

The Rt Hon Simon Hart MP
Secretary of State for Wales

24 September 2020

Dear Secretary of State,

Covid-19: Support for Wales

Thank you for your [response](#) to my letter of [22 July 2020](#) in relation to the consequential funding for Wales to support individuals, businesses and public services through COVID-19.

Given the different figures quoted by the Minister for Finance and Trefnydd on the amount of funding Wales received through the Barnett formula, I also wrote to the [Minister seeking clarification](#). I have attached the [Minister's response](#) for information, which shows the Minister was referring to the amount of "new" funding Wales received as a result of the Summer Economic Update, rather than the overall funding received relating to COVID-19 through the Barnett formula, since the outset of the pandemic.

The Committee would appreciate that any future funding announcements clarify whether any funding provided to Wales is "new money", and not funding which has already been previously detailed or announced. This will assist the Committee to have a clearer understanding of Welsh Government available funding.

The Committee highlights the importance of transparency in funding calculations, in line with the UK Government's guidance on [Block Grant Transparency: July 2020](#). Information should be provided as soon as possible after budgets or other significant statements to assist the Committee to understand UK funding and scrutinise Welsh Government decision making, particularly given the economic uncertainties as a result of Covid-19.



Yours sincerely,





Llyr Gruffydd MS
Chair of the Finance Committee



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