Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru Y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus

National Assembly for Wales
Public Accounts Committee

Andrew Slade
Director General - Economy, Skills and Natural
Resources Group
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NO

25 April 2018

Dear Mr Slade,

Challenges of Digitalisation

Thank you for your response to my letter of 8 March which the Committee considered on 16 April.

The Committee notes the detail in your response about how the Welsh Government is utilising the Government Digital Service (GDS) Digital, Data and Technology (DDat) procurement frameworks. However, we would like more detail on why other Welsh public services are not adopting the more agile approach that the NHS in England, in particular, or the digital sector in UK Government have opted for. We are concerned that many Welsh public services are continuing to follow the traditional large, long-lead-in-time procurement contracts which given the Welsh Government has moved away from, we would have expected the rest of the public sector in Wales to follow.

The Committee found your response to focus solely on the Welsh Government's activities. We would welcome further details on how the Welsh Government is using the digital outcomes and specialists framework, and, in particular, the breakdown of the G-Cloud spending. We would like information on how these apply to the Welsh public sector more generally, rather than just the Welsh Government.

The Digital Outcomes and Specialists framework enables the Welsh public Service to work more dynamically, through actions like seconding in experts. We ask for greater clarity on how this could utilised across the public sector in Wales.

You are scheduled to attend Public Accounts Committee on 4 June to discuss the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport's Review of the Intra Wales Air link. Depending on the response to this letter, we may also request you to provide oral evidence on this issue at that meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Ramsay AM

Chair

