

Mark Drakeford MS
First Minister
Welsh Government

08 November 2022

Welsh Government Draft Budget 2023-2024

Dear Mark,

You will be aware that Senedd committees will be undertaking scrutiny of the Welsh Government's draft budget 2023-24 during the autumn.

Written evidence

To inform the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations Committee's scrutiny, we would welcome written information from you on the areas detailed in the Annex to this letter. We would be grateful to receive this information by 14 December 2022.

Oral evidence

Members would also be grateful if you could attend an oral evidence session on 11 January 2023 between 09.30 and 10.30.

Approach

The Committee will seek to follow the Finance Committee's lead, basing our approach on the four principles of financial scrutiny: affordability, prioritisation, value for money and budget processes. We will also seek evidence from the Minister for Education and the Welsh Language, the Minister for Economy, and the Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport and the Chief Whip, given the relevance of their work to our remit.

Following the session the Committee will write to you with any additional requests for information or clarification and publish a report of our findings in the Senedd.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Delyth Jewell AS'.

Delyth Jewell AS

Chair of the Culture, Communication, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations Committee



ANNEX – REQUEST FOR WRITTEN INFORMATION IN ADVANCE OF DRAFT BUDGET SCRUTINY

The Committee requests the following information:

Commentary on Actions and detail of Budget Expenditure Line (BEL) allocations

A breakdown of the 2023-24 draft budget allocations for international relations and international development by MEG, Spending Programme area, Action and Budget Expenditure Line (BEL).

Final out-turns for 2021-22 and forecast out-turns for 2022-2023.

Commentary on the Actions within the MEG in relation to International Relations and International Development, including an analysis and explanation of changes between the First Supplementary Budget 2022- 23 and the Draft Budget 2023-24.

Other information

An outline of the draft budget allocations to deliver the actions included in each of the international action plans for the Welsh Government’s International Strategy.

Implications of the ongoing effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and UK exit from the EU on international relations spending plans.

Specific areas

International strategy

Allocations and commentary in respect of:

- resources for external diaspora organisations.
 - resources for each individual delivery partner tasked with supporting the delivery of the strategy
 - resources for external arts and sports organisations to support the delivery of the strategy.
 - resources aimed at promoting the Well-being of Future Generations Act internationally.
 - resources for engagement with priority regions and countries outlined in the International Strategy.
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Wales and Africa Programme

Allocations and commentary in respect of:

- resource provided to the projects and organisations supported by the Wales and Africa programme.
 - funding to support the development of pan-African Tree Planting projects, including the existing Mbale Tree Planting Programme.
 - funding to support Wales as a Fair Trade Nation, and details of what outcomes will be delivered and how delivery of these outcomes will be measured.
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International offices

Allocations and commentary in relation to:

- the work of the International Offices, and details of what outcomes will be delivered and how delivery of these outcomes will be measured.
 - all planned Welsh Government engagement with major and International events, including how the cost benefit of engaging with these events are evaluated.
 - the draft budget allocations for different International offices, and on what basis were decisions on these specific allocations made.
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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.
