

Finance Committee
Welsh Government Draft Budget Proposals 2017-18
WGDB_17-18 11a Cardiff University

President and Vice-Chancellor
Professor Colin Riordan BA PhD
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Mr Simon Thomas AM
Chair, Finance Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Pierhead Street
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

15 November 2016

Dear Simon

Welsh Government Draft Budget 2017-18

Cardiff University welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Welsh Government's Draft Budget 2017-18. The University is committed to working with the Welsh Government, National Assembly and key stakeholders throughout Wales to contribute to social justice and to improve the prosperity of the Welsh economy, and Welsh society.

Investment in higher education demonstrates substantial returns for Wales, leveraging in vital inward investment. A recent report by London Economics (October 2015) found that the University generates £6 for every £1 spent, with the University's total economic and social footprint estimated at £2.7bn. The University employs 5,500 people directly but actually supports a further 5,900 jobs. Furthermore, investment in higher education also supports better quality policymaking through the provision of high quality evidence grounded in academic research.

The University acknowledges the allocations made within the Draft Budget 2017-18 in anticipation of the transition to a sustainable fees and funding settlement. We particularly welcome the increase in funding for healthcare professional education, including medical schools in Wales.

I look forward to working with the Committee to ensure that Welsh universities continue to be supported on a competitive basis, to deliver the best results for Wales.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information about the University and its activities.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Colin Riordan
Vice-Chancellor

