

The Rt Hon Elin Jones MS, Llywydd  
Chair, Senedd Commission  
Adrian Crompton  
Auditor General for Wales  
Michelle Morris  
Public Services Ombudsman for Wales  
Vijay Rangarajan  
Chief Executive and Accounting Officer, Electoral Commission

24 October 2025

Dear Elin, Adrian, Michelle and Vijay,

### Review of the Budget Process Protocol and Supplementary Budget Procedures

During the course of this Senedd, the Committee has written to you on a number of occasions seeking your views on proposed changes to the Budget Process Protocol and supplementary budget procedures as they relate to Directly Funded Bodies (DFBs).

I wrote to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language on 1 July 2025 summarising the points you, and other DFBs, had raised seeking views on the proposed changes, including whether he would be supportive of making them in this Senedd, prior to dissolution next year.

The Cabinet Secretary responded on 22 July 2025, indicating general support for the proposals and for them to be adopted as a single, consolidated package of changes, but concluding that:

*"I see no reason not to continue with such informal arrangements for the remainder of the Senedd term, not least because this flexibility may prove useful as we approach the forthcoming Senedd election."*

In relation to the changes proposed by the DFBs to the supplementary budget procedures, the Cabinet Secretary also confirmed that:

*"While we can see merit in formalising elements of the proposals, I do not believe it is essential to make any of the changes in advance of the more comprehensive package of changes to be considered by the new Senedd."*

As a Committee we recognise that the proposed changes should be considered by the Senedd as a single package. We also understand that these are issues which the next Senedd will want to consider in detail.

Nonetheless, it is disappointing that the Cabinet Secretary has not engaged meaningfully with the Committee or the DFBs on these issues or provided clear views in response to the specific proposals you have submitted. Whilst this is frustrating, these issues will be reflected in our Legacy Report, and I will continue to press the Cabinet Secretary on these points in future scrutiny sessions, so your efforts in raising these matters are not lost and to ensure that they inform the developments of budgetary procedures in the Seventh Senedd.

Despite this outcome, I am grateful for your continued engagement and your dialogue has been invaluable in helping the Committee gain a better understanding of the pressures caused by the Senedd's budgetary procedures and the ways in which they can be improved.

I am copying this letter to the Llywydd's Committee, given that this issue also falls within their remit.

Yours sincerely,



Peredur Owen Griffiths MS, Chair of the Finance Committee

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