

Eluned Morgan MS

First Minister

Rebecca Evans MS

Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning

Welsh Government

23 December 2024

International Strategy and Cardiff Airport

Dear Eluned and Rebecca,

Thank you for your letter of 2 October 2024, relating to the Welsh Government's planned long-term subsidy investment funding for Cardiff Airport.

The Committee acknowledges that there will be restrictions on what can be said publicly about the Welsh Government's intended investment package while the Competition and Markets Authority referral process is ongoing, and respects that some of the detail behind the new strategy for Cardiff Airport will be commercially sensitive in nature.

Nevertheless, we are disappointed with the response we have received, which fails to address a number of questions relating to the budgetary implications of this decision which were raised in our letter of 20 August 2024. Please can you explain:

- How will the investment relate to the International Relations budget?
- The Welsh Government has repeatedly told us that it faces a challenging financial situation and cannot plan beyond annual cycles, particularly in relation to other areas of our committee's remit such as the culture sector. How has the Welsh Government made these funds available?



- On what basis was the airport investment prioritised over other financial pressures such as the financial crisis in the arts, culture and sport?

I look forward to receiving your response by 24 January 2025.

Yours sincerely



Delyth Jewell MS
Committee Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.