

Suzy Davies AM
Commissioner for Budget and Governance
National Assembly for Wales

14 February 2020

Dear Suzy

Scrutiny of Accounts 2018–19

Thank you for your response to the Committee's Report which was considered on 10 February. It was agreed that I would request further clarity on the rejection of Recommendations 1 & 4.

Recommendation 1: The Committee welcomed the increase in the overspend target (from 0.5% to 1.5%) since this addresses in part, our concern about the risk of spending to achieve the target. However, we remain of the opinion that the target itself is not a suitable indicator since it does not link value for money and efficiency in the use of resources. We appreciate that the Commission can make its own decision as to targets but ask that an in-year target measure be considered.

Recommendation 4: As with Recommendation 1, the Committee appreciates that the Commission set this target following a benchmarking exercise against other comparable organisations. However, we remain disappointed that a more ambitious target was not set and request that the Commission re-considers this and reflects on its whole suite of indicators to ensure the targets encourage the Commission to stretch itself.



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Finally, regarding Recommendation 5, the Committee welcomed the Commission's commitment to consult staff on making public the results of the annual staff survey. I would welcome updates on this initiative, when available.

Your Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Ramsay". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending from the end of the name.

Nick Ramsay AM

Chair

Cc: Assembly Commissioners, Manon Antoniazzi, Nia Morgan

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

