

Mark Drakeford AM/AC
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a Llywodraeth Leol
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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

20 March 2017

Dear Simon,

WELSH REVENUE AUTHORITY UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION COST ESTIMATES

At the General Principles debate on the Land Transaction Tax and Anti Avoidance of Devolved Taxes (LTTA) (Wales) Bill and in my letter of 10 January, I agreed to provide an update on the costs to establish the Welsh Revenue Authority (WRA).

WRA costs are centred in two main areas, staff costs (those working on the implementation and people needed to operate the WRA effectively from October 2017), and the provision of digital and ICT services to collect and manage its taxes. To date, the establishment of the WRA has cost £1.3 million. We are forecast to spend around £3.5 million on implementation in 2017/18. There will also be a further £1 million or so of implementation costs in 2018/19. Overall the implementation costs remain under the £6.3 million previously published.

These costs will be refined when key milestones are achieved such as the outcome, next month, of the digital services partner for the WRA; the appointment of the WRA Chair and Board; and the recruitment into key posts in summer of 2017.

I am committed to update the Finance Committee on the implementation of the WRA on a termly basis; this update will include cost updates as well as the progress against critical implementation milestones.

Best wishes
Mark

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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.