

The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP
Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and
Communities
UK Government

14 March 2022

Dear Secretary of State

Finance Committee's inquiry into Post-EU Funding Arrangements

The Finance Committee of the Senedd, would like to invite you to attend a committee meeting to discuss its inquiry into Post-EU funding arrangements. The terms of reference for our inquiry are to consider:

- Progress in establishing and delivering replacement funds for EU structural funds, including;
 - the UK Shared Prosperity Fund;
 - the Community Renewal Fund; and
 - the Levelling Up Fund.
- How the funding proposed for Wales and funding received via continued UK participation in EU programmes, compares to the funding received while the UK was a member of the EU.
- The mechanisms and structures being established to administer those funds in Wales, the roles of those involved, in particular the Welsh and UK Governments, and the consequent impact on accountability arrangements.
- The amount of legacy funding that Wales is due to receive following the UK's exit from the EU and associated with EU structural fund programmes.

It would be helpful if you could provide written evidence by 28 April addressing the ToR. In addition the Committee would be grateful for your views on the following:

- Recent comments by the Welsh Government that the Welsh budget “will be nearly £1 billion worse off by 2024 as a result of the UK Government’s failure to honour its commitment that Wales would not lose “a single penny” as a result of the UK leaving the EU”.
- The Welsh Government’s assessment that Wales would receive at least £375 million a year, had Wales and the UK remained in the EU. Your views on this figure and your assessment of the value of funding Wales has/is due to receive.
- Further information as to how the Autumn Budget and Spending Review 2021 commitment that “total funding through the UKSPF will at a minimum match the size of EU Funds in each nation and in Cornwall, each year.” will be met.
- The UK Government’s assessment of the value of legacy EU funding in each year since the UK’s exit from the EU (31 January 2020).
- The methodology that will underpin allocations of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, including the process for allocations to programmes such as ‘Multiply’.
- How the UK Government anticipates delivering the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the role of partners.

The Committee is able to offer a number of dates in May and June, the Committee clerk would be happy to liaise with your officials to arrange a suitable time.

Yours sincerely,



Peredur Owen Griffiths MS
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg | We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.