

Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP Secretary of State for Wales Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru

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Simon Thomas AM Chair, Finance Committee National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

Ref: 11SOS 17

February 2017

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Thank you for your letter of 31 January again inviting me to give evidence to your Committee on the implementation of the fiscal provisions in the Wales Act 2014.

As you note, the implementation of the Wales Act 2014 is the joint responsibility of the UK Government and the Welsh Government. Equally the Fiscal Framework which was published in December is a joint agreement between the UK Government and the Welsh Government on the future funding arrangements for Wales. I think it would be it appropriate that your committee formally scrutinises the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government in relation to these matters given the respective lines of accountability.

Whilst pressures on my diary do not allow me to attend a formal evidence session, I would like to repeat my offer to meet committee members on an individual basis to discuss any particular concerns relevant to your inquiry.

Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP

Secretary of State for Wales Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru