

LGF (S20) 16

Bil Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru)

Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill

Ymateb gan: Arnold Woolley

Response from: Arnold Woolley

Dear Senedd Members,

I write to express my concern that the change in Clause 20 of the Bill will undoubtedly threaten the continued existence of Local Newspapers throughout Wales as we currently know them. Despite the growing use of modern technology via smart phones and computers, printed and published local newspapers still have a valued and worthwhile place in today's society, especially for the 7-10% of the population, largely Older Persons, who do not have access to computers or even smart phones. Changes to Council Tax arrangements need to be advised, promptly, to all members of local communities, not just those who are technologically equipped and "On-Line". As a councillor myself, I am often approached by residents who have read articles and notices in our local newspapers, because they use such as their primary source of information. I would also add that, in my experience, most residents seldom go on-line to visit Local Government websites on anything like a regular basis, so information on such alone, will not spread as far and wide nor as rapidly, as would the same information appearing in a local newspaper.

You may note, please that this response to the consultation is made in my personal capacity, Arnold Woolley, DipIM, MCMI, that I am way above 18 years of age. I have no objection to my name being published alongside my comments.

Yours faithfully,
Arnold Woolley