

**Shan Morgan**  
Ysgrifennydd Parhaol  
Permanent Secretary



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Mark Isherwood MS  
Chair of Public Accounts and  
Public Administration Committee

27th October 2021

Dear Mr Isherwood,

**Welsh Government's approach to responding to recommendations made by the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee in its reports**

Thank you for your letter seeking assurance that the practice adopted of accept or reject will be used when responding to reports from the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee.

I want to firstly acknowledge the role that the Public Accounts Committee (Fifth Senedd) took in leading the inquiry and scrutinising the implementation of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 ('the WFG Act'). The Report, *Delivering for future generations: the story so far*, illustrates that the WFG Act continues to be a point of reference for improving how government and public services work in a more sustainable way.

As acknowledged in the Report, this was the first time that the Senedd has taken a comprehensive look at the work that has been carried out under the WFG Act by the various bodies responsible for its implementation, and therefore Senedd committee chairs agreed that the Public Accounts Committee would lead the inquiry. I note the response from Y Llywydd and the Chair of the Business Committee to the Report which confirms that the Equality and Social Justice Committee's remit includes oversight of the implementation of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

I fully support the need for clarity in response to reports of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee. I can assure you that that the decision to 'accept in principle' some of the report's recommendations represents an isolated instance and reflects the nature of the report's recommendations which covered aspects of well-being of future generations policy which would typically be reserved for a subject committee.



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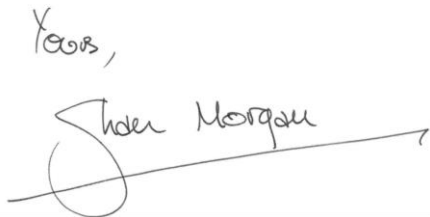
Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi. Dilynwch y ddolen i gael arweiniad ar sut fyddwn yn trin a defnyddio'ch data, yn unol â'r Rheoliadau Diogelu Data Cyffredinol. <https://gov.wales/about/welsh-government-privacy-notice/?skip=1&lang=cy>

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As set out in my letter of 26 July 2018 on this matter, copied to the then Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, maintaining the use of three responses – accept, accept-in-principle, and reject – ensures that the Welsh Government is able to respond, at least on an initial basis, to what can often be complex and multi-dimensional recommendations in areas of policy that may still be under development.

The Welsh Government's response to the Report clearly indicates that we agree that action needs to be taken to address the barriers which the individual recommendations seek to address, but that there may be a more effective way or different timescale in addressing these barriers. I would hope that the Committee consider this an acceptance of the recommendation, rather than a full rejection of the issue and suggested actions to address the problem. We would expect the Committee to judge our response to the recommendations and commitment to address the barriers against our detailed responses to the recommendations.

I hope this provides you with the assurances you seek.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yours," followed by "Shan Morgan" written in a cursive style. A long horizontal line extends from the end of the signature across the page.

**Shan Morgan**

Ysgrifennydd Parhaol/ Permanent Secretary  
Llywodraeth Cymru/ Welsh Government

Copied to the Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee



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