

**Pwyllgor yr Economi,
Masnach a Materion Gwledig**

—
**Economy, Trade, and
Rural Affairs Committee**

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Peredur Owen Griffiths MS
Chair
Finance Committee

27 October 2023

Evidence papers supporting the 2024-25 Draft Budget

Dear Peredur,

Thank you for copying me in on your [letter](#) of 22 September to the Minister for Finance and Local Government, which the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee noted at its meeting on 11 October.

As you are aware, the Minister's proposal for the development of a high-level template for evidence papers to support budget scrutiny was discussed in the Chair's Forum on Monday. In Committee today Members discussed my intention to write to you with a formal response.

My view is that, while it is recognised there could be some benefits to agreeing a baseline of information to be provided by Welsh Government in support of budget scrutiny, it would be important for that baseline not to be set too low. It should also be recognised that ultimately it is for individual Committees to decide what information they need Ministers to provide. As you state in your letter, it is important to guard against being prescriptive about the information that should be provided.

The Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee certainly appreciates receiving detailed information to support its scrutiny of the Draft Budget, as is demonstrated by the Ministerial evidence request letters published on our [agenda](#) this week. We seek a range of information that

reflects responses to previous budget report recommendations; the outcome of consultation with stakeholders and priority issues raised by them; as well as other matters arising from our in-year scrutiny work.

I hope that this response is helpful.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Davies". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul Davies MS

Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English