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

Eich cyf/Your ref Ein cyf/Our ref



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

9 November 2021

Dear Peredur,

Further to my recent letter advising you of the Finance Ministers' Quadrilateral Meeting on 14 October, I write to briefly report on the discussions.

There was a natural focus on the UK Government's proposals for the UK Spending Review and Autumn Budget, with little further clarity received at that time. Details of the impact of the UK Government's Spending Review and Autumn Budget on the 27 October are set out in my Written Statement.

Written Statement: The UK Government Spending Review and Autumn Budget 2021 (28 October 2021) | GOV.WALES

In relation to the item on the UK Internal Market Act and use of the Financial Assistance Powers within it, I pressed the Chief Secretary on how the UK Government intended to work with the grain of Devolved Government policy, as stated by the Minister for Intergovernmental Relations. I also took the opportunity to emphasise the importance of Wales having full replacement EU funding and provided examples of national programmes, including apprenticeships and business support, which rely on that funding and is vital to our economic recovery. On replacement rural funding, I expressed concerns with the methodology applied, outlining how it does not fully cover the EU funding that Welsh Government had planned, and asked for further engagement on this methodology with a view to remedy the position.

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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.

The Net Zero agenda item was an opportunity to share updates and experiences. As Devolved Governments we also took the opportunity to emphasise the importance of our request for additional budgetary flexibilities, specifically in relation to our capital borrowing limits, to allow investment in low-carbon infrastructure.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Evans AS/MS

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