

Rebecca Evans AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid, y Cyfansoddiad
a Swyddfa'r Cabinet
Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution & Cabinet Office



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref

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19 April 2024

Dear Sarah and Peredur

Thank you for the joint letter in response to my letters to the Chairs of your respective Senedd Committees.

I would like to clarify any potential misunderstanding of my proposed meeting. I have not yet reached the stage where I am able to make proposals as to the future architecture for making changes to the Welsh Tax Acts. Prior to commencing work on the proposals, my intention was for my officials to meet with you to gain insights and early thinking, including discussing proposals you may have, understanding your views on essential parts of any future architecture, and how the proposals may operate. This is because I intend for you to be involved from the start in this process to ensure that your proposals can be included early in the planning stage.

The Chancellor's budget on 6 March provided an example of the types of external events that the power provided in the Welsh Tax Acts etc. (Power to Modify) Act 2022 was specifically aimed. The Chancellor announced that the stamp duty land tax (SDLT) transfers involving multiple dwellings relief would, subject to Parliament's approval, be repealed with effect from 1 June 2024. The Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968 resolutions passed after the Chancellors speech included the abolition of the relief as well as related transitional rules. Due to the commonality of the rules in SDLT and our own land transaction tax (LTT) relief for acquisitions involving multiple dwellings, there will be block

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

grant adjustments and a reduction in our resources resulting from the Chancellor's announcements.

I had planned to launch a consultation seeking views on proposals to amend the relief for acquisitions involving multiple dwellings as part of the final budget on 5 March. However, given the Chancellor's statement was to occur the following day, I chose to wait to see if any announcements impacted my plans. You will not be surprised to hear that the UK government chose not to share their plans with me or my officials prior to the Chancellor's announcement. As you will know, I launched a consultation on 8 April on the abolition of the LTT relief for acquisitions involving multiple dwellings and some other matters. The abolition of the SDLT transfers involving multiple dwellings relief provides a timely example of the issues that can arise because of external events that we will need to ensure the future architecture can address.

I therefore ask that we make arrangements for this initial presentation and meeting as I am very eager to hear what proposals Members from the two Committees may have as to what might provide the appropriate future architecture.

Yours sincerely,

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

Rebecca Evans AS/MS

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