

Russell George MS  
Chair of the Health and Social Care Committee

07 July 2022

Dear Russell,

## Scrutiny of the Welsh Government's First Supplementary Budget 2022-23 – Pressures in the NHS

On 30 June, the Finance Committee held an evidence session with the Minister for Finance and Local Government on the Welsh Government's First Supplementary Budget 2022-23.

1. At this session, the Committee considered issues relating to the remit of the Health and Social Care (HSC) Committee, in particular, the current pressures being faced by the NHS and the additional funding being provided by the Welsh Government to aid recovery from the pandemic. I would like to draw your attention to the following recommendations that were included in our report:

**Recommendation 10.** The Committee recommends that the Welsh Government develops a strategic long-term approach to workforce planning and training across the public sector to mitigate future staffing pressures with the long-term aim of making public services sustainable and affordable.

**Recommendation 11.** The Committee recommends that the Welsh Government provides information about how the additional funding for NHS recovery will be used and the expected outcomes for the additional funding it has committed to provide over this Senedd term.

**Recommendation 12.** The Committee recommends that the Welsh Government provides further information to explain why local health boards were not able to fully utilise the additional funding provided in 2021-22 to support NHS recovery and reduce the waiting times backlog, as

well as set out what actions it is taking to address them to ensure current year and future allocations can be appropriately targeted to deliver its ambitions and provide value for money.

Given your Committee's interest in these areas, you may wish to explore these issues with the Minister for Health and Social Services, or other appropriate Ministers, in greater detail when scrutinising the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2023-24 later this year.

Our report on the Supplementary Budget 2022-23 will be published on 11 July which will inform the Plenary debate scheduled for the 12 July.

We will share the Welsh Government's response to our recommendations with you once received.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peredur Owen Griffiths', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS  
Chair of the Finance Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.