

LGF (S20) 15
Bil Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru)
Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill
Ymateb gan: Angela Radice
Response from: Angela Radice

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to be involved in the consultations concerning the bill. I am an old age pensioner (66) who lives with and cares for my elderly mother(89) who is increasingly less able to access new technology. I am worried that the change in Clause 20 of the Bill will harm my local newspaper (through lack of advertising revenues) and make it more difficult for some members of my community to keep up to date with important information such as council tax rate changes. People like my mother do not use the internet unaided and rely on printed communications such as newspapers and magazines to keep up to date. We live in a very small town in Pembrokeshire which has an aging demographic due to it being a desirable retirement location. We receive very little information from the county or community councils without going onto a computer. Even then, the information is like looking for a needle in a haystack. Their websites are very confusing and send you round in circles. It is very easy to miss out on important information such as when the council tax is going to change and even when the rubbish is going to be collected. We get our local weekly newspaper from the shop on the high street. We can see the public notices in that, and we can also read the local democracy reports. If the newspapers do not get advertising revenue, how can they afford to pay their staff? Vital information which affects our household budget should be easy to find and accessible to all.

I am happy to complete any questionnaires etc if that would be helpful for your consultations.

Yours faithfully

Angela Radice