**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru** Y Pwyllgor Cyllid

National Assembly for Wales Finance Committee

> Mark Drakeford AM Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government

5 October 2016

Annwyl Mark,

## LAND TRANSACTION TAX AND ANTI-AVOIDANCE OF DEVOLVED TAXES (WALES) BILL

You will be aware that the Finance Committee has begun taking evidence from stakeholders as part of its consideration of this Bill. I thought that it would be useful to let you know that witnesses have emphasised to us that, should the provisions in the Bill become law, it would be vital for the Welsh Revenue Authority to issue clear guidance on their implementation from the outset.

This is an issue which witnesses from numerous organisations have already raised with us, and it's therefore possible that in our Stage 1 report on the Bill, we may recommend that you make draft guidance available prior to Stage 2 proceedings so that Members can consider how the provisions in the Bill would be implemented in practice. In particular, we would be grateful for early sight of draft guidance in relation to the application of section 8 (Linked transactions), section 31 (Reliefs: anti–avoidance) and sections 71 and 72 (Meaning of residential property / dwelling).

You will appreciate that the Committee is still in the early stages of its evidence gathering, however Members thought it would be beneficial to let you know of this emerging theme in the evidence given the short timescale between the publication of our report and Stage 2 proceedings. We believe that if the government were to respond positively and produce draft guidance it would assist both the committee and stakeholders enormously.

Yours sincerely

Simon Thomas

Chair

