



Building  
Communities Trust  
Ymddiriedolaeth  
Adeiladu Cymunedau

November 16<sup>th</sup> 2023.

Dear John,

I am writing to you in your role as Chair of the Local Government and Housing Committee, following the Community Assets event you kindly participated in on November 7th as a panellist. During the event you spoke about the vital role that the Committee has in following up on the work it has undertaken, with reference to monitoring the progress of recommendations made.

To that end, we note that the twelve-month time frame for the primary recommendation in the [Community Assets](#) report has now passed. We are aware you have written to the Welsh Government about this, and that a response from Welsh Government has been retracted, with a replacement response expected at the end of the week commencing November 6<sup>th</sup> 2023. We welcome your careful monitoring of the situation and would urge you to press for a further, more detailed update from the Welsh Government concerning the development of the Commission to look at Community Ownership.

You will have seen the high level of interest Community Ownership from across the political spectrum in Wales, as well as strong support from a range of community actors. We obviously recognise and acknowledge the multifaceted nature of pressures facing the Welsh Government (chiefly financial pressures and the crowded nature of the legislative programme) but feel strongly that strengthened guidance on Community Asset Transfer (at a minimum) would help to save public money in the long run, by enabling public bodies access to guidance based on best practice.

We would be happy to provide you with support in tabling questions to the Ministers involved if this would be useful. We look forward to hearing from you as how you feel it best to approach this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Johnes', is written over a faint, light blue circular watermark or seal.

Chris Johnes  
Chief Executive Building Communities Trust