

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru  
Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

National Assembly for Wales  
Petitions Committee

Jocelyn Davies AM  
Chair of the Finance Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cf99 1NA

13 November 2015

Dear *Jocelyn*

**Petition P-04-651 To Work to Protect Local Government When Determining the Budgets this Autumn**

The Petitions Committee has considered the above petition, which was submitted by NPT UNISON and received 196 signatures. The terms of the petition are:

*We petition the Welsh Government to work to protect local government when determining the budgets this Autumn.*

*Help protect the services we all rely on so much, services we need when we are struggling the most. Help protect our jobs that we are so proud to do to within our communities.*

*The Welsh Government MUST find other options to consider, options that would have considerably less impact on our local communities.*

**Additional Information**

*Further budget cuts will devastate our communities. The services that local government provide are vital to us all.*

*Further local government budget cuts will devastate local jobs, services and communities.*

*As an example:- Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council is an authority that faces some of the highest levels of deprivation in the UK. To manage the recent £102 million budget cuts it has worked hard in a strong partnership with the trade unions to avoid compulsory redundancies and outsourcing of services. The cuts have had an effect on the services provided and the workforce.*



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*Further cuts could mean job losses, including those of front line services, and the transfer of council services to the private sector. NPT UNISON has demonstrated that outsourcing of services does not work in the long term. When private sector companies are used, it results in disruptive, costly and sub-standard service provision, with the loss of jobs and employees terms and conditions.*

The Committee agreed to ask the Finance Committee to consider the petition and the issues it raises as part of your scrutiny of the forthcoming Assembly budget.

I would be grateful if you could let me know in due course whether any of the issues raised by the petition are considered by the Finance Committee and what conclusions were reached. Please forward your response to the Committee's Clerk team at [SeneddPetitions@Assembly.Wales](mailto:SeneddPetitions@Assembly.Wales)

Yours sincerely

William Powell AC/AM  
Cadeirydd/ Chair