



**Elin Jones AC, Llywydd**

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

**Elin Jones AM, Presiding Officer**

National Assembly for Wales

**CAER(5)-4-20 Paper to note 13**

Dawn Bowden AM

Chair of the Committee on Assembly Electoral Reform

National Assembly for Wales

Cardiff Bay

CF99 1NA

Our ref: PO784/EJ/TJ

27 January 2020

Dear Dawn

Thank you for your letter of 10 December 2019 and for the opportunity to appear before the Committee on 2 December.

In your letter, you request further information in a number of areas in relation to the capacity of the Assembly. I have included the relevant information below.

In addition, during the evidence session, I explained the number of Members available for committee scrutiny and how many sit on one, two and three committees. I have provided further information at Annex A about the roles undertaken by Members and their involvement in committee business.

### **Examples of devolved legislatures that have collaborative working arrangements with elected members of other bodies**

As I outlined during my evidence session, the Assembly itself has a number of arrangements in place for collaborative working with elected members of other bodies. For example, Standing Order 17.54 provides for the Assembly's committees to meet concurrently with any committee or joint committee of any legislature in the UK. Likewise, procedures are in place to enable a smooth flow of information between the Assembly and UK Parliament in relation to Section 109 Orders, Legislative Consent Motions, etc.

One of the specific questions asked during my evidence session was whether I was aware of any examples where arrangements were in place for a Member to deliberately have "a combined function" between legislatures (as opposed to a

**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru**

Bae Caerdydd, Caerdydd, CF99 1NA

Llywydd@cynulliad.cymru

www.cynulliad.cymru

0300 200 7403

**National Assembly for Wales**

Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1NA

Llywydd@assembly.wales

www.assembly.wales

0300 200 7403



Member having a dual mandate as Member of two parliamentary bodies). The Assembly Commission does not hold information on this matter, and has not conducted research into this issue. I am of the view that it is essential that the electorate are clear when they exercise their vote, what responsibilities their representative will have as part of the institution to which they are elected, whom the electorate should hold to account.

A model of Members operating under a 'combined function' between legislatures would potentially create complexities around the accountability arrangements for such Members' decisions, and clearly communicating these to the Members' electorates. It could also present challenges in communicating the respective roles and responsibilities of different institutions, if particular Members are deliberately serving both. It could also create the same potential for conflicts of interest that the Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act sought to address. I remain of the view that it is essential that those holding the Welsh Government to account and shaping the law in Wales are directly elected to this parliament, and accountable for their role to the people they serve.

### **Length of plenary sitting times and the number of sitting weeks**

As the Assembly's responsibilities have developed, the length of plenary sitting times has increased.

At the beginning of the Third Assembly in 2007, the average length of plenary sitting times was just under 4 hours (3 hours and 55 minutes).

By the second half of the Fifth Assembly, the average length of plenary sitting times had increased to nearly 5 hours (an average of 4 hours and 58 minutes in 2018).

It is anticipated the length of plenary sitting times will continue to increase in the future.

Over the same time period, the number of sitting weeks has increased. In July 2013, the Business Committee of the Fourth Assembly agreed to increase the number of sitting weeks from 34 to 35 weeks (by decreasing the summer recess by one week).



In July 2016, the Business Committee of the Fifth Assembly further increased the number of sitting weeks to the current 36 weeks (by decreasing the Christmas recess by one week).

Since then, Business Committee has not discussed broader increases to the Assembly's sitting times or weeks, although the Committee on Assembly Electoral Reform is itself an example of where the Business Committee has agreed that a committee meets outside the usual timetable.

In terms of increasing the Assembly's sitting times or lengthening the business day, this would have implications for the Assembly's commitment to family-friendly hours, which is also a requirement of Standing Orders. Standing Order 11.10 requires the Assembly timetable to have regard to family and constituency or electoral region responsibilities of Members. It is worth noting that the concept of family-friendly hours will have different implications for different Members, reflecting that the geographic locations of different constituencies and regions will have an impact on the structure of their business-weeks. While the statistics on the length of plenary sessions illustrate that there is already a tendency towards longer hours, and increasing flexibility, any further changes would certainly call into question whether SO 11.10 continues to have validity.

Abandoning the commitment to family-friendly hours would also impact on the attractiveness of the role for potential candidates, thereby potentially resulting in a less diverse Assembly. Additionally, it may be questioned how later hours would impact on the quality of scrutiny delivered, as they would reduce the time available to Members to prepare for holding Ministers to account.

In terms of extending the Assembly's sitting weeks, it may be noted that we are already in line with other UK Parliaments in this regard, and we have committed to family-friendly working wherever possible (SO 11.10 also applies to determining recess dates). It may also be noted that Members rely heavily on recess periods to carry out many important aspects of their roles, and that increasing the number of sitting weeks necessarily means decreasing the number of recess weeks.

An argument could be put forward that Assembly committees could be allowed to routinely meet concurrently with plenary sessions. However, the small size of the



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Assembly means that most Members routinely have key roles in plenary sessions, and this could result in committee and plenary business being heavily disrupted by Members not being present.

### **Costs associated with an increase to the size of the Assembly**

The Expert Panel considered an increase in the number of Members to either 80 or 90 Members. The Commission first published estimated costs of an increase in the number of Members in January 2015. It provided updated costs for the Panel in 2017. Since the Panel reported, Assembly Commission officials have undertaken a further assessment of these costs, which I include in Annex B. This provides information regarding: transitional costs, ongoing annual costs for a typical non-election year and a typical election year, assumptions, and details on who will be responsible for certain decisions.

Many of the decisions associated with a potential increase in the number of Members will be for future Assembly Commissions, future Business Committees, and Remuneration Boards to consider. As such, the costs provided in Annex B include both lower and higher-end estimates, to reflect that the policy-decisions of such future bodies cannot currently be known.

However, it is important to note that the Expert Panel recommended that the Assembly exercise restraint in how it uses any increase in the size of the institution, both to ensure that the potential benefits for the quality and quantity of scrutiny are realised, and that additional costs are kept to a minimum. Equally, it is anticipated that other essential services provided (for example, security) will not be compromised.

I hope you and your committee find this information useful.

Yours sincerely

Elin Jones

Llywydd



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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.



## **Annex A: Distribution of roles amongst the 60 Assembly Members**

For the purpose of providing statistics on the number of committees that Members sit on, the Committee of the Whole Assembly (which every Member sits on), Business Committee and the Committee for the Scrutiny of the First Minister (which meets on a termly basis) are not included in the following statistics.

The statistics also refer only to permanent members of committees, and not substitute members.

As of 22 January 2020:

- 18 Members do not currently sit on a committee (this is made up of Ministers, the Llywydd, the Deputy Presiding Officer, the Leader of the Opposition, and the Welsh Conservatives Group Business Manager);
- 14 Members sit on one committee;
- 25 Members sit on two committees; and
- Three Members sit on three committees.



## **Annex B – Cost estimates, January 2020**

The following information summarises the estimated costs for an increase in the number of Members to either 80 or 90 Members, in 2026, based on a number of scenarios and assumptions as set out below.

It may be noted that such financial modelling is still a ‘work in progress’ and that the Assembly Commission has not tested the extent to which particular models would be acceptable to Members.

### *Assumptions made in the process of estimating costs*

For an increase to **80 Members**, it is assumed that Members would be elected on the basis of the current electoral constituencies and regions. It is assumed that those Members would belong to five political groups, and for the purposes of the Remuneration Board’s determination, would reside in the currently defined inner, outer and intermediate areas.

For an increase to **90 Members**, it is assumed that Members would be elected on the basis of 20 constituencies based on pairing current constituencies. It is assumed that those Members would belong to five political groups. It is assumed that the constituencies would be allocated to the inner, intermediate and outer areas (as currently defined in the Remuneration Board’s Determination) on the basis of the current designation of the paired constituencies.

For an increase to both 80 and 90 Members, higher and lower estimates have been sought.

**The lower estimates are based on no increase in current Assembly business–activities.**

**The higher estimates are based on an assumed increase in business–related activities that would consist of:**



- an additional plenary sitting each week;
- an additional policy and legislation committee; and
- a proportional increase in the number of ballots for Member Bills.

In both scenarios, it is assumed that there would be no change in the current number of sitting weeks.

Members' allowances have been estimated on the basis of the Remuneration Board's Determination for 2018–19. Where relevant, the take-up of allowances has been estimated on the basis of take-up in previous years.

It has been assumed that additional office accommodation resulting from increased Members would be provided in Cardiff Bay. The estimates are based on renting additional office accommodation to house Commission staff moved from Tŷ Hywel to make space for additional Members.

The cost estimates summarise the additional cash requirement on the Welsh Consolidated Fund. The actual budget requirement of the Assembly Commission may vary significantly due to the impact of International Financial Reporting Standard 16 – Leases, which comes into effect in 2020–21.

Increases in non-cash expenditure have been identified that amount to approximately £0.5m per year. Examples of non-cash expenditure that are affected by increasing the size of the Assembly include additional strains to Assembly Members' pension service and the depreciation of fixed assets.

All cost estimates are at current values and net of VAT. Estimates of Assembly Commission staff costs include 'on costs', and are based on the highest point of the scale for all grades.





### *Decision-making*

Following any decision the Assembly may make to increase the number of Members, a number of different decision-makers will have a role in determining cost implications, to different timescales, depending on the nature of the decision.

The Assembly, through the annual budget process, will then be responsible for approving any increase required to the Assembly Commission's budget to fund the associated costs.

The main decision-making bodies for the Assembly are:

1. Business Committee. To date, the initial organisation of the Assembly's business (i.e. its committee structures, timetable, etc.) has been determined at the beginning of each new Assembly, by a newly constituted Business Committee. A potential question for a future Business Committee, ahead of an increase in the number of Members in the Assembly, is whether this practice should be maintained, or whether there would be merit in the outgoing Business Committee (of 2026) considering the implications for the organisation of business and committees at the beginning of the next Assembly, in order to facilitate decisions that would need to be taken by others, such as the Assembly Commission and Remuneration Board. However, any such proposals could not be binding upon a successor Business Committee.
2. The Assembly Commission. The Assembly Commission's principal statutory responsibility is to provide the Assembly with the staff, property and services required to fulfil its work. The nature of the services, and associated staff, required to enable the Assembly to fulfil its work is a question for the Commission to determine and review in light of legislative changes and business demands.



There are some decisions that it is assumed it would need to take ahead of the relevant election, such as decisions on accommodation.

The Assembly Commission's usual practice would be to make decisions on the shape of its services to Members after Business Committee has decided on the organisation of business and committee structures at the start of an Assembly (in practice these decisions are taken by the Chief Executive and Clerk/Executive Board).

In preparing its own staffing and resource cost estimates for the beginning of a new Assembly, the Assembly Commission bases its estimates on known practice rather than speculation on what may potentially arise (i.e. the Commission makes the assumption that the organisation of business and committee structures in one Assembly will mirror those of a previous Assembly, unless there is any known reason why this cannot be the case). Any increase in activities (for example the number of committees) will initially sought to be met from existing budgets and resources (utilising any savings or efficiencies where available). Only if it is not possible to address increased activities through existing budgets and resources would the Assembly Commission request an increase to its budget. This practice is consistent with the principles of effective financial management and in line with the [Statement of Principles](#) that the Finance Committee expects Directly Funded Bodies to have regard to when making budget proposals.

3. The Remuneration Board. Under the National Assembly for Wales (Remuneration) Measure 2010, the Remuneration Board is responsible for making decisions on the remuneration of Members and Members' Support Staff (pay and pensions); and allowances for the reimbursement of costs incurred by Members in the performance of their duties as an Assembly Member (such as the office costs, allowances for employing their own staff and political parties' support allowance).



*Policy-dependent (discretionary) and fixed costs*

There are certain fixed-cost requirements which can be reasonably firmly identified for different numbers of Members, and which, in the main, are not directly dependent on formal Assembly business requirements. For example, the costs of supplying ICT equipment, software licences and broadband line rental to additional Members (£321k for an additional 30 Members) are seen as fixed costs.

There are other costs which are dependent upon decisions taken by the Remuneration Board. In particular, the level of staffing resources made available to Members is at the discretion of the Remuneration Board, and the potential additional costs in this regard (£3.29m for an additional 30 Members, based on maintaining the current levels of staffing for individual Members) may not be borne out in full.

Some costs, such as the costs of new accommodation, are treated in the tables that follow as 'fixed', but which in theory could become 'discretionary.' In all the tables below, it is assumed that the office space in Tŷ Hywel will be unable to accommodate the projected numbers of additional Members and Members' support staff, and that Commission staff that will require office accommodation if there are more Members elected to the Assembly. For example, a transitional cost of £1.74m (office refurbishment) and an ongoing cost of £790k (office rental) is currently assumed in the figures for an Assembly of 90 Members. However, a future Commission could decide it to be unnecessary to move staff from Tŷ Hywel to make room for additional Members.

Other costs may be considered 'discretionary,' in that they will depend largely upon policy decisions taken by a future Assembly, Business Committee and Assembly Commission about working practices, priorities and the organisation of formal Assembly business. In particular, Assembly Commission staffing costs are



not fixed and would reflect the decisions a Commission makes regarding the nature of the services to be provided to a larger Assembly to support business needs and Commission investment priorities.

As previously noted, the Expert Panel recommended that the Assembly exercise restraint in how it uses any increase in the size of the institution, both to ensure that the potential benefits for the quality and quantity of scrutiny are realised, and that additional costs are kept to a minimum. Equally it is anticipated that other essential services provided (for example, security) will not be compromised.

It may also be noted that some costs will be influenced by the timescales by which any legislation to increase the number of Members is passed. As a broad principle, more time to prepare for the implications of known legislation would enable the Assembly to better take advantage of various opportunities such a major change would bring, and deliver material financial and implementation benefits. For example, physical changes required to meet the needs of a larger Assembly could be phased over recess periods and dissolution if sufficient notice was given, thereby minimising the disruption to Members and Assembly business.

### ***Ongoing and transitional costs***

Some costs are assumed to be one-off, transitional costs, and some are assumed to be ongoing costs (with the ongoing costs rising in election years).

The ongoing costs come into effect at different times. Some ongoing costs (eg processes related to acquiring additional accommodation) are assumed to begin as early as 2024–2025, whereas others are assumed to not take effect until 2031–32.

For this reason, for each scenario, I have provided two cost estimate tables.



The first table shows the ‘long-term’ cost implications, when all ongoing costs have come into effect, i.e.: the transitional costs, the non-election year ongoing costs (from 2027–2028) and the election year ongoing costs (from 2031–32).

The second table shows the ongoing costs across a number of financial years leading up to 2031–32, so that it can more easily be seen when different ongoing costs would come into effect.

A final, ‘summary’ table, is included at the end of the annex.

***Table 1a – Estimates of additional transitional and ongoing costs of an Assembly of 80 Members, with no increase to Assembly business-related activities, with ongoing costs for typical years from 2031–32 onwards***

	Transitional  (£000k)	Ongoing – typical non- election year (from 2027–28)  (£000k)	Ongoing – typical election year (from 2031–32)  (£000k)
Assembly Commission staff costs	708	1,607	1,672
Other Assembly Commission costs (including refurbishment of additional accommodation,	1,647 <sup>i</sup>	889	942

<sup>i</sup> Of which £50k is capital expenditure



rent of additional accommodation, and other related costs)			
Assembly Member salaries (including office holder salaries– e.g. Committee Chair’s allowance)	–	1,770	1,623
Member support staff salaries	–	2,393	2,393
Member allowances and office costs <sup>ii</sup>	–	885	922
AMSS vacancy provisions	–	138	138
Other costs associated with the Remuneration Board’s Determination	–	420	1,183
<b>Total</b>	<b>2355</b>	<b>7826</b>	<b>8596</b>

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<sup>ii</sup> Includes Residential Accommodation Expenditure; Members Travel; Office costs; and support for political parties



***Table 1b – Estimates of additional ongoing costs of an Assembly of 80 Members, with no increase to Assembly business-related activities, in years leading up to 2031–32***

	Ongoing – 2024–25	Ongoing – 2025–26	Ongoing – 2026–27 (election year)	Ongoing – 2027–28, 2028–29, 2029–30, 2030–31	Ongoing – 2031–32 (election year)
	(£000k)	(£000k)	(£000k)	(£000k)	(£000k)
Assembly Commission staff costs	122	518	1,672	1,607	1,672
Other Assembly Commission costs	10	543	942	889	942
Assembly Member salaries (Including office holder salaries)	–	–	1,623	1,770	1,623
Member support staff salaries			2,194	2,393	2,393
Member allowances and office costs <sup>iii</sup>			980	885	922

<sup>iii</sup> Includes Residential Accommodation Expenditure; Members Travel; Office costs; and support for political parties



AMSS vacancy provisions	-	-	127	138	138
Other costs associated with the Remuneration Board's Determination	-	-	516	420	1,183
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>7,781</b>	<b>7,826</b>	<b>8,596</b>

Ongoing costs for 2031-32 include, rather than are in addition to, ongoing costs for 2026-27.

Ongoing costs for 2027-28, 2028-29, 2029-30 and 2030-31 include, rather than are in addition to, ongoing costs for 2024-25 and 2025-26.





*Table 2a – Estimates of additional transitional and ongoing costs of an Assembly of 80 Members, with an increase to Assembly business-related activities (i.e. an additional plenary sitting each week, an additional policy and legislation committee; and a proportional increase in the number of ballots for Member Bills), with ongoing costs for typical years from 2031–32 onwards*

	Transitional (£000k)	Ongoing – typical non- election year (£000k)	Ongoing – typical election year (£000k)
Assembly Commission staff costs	708	2,576	2,576
Other Assembly Commission costs (including refurbishment of additional accommodation, rent of additional accommodation, and other related costs)	1,669 <sup>iv</sup>	1,100	1,150
Assembly Member salaries (including office holder salaries)	–	1,788	1,640
Member support staff salaries	–	2,393	2,393

<sup>iv</sup> Of which £50k is capital expenditure



Member allowances and office costs <sup>v</sup>	-	885	922
AMSS vacancy provisions	-	138	138
Other costs associated with the Remuneration Board's Determination	-	424	1,188
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,377</b>	<b>9,028</b>	<b>9731</b>

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<sup>v</sup> Includes Residential Accommodation Expenditure; Members Travel; Office costs; and support for political parties



*Table 2b – Estimates of additional ongoing costs of an Assembly of 80 Members, with an increase to Assembly business-related activities (i.e. an additional plenary sitting each week, an additional policy and legislation committee; and a proportional increase in the number of ballots for Member Bills), in years leading up to 2031–32*

	Ongoing – 2024–25  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2025–26  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2026–27 (election year)  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2027–28, 2028–29, 2029–30, 2030–31  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2031–32 (election year)  (£000k)
Assembly Commission staff costs	122	721	2,576	2,576	2,576
Other Assembly Commission costs	10	571	1,150	1,100	1,150
Assembly Member salaries (including office holder salaries)	–	–	1,567	1,788	1,640
Member support staff salaries			2,094	2,393	2,393



Member allowances and office costs <sup>vi</sup>			980	885	922
AMSS vacancy provisions	-	-	121	138	138
Other costs associated with the Remuneration Board's Determination	-	-	520	424	1,188
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>1,292</b>	<b>8,915</b>	<b>9,166</b>	<b>9,731</b>

Ongoing costs for 2031–32 include, rather than are in addition to, ongoing costs for 2026–27.

Ongoing costs for 2027–28, 2028–29, 2029–30 and 2030–31 include, rather than are in addition to, ongoing costs for 2024–25 and 2025–26.

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<sup>vi</sup> Includes Residential Accommodation Expenditure; Members Travel; Office costs; and support for political parties



***Table 3a – Estimates of additional transitional and ongoing costs of an Assembly of 90 Members, with no increase to Assembly business-related activities, with ongoing costs for typical years from 2031–32 onwards***

	Transitional (£000k)	Ongoing – typical non- election year (£000k)	Ongoing – typical election year (£000k)
Assembly Commission staff costs	708	1,752	1,818
Other Assembly Commission costs (including refurbishment of additional accommodation, rent of additional accommodation, and other related costs)	2,503 <sup>vii</sup>	1,295	1,369
Assembly Member salaries (including office holder salary)	–	2,418	2,418
Member support staff salaries	–	3,590	3,590
Member allowances and office costs <sup>viii</sup>	–	1,326	1,326

<sup>vii</sup> Of which £50k is capital expenditure

<sup>viii</sup> Includes Residential Accommodation Expenditure; Members Travel; Office costs; and support for political parties



AMSS vacancy provisions	-	138	138
Other costs associated with the Remuneration Board's Determination	-	626	1,725
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,211</b>	<b>11,019</b>	<b>12,038</b>



**Table 3b – Estimates of additional ongoing costs of an Assembly of 90 Members, with no increase to Assembly business-related activities, in years leading up to 2031–32**

	Ongoing – 2024–25  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2025–26  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2026–27 (election year)  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2027–28, 2028–29, 2029–30, 2030–31  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2031–32 (election year)  (£000k)
Assembly Commission staff costs	122	518	1,818	1,752	1,818
Other Assembly Commission costs	10	848	1,369	1,295	1,369
Assembly Member salaries (including office holder salaries)	–	–	2,418	2,638	2,418
Member support staff salaries			3,291	3,590	3,590
Member allowances and office costs <sup>ix</sup>			1,320	1,326	1,326

<sup>ix</sup> Includes Residential Accommodation Expenditure; Members Travel; Office costs; and support for political parties



AMSS vacancy provisions	-	-	127	138	138
Other costs associated with the Remuneration Board's Determination	-	-	777	626	1,725
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>1,366</b>	<b>10,802</b>	<b>11,019</b>	<b>12,038</b>

Ongoing costs for 2031-32 include, rather than are in addition to, ongoing costs for 2026-27.

Ongoing costs for 2027-28, 2028-29, 2029-30 and 2030-31 include, rather than are in addition to, ongoing costs for 2024-25 and 2025-26.





*Table 4a – Estimates of additional transitional and ongoing costs of an Assembly of 90 Members, with an increase to Assembly business-related activities (i.e. an additional plenary sitting each week, an additional policy and legislation committee; and a proportional increase in the number of ballots for Member Bills), with ongoing costs for typical years from 2031–32 onwards*

	Transitional (£000k)	Ongoing – typical non- election year (£000k)	Ongoing – typical election year (£000k)
Assembly Commission staff costs	708	2,810	2,810
Other Assembly Commission costs	2,529 <sup>x</sup>	1,508	1,580
Assembly Member salaries (including office holder salaries)	–	2,656	2,436
Member support staff salaries	–	3,590	3,590
Member allowances and office costs <sup>xi</sup>	–	1,326	1,326
AMSS vacancy provisions	–	138	138

<sup>x</sup> Of which £50k is capital expenditure

<sup>xi</sup> Includes Residential Accommodation Expenditure; Members Travel; Office costs; and support for political parties



Other costs associated with the Remuneration Board's Determination	-	630	1,730
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,237</b>	<b>12,312</b>	<b>13,264</b>



*Table 4b – Estimates of additional ongoing costs of an Assembly of 90 Members, with an increase to Assembly business-related activities (i.e. an additional plenary sitting each week, an additional policy and legislation committee; and a proportional increase in the number of ballots for Member Bills), in years leading up to 2031–32*

	Ongoing – 2024–25  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2025–26  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2026–27 (election year)  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2027–28, 2028–29, 2029–30, 2030–31  (£000k)	Ongoing – 2031–32 (election year)  (£000k)
Assembly Commission staff costs	122	721	2,810	2,810	2,810
Other Assembly Commission costs (including refurbishment of additional accommodation, rent of additional accommodation, and other related costs)	10	876	1,580	1,508	1,580



Assembly Member salaries (including office holder salaries)	-	-	2,418	2,638	2,436
Member support staff salaries			3,291	3,590	3,590
Member allowances and office costs <sup>xii</sup>			1,326	1,326	1,326
AMSS vacancy provisions	-	-	121	138	138
Other costs associated with the Remuneration Board's Determination	-	-	781	630	1,730
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>1,597</b>	<b>12,029</b>	<b>12,312</b>	<b>13,264</b>

Ongoing costs for 2031–32 include, rather than are in addition to, ongoing costs for 2026–27.

Ongoing costs for 2027–28, 2028–29, 2029–30 and 2030–31 include, rather than are in addition to, ongoing costs for 2024–25 and 2025–26.

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<sup>xii</sup> Includes Residential Accommodation Expenditure; Members Travel; Office costs; and support for political parties



**Table 5: Summary of tables 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A**

	<i>Transitional</i> (£000k)	<i>Ongoing</i> typical non- election year (from 2027-28) (£000k)	Ongoing - typical election year (from 2031-32) (£000k)
<i>80 Members, with no increase to Assembly business-related activities</i>	2355	7826	8596
<i>80 Members, with an increase to Assembly business-related activities (i.e. an additional plenary sitting each week, an additional policy and legislation committee; and a proportional increase in the number of ballots for Member Bills)</i>	2,377	9,028	9731
<i>90 Members, with no increase to Assembly business-related activities</i>	3,211	11,019	12,038
<i>90 Members, with an increase to Assembly business-related activities</i>	3,237	12,312	13,264