

Rebecca Evans MS
Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and Cabinet Office

29 July 2024

Dear Rebecca,

Welsh Government Budget Timetable 2025-26

I wrote to you on ~~11 July~~ regarding the proposed timetable for consideration of the Draft Budget 2025-26, asking you to consider bringing forward the publication date of the Draft Budget from 10 December to enable more evidence sessions to take place this side of the Christmas recess, and for a two stage budget process to be prioritised, if time allows.

In your letter of ~~4 July~~, you indicated a willingness to move the publication date of the Draft Budget, subject to the date of the UK Government's fiscal event, stating that:

"The dates provided are dependent upon our budget settlement being announced in sufficient time to prepare the draft budget and may change. I will confirm arrangements once the date for the UK Government's fiscal event is known. Should the date of the UK fiscal event be early in the Autumn term I will carefully consider the case for amending our own budget timetable."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has announced that the UK Government's budget statement and spending review will take place on 30 October.

Last year, you wrote to the Committee on 12 September outlining a timetable which provided “Welsh Ministers with the absolute minimum of 3 weeks and 4 days needed to prepare spending plans and compile the Budget documentation and supporting tables”. We therefore request that the publication date of the Draft Budget is brought forward in line with those minimum timescales, from 10 December to 26 November, to allow as much time as possible for it to be scrutinised by the Senedd.

A copy of this letter has been sent to the Business Committee and the Trefnydd and Chief Whip.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peredur Owen Griffiths', written in a cursive style.

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS
Chair, Finance Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

