

Shan Morgan
Permanent Secretary
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff CF10 2NQ

14 December 2017

Welsh Government Responses to Committee Recommendations

Dear Permanent Secretary,

Thank you again for your letter dated 8 November addressing concerns raised by the Public Accounts Committee regarding the Welsh Government's partial acceptance/acceptance in principle of the Committee's recommendations.

The Committee considered the letter at its meeting held on 11 December and we welcome the constructive and positive approach you have taken to discontinue the practice of partial acceptance/acceptance in principle of the Committee's recommendations.

However, the Committee would like to emphasise the importance of Welsh Government providing clear and detailed narrative to accompany its acceptance or rejection of the Committee's recommendations setting out the Welsh Governments intentions.

We also appreciate your invitation for Welsh Government Officials and Clerks to discuss recommendations while they remain in draft form. We welcome efforts to ensure we have a two-way dialogue that can enhance the Committee's recommendations in the interests of securing improvements to public services. However, we do not believe this should be a matter of course given the need to maintain the Committee's independence and transparency particularly in terms of its role in holding the Welsh Government to account.



However, where the Committee in its recommendations is seeking to influence ongoing policy development or indeed the development of legislation, it may be in everyone's interest for Clerks and Welsh Government Officials to discuss these matters to maximise the Committee's influence and ensure the timeliness of our recommendations. In such instances, I trust the Clerks will be in touch with your Officials.

I look forward to our continued constructive working together.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Ramsay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end of the name.

Nick Ramsay AM
Chair

