Pwyllgor Cyllid / Finance Committee FIN(6)-14-24 PTN 7

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



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref Ein cyf/Our ref MA/RE/5565/24

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS, Chair Finance Committee, The Senedd, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff CF99 1NA

10 June 2024

Dear Peredur

Following my letter of 29 April 2024 regarding my approach to the publication of supplementary budgets during 2024-25 I am writing to inform you of a change to those plans.

Whilst I intend to continue with the practice of publishing two supplementary budgets during the financial year, I have made the decision to delay publication of the first supplementary budget.

Following the announcement by the UK Government of a General Election on 4 July and the subsequent dissolution of Parliament on 30 May, HM Treasury (HMT) officials have confirmed that the Main Estimates for 2024-25 will not be laid and voted on until Parliament returns postelection.

Under the circumstances there is no real option but to delay the publication of the first supplementary budget until we are in a position to confirm our revised control totals and the Main Estimates have been voted on and are in the public domain.

With summer recess falling between 22 July and 15 September, in order to allow the minimum 3 weeks for scrutiny under Standing Orders, the first supplementary budget will now be published after the summer recess. No timetable has yet been agreed, but I will notify you in due course. I expect this to be early in the Autumn term.

Despite the delayed publication of the first supplementary budget this will not affect my intention to publish a second supplementary budget towards the end of the financial year.

In the meantime, as the Cabinet Secretary responsibilities have changed since the publication of the 2024-25 Final Budget in February, I intend to publish a restatement of the Final Budget tables to reflect the changes in structure and the new Main Expenditure Groups (MEGs).

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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.

A written statement and restated budget tables will be circulated to members as soon as the tables have been laid before the Senedd. The restated tables will then be published on the Welsh Government's web site. The restatement will be available within the next few weeks.

A copy of this letter will be sent to the Business Committee, the Senedd Commission, Audit Wales, and Public Services Ombudsman for Wales for information.

I hope you find this update helpful.

Rebecca Evans.

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