

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: RE-585-21

Huw Irranca-Davies MS
Chair, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

14 September 2021

Dear Huw,

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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Minister for Finance and Local Government

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.