

Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus
Minister for Public Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P—04-681
Ein cyf/Our ref LA -/00033/16

William Powell AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk


26 January 2016

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter of 19 January regarding a petition from Councillor Mike John Powell calling for the public recording of Local Government meetings in Wales.

I encourage all Local Authorities to allow, when possible, access to their proceedings and I am pleased to see that broadcasting of council meetings is now a regular practice in many Local Authorities. I consider the public should also have a right to report live from these meetings through live blogging or using social media.

Our plans to reform broadcasting and engagement are set out in the Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill 2016, which was published for consultation in November. The Draft Bill contains proposals to make it compulsory for Local Authorities to make arrangements to broadcast their full council and executive meetings and giving the public a right to report live from council proceedings. These provisions are designed to promote democracy and transparency, and make council meetings more accessible to the public.

Yours sincerely,


Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus
Minister for Public Services

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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.