

**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/704/2022

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS  
Chair, Finance Committee  
Senedd Cymru

31 May 2022

Dear Peredur,

As you will be aware under Standing Order 20, the Minister with responsibility for Senedd business is required to write to the Business Committee two weeks before the end of the summer term to set out a timetable for when the draft Budget will be laid. In advance of this I am writing to seek a discussion in relation to the timetable for the 2023-24 Budget.

It was positive that the UK Government's multi-year spending review published in November 2021 made it possible for the Welsh Government to publish a three-year Budget up to 2024-25. However, we have subsequently seen the economic context worsen significantly with inflation forecast to reach 10% later this year. In practice our budget for the next three years is now worth at least £600m less than when we formulated our spending plans last year, and the reduction in spending power is likely to be a lot greater than that.

Despite recent announcements from the UK Government, there has also been no recognition of this changed context to our 2023-24 settlement. We are, therefore, highly dependent over the timing and outcome of any UK Autumn Fiscal event; we are currently unclear about the exact timings and quantum which will naturally impact our Budget preparations.

This leaves us facing an unchanged settlement facing significant pressures, alongside significant uncertainties over our prospects until an undefined point in the Autumn. In this context I would welcome a discussion with you on the options that face us and to seek the Committee's recommendation on a timetable for this year's Budget.

Yours sincerely,

**Rebecca Evans AS/MS**  
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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.