

Lesley Griffiths MS
Commissioner for Budget and Governance
Senedd Commission
By email

15 December 2025

Dear Lesley,

The Committee is grateful for the letter from the Chief Executive and Clerk of the Senedd, dated 10 December 2025, notifying us of the refund the Commission has received regarding the rateable value of the Cardiff Bay estate.

Are you able to confirm that the proposed variations to the Commission's budget, and the remaining refund being returned to the WCF, will be made through the supplementary budget process, in accordance with the requirements set out under Standing Order 20.32?

We would also be grateful if you could provide further information in response to the following questions:

- Can you explain how the Commission arrived at the figure of £644,000 it wishes to retain from the refunded amount?
- Given that the Portfolio Management Project List, contained as an annex to the Commission's letter of 15 July 2025, set out a project pipeline with estimated project costs of £150,000 for the phased replacement of lights in Senedd building to LED and £164,000 to fund lift upgrades, can you provide a breakdown by project of how this £644,000 additional funding would be spent?
- Could you confirm whether the successful appeal will impact at all on the rental costs included in the Commission's 2026-27 budget?

The Committee will consider supplementary budget requests from the Directly Funded Bodies in the new year, ahead of the Welsh Government laying its Second Supplementary Budget 2025-26 on 24 February 2026. We would appreciate a response to these questions by the beginning of the spring term on Monday 12 January, to enable us to consider these issues alongside any requests made.

Yours sincerely,

Sam Rowlands MS, Temporary Chair of the Finance Committee

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

