

The Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language

24 October 2025

Dear Mark,

Review of the Budget Process Protocol and Supplementary Budget Procedures

Thank you for your letter of 22 July 2025 which indicated general support for the proposed changes to the Budget Process Protocol and the Senedd's budgetary procedures and for them to be adopted as a single, consolidated package of changes. We also note your view that it is not essential to make these changes before dissolution.

We have regularly commented on these proposals in correspondence during this Senedd and recognise that the proposed changes should be considered as a package only once agreement has been reached between the Committee and the Welsh Government; a point we have made previously.

We also acknowledge that the proposals relate to wider issues relating to the Senedd's budgetary procedures, particularly given the move to a single UK fiscal event taking place in the autumn, and agree that they are matters the next Senedd will naturally want to consider.

Nonetheless, it is disappointing that you have not engaged meaningfully with the Committee or the Directly Funded Bodies (DFBs) on these issues, or provided clear views in response to the specific proposals we have submitted. In particular, we remain uncertain on which aspects of the changes you support or which you find problematic and believe this stance and general lack of impetus for progress in this area has limited the opportunities for these changes to be considered and agreed before the end of this Senedd.

We will reflect on these issues as part of our Legacy Report to ensure that the efforts of the DFBs in raising these matters and ideas for change are not lost and that they will continue to inform the Senedd's budgetary procedures in the Seventh Senedd.

A copy of this letter has also been sent to the Business Committee given their current consideration of procedural matters ahead of the Seventh Senedd.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peredur Owen Griffiths', written in a cursive style.

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS, Chair of the Finance Committee

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

