

Mark Drakeford MS
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Welsh Language
By email

25 October 2024

Dear Mark,

Changes to the Budget Process Protocol

We welcome the positive comments made by your predecessor on 1 August in response to our proposed changes to the Budget Process Protocol (the Protocol) as they relate to the Directly Funded Bodies.

We note the reference made in your predecessor's letter to the Chancellor's statement on 29 July, which confirms the UK Government's intention to holding one major fiscal event a year and to adopt a regular timetable for spending reviews. We also welcome the commitment made in the letter to reflect on the implications of these developments on the Welsh Government's budgetary timetable and agree with the assumption that changes to the Protocol should only contain revisions which both the Committee and Welsh Government have agreed.

As a result, the Committee has agreed to postpone its report on the Protocol and related matters until the impact of these development are known.

To that end, we ask if you could provide clarity on the Welsh Government's position on our proposals as soon possible after the Autumn Budget on 30 October, and before the publication of the Draft Budget on 12 December. This would allow us to reflect your views in our report.

We are grateful for your continued engagement with the Committee and hope that we can achieve progress in this area so that the Senedd's budgetary processes can be updated ahead of the 2026 election.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peredur Owen Griffiths', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS
Chair, Finance Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

