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**Local Government  
and Housing Committee**

Jayne Bryant MS  
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government  
Welsh Government

4 November 2024

Dear Jayne,

**Community Asset Commission**

Thank you for your letter of 24 September in relation to the Community Asset Commission, we also discussed this with you at the ministerial scrutiny session on 10 October.

During that session you explained that a task and finish approach will be taken rather than a commission. Members agreed that I should write to you to express our strong view that the change in approach should not result in reduction to the scope of the work being undertaken or the resources available to support the work. The update provided to us by the then Minister for Finance and Local Government in November 2023 stated that many of the recommendations we made in our report on community assets would be taken forward by a commission. I would be grateful if you could confirm that these will be taken forward by the task and finish group.

Additionally, the Committee would be grateful for an update on the implementation of our recommendations not being taken forward by the task and finish group.

Our recommendation 7 stated our view that the case studies made available by Ystadau Cymru should be reviewed periodically to ensure that recent examples of projects are available for others to learn from. The November 2023 update refers to the Ystadau Cymru newsletter and annual conference, however I note that the case studies published on the Welsh Government website have not been updated since 2019. It may be helpful for the projects referred to in the November 2023 update and any subsequent examples to be made available on the website.

The November update refers work to establish an asset transfer peer network, as per our recommendation 8, as ongoing and part of a wider review of Ystadau Cymru. The Committee would be grateful for an update on establishing such a network.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John". The letters are cursive and connected.

John Griffiths MS

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Jayne Bryant AS/MS  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Tai  
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

John Griffiths MS,  
Chair  
Local Government & Housing Committee

[John.Griffiths@senedd.wales](mailto:John.Griffiths@senedd.wales)

20<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter dated 4 November regarding the Community Asset Commission and the ministerial scrutiny session held on 10 October.

I would like to confirm that the current approach has not led to any reduction in the scope of the work undertaken. Recommendations accepted by Welsh Government, as documented by the formal response sent to you in November 2023, are being actively taken forward by the task and finish group. For your information, I have included a link to the terms of reference: [Terms of reference: Task and Finish Group, Community Assets : Ystadau Cymru | GOV.WALES](#)

Regarding the recommendations to review the guidance, I am pleased to inform you that these will be addressed following the task and finish group's report, and will be incorporated into the updated guidance in accordance with the report and Ministerial directives. This approach will mean that community group representatives through the Commission's workshops will have had an opportunity to contribute to the development of the latest guidance.

Officials acknowledge the importance of having up-to-date case studies available for public reference. Publishing case studies on GOV.WALES is indeed a constructive step forward. Officials are already coordinating with the Welsh Government communications team to ensure that the latest case studies are readily accessible on the Ystadau Cymru website.

In relation to the recommendation to establish an Asset Transfer Peer Network, Ystadau Cymru have formed a Community Asset & Social Value thematic group and members are in the process of developing a terms of reference. These will include ways to share peer experience and best practice.

Your feedback is valuable, and officials aim to incorporate it into our ongoing work.

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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.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jayne Bryant". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'J' and 'B'.

**Jayne Bryant AS/MS**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai  
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government