting of the UK Finance Ministers to discuss the Welsh Government's priorities.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Evans AS/MS

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Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Llywodraeth Leol Minister for Finance and Local Government

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