

**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  
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9 October 2017

Dear Simon

During the Finance Committee meeting on 5 October, you asked about the Vacant Sites Levy in the Republic of Ireland, and whether it will apply to vacant sites owned by public authorities.

I can confirm that the levy will be applied to vacant sites regardless of ownership, be it public or private. In this context, local authorities and public bodies are liable for the charge if the criteria for a vacant site are met. Further details on the implementation of the Vacant Sites Levy can be found here:

[http://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/pl\\_07-2016\\_guidance\\_on\\_implementation\\_of\\_the\\_vacant\\_site\\_levy.pdf](http://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/pl_07-2016_guidance_on_implementation_of_the_vacant_site_levy.pdf)

I look forward to discussing progress on new taxes at future Finance Committee meetings.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "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.