Welsh Parliament **Public Accounts Committee**

Tracey Burke Director General - Education and Public Services Group Welsh Government

9 December 2020

Dear Tracey

Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales (RIFW)

Thank you for your comprehensive letter of 12 November 2020 regarding the settlement reached on the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales. The Committee acknowledges that this issue has now concluded.

We welcome the significant changes that have been made to the internal working procedures of Welsh Government. The Committee believes it to be imperative to embed the wide range of lessons which the Welsh Government has learned as a result of the RIFW case into its internal working procedures. In doing so, we wish to reiterate a number of the recommendations made by our predecessor Committee namely that:

- should the Welsh Government establish future arms-length bodies, these bodies' functions and roles of Board Members must be clearly defined and understood by all concerned from the outset. Board Members must have the appropriate expertise and capacity to fulfil their duties and receive adequate and appropriate induction training; and
- we recognise that the Welsh Government has reviewed and revised its internal working procedures but it must continue to demonstrate that these changes ensure governance arrangements oversight and accountability are robust, clearly defined and understood by all parties involved in whatever activities the Welsh Government is undertaking. We will be recommending



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in our Legacy Report, that our successor Committee continues to scrutinise the Welsh Government on its practices and procedures, particularly those relating to the development and management of contracts with third parties, to ensure that they are regularly reviewed and revised as necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Ramsay MS Chair

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

