

Rebecca Evans MS
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning

29 October 2024

Draft Budget scrutiny 2025-26

Dear Rebecca,

The Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee has started its preparations for scrutiny of the Welsh Government's draft Budget for 2025-26.

We understand the draft budget will be published on 10 December 2024, and the previous Cabinet Secretary for Finance committed that the Welsh Government would "provide the English versions of the evidence papers to Committees on the day after the Draft Budget is published".

To assist the Committee in its preparations, I would be grateful if you would provide information to address the matters set out in Annex 1. Of course, you should not feel limited by our request and are welcome to address any other matters you believe will assist the Committee in its work.

Yours sincerely,



Llyr Gruffydd MS,
Chair, Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg. / We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Annex 1

General



- Details of your priorities and how they are reflected in budget allocations.
- A detailed explanation of how budgetary priorities were determined, particularly in light of inflationary pressures and fiscal constraints
- A detailed explanation of how the draft budget reflect commitments made in prior financial years, with particular reference to the Committee’s report on the 2024-25 draft budget.
- Information on the impact of UK Government fiscal and policy decisions on budget allocations.
- Your assessment of the benefits for Wales arising from UK Government fiscal decisions and policies, including the UK National Wealth Fund.

Legislation

- How the draft budget provides for delivery of newly enacted and planned Welsh Government legislation.

Climate Change

Detail of how the draft budget allocations support:

- Delivery of the policies and proposals in the Net Zero Wales plan which fall within your portfolio.

Energy and energy efficiency

- Delivery of renewable energy and public sector energy efficiency programmes, including specific allocations for the Welsh Government Energy Service, Ynni Cymru, Community Energy Wales and Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru.
- Other allocations to support the delivery of renewable energy targets.
- Policies and programmes to support decarbonisation in the housing sector, including allocations for the Optimised Retrofit Programme, the Warm Homes Nest Scheme and the Green Homes Wales Scheme.

National Infrastructure Commission for Wales (NICW)

- Details of budget allocations for the NICW.

Ports and Airports

- How the draft budget will support the development of Welsh maritime and sea ports. Specifically, any allocations to support the implementation of a long-term strategy for Cardiff

Airport in the 2025-26 draft budget, how this will be monitored to ensure it provides value for money and whether there are any plans for in year allocations in the current 2024-25 financial year to support the strategy.