

Jack Sargeant AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Diwylliant, Sgiliau a Phartneriaeth Gymdeithasol
Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref JS/00625/25

Carolyn Thomas MS
Chair - Petitions committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

15 September 2025

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for your letter of 19 August seeking my views on Petition P-06-1526: "Save Grassroots Sports – Welsh Government Must Step In!".

The majority of Welsh Government funding for sport is directed through Sport Wales, which this year has a total of £23.5 million revenue and £10.1 million capital funding which may be used to support grassroots sport. Sport Wales has established specific grant schemes designed to support and nurture grassroots sport, such as the Be Active Wales Fund and the Crowdfunder Scheme, and more information on those schemes and other ways we are supporting grassroots sport can be found on the Sport Wales website.

The petition also mentions Local Authority funding. Although this is outside my portfolio responsibilities, the Welsh Government continues to prioritise frontline public services including local government as far as possible in our budget decisions. Local Authority funding for 2025-2026 in the final Welsh Government budget increased by £262m compared, on a like for like basis, to the final settlement for 2024-2025, an average increase of 4.5%.

I know that increased demand for services and cost pressures means all local authorities have had to make difficult decisions on council tax, other income sources, and the services the council provides. Decisions made on the provision of local services are for local authority elected members, within the relevant statutory requirements and following appropriate scrutiny and consultation with local communities. As part of any local decision making, local authorities are responsible for their own assessments of the provision of local services that may impact people in their area.

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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.

I hope you and Committee members find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JACK SARGEANT". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J". A single horizontal line is drawn underneath the signature.

Jack Sargeant AS/MS

Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership

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