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Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref

Delyth Jewell MS
Chair
Culture, Communications, Welsh Language,
Sport and International Relations Committee

4 February 2026

Dear Delyth,

Thank you for your letter about funding for Wrexham AFC. We are replying jointly because the issues you raised relate to both the sport and economy portfolios.

Regarding funding, the allocation made in March 2021 used capital that became available after the UK Government issued late COVID-related funding to the Welsh Government. The £25 million awarded to Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC) was set aside to support the Wrexham Gateway project over several financial years. The project is a major regeneration scheme, aimed at transforming the area around Wrexham General railway station and the Mold Road corridor. It is being delivered through a partnership involving the Welsh Government, Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC), Wrexham Glyndŵr University (WGU), Transport for Wales (TfW) and Wrexham AFC, and is designed to create a new transport hub, commercial office space, a new Kop stand at the Racecourse Ground, and improved public, cultural spaces. The project aims to improve the entrance to the city, fostering closer links between the railway station, the stadium, and the city centre, and aims to attract significant new jobs and investment to North Wales. WCBC is responsible for managing the funding, while decisions on how it is spent are made by the Wrexham Gateway Partnership, which includes the Welsh Government, WCBC, Wrexham University and Transport for Wales. This £25 million formed only part of a much larger planned public investment in the Gateway project, and both the overall cost and the funding gap have increased significantly since then.

In relation to supporting viable projects, it is important to note that Wrexham AFC's proposal focuses on expanding the Stok Cae Ras (Racecourse Ground) to increase capacity and generate more revenue for the club. The funding allocated by the Wrexham Gateway Partnership is intended to deliver wider stadium improvements needed to meet UEFA standards for hosting competitive international football - work that goes beyond the club's own requirements. The aim of bringing international football back to North Wales predates the club's current ownership, and without the owners' major financial contribution this

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

ambition would not be achievable. The start of construction on the Kop Stand is a clear sign that the delivery phase of the wider project is now underway.

In relation to assurance, the Welsh Government is an active partner in the Wrexham Gateway project. The Welsh Government is fully involved in decisions about capital spend and receives regular updates from WCBC on the overall budget position.

As requested, we have enclosed the advice provided by officials and the Outline Business Case (OBC). Please note that the OBC is now five years old. While the case for public investment remains strong due to the funding gap, the details of the project - its scope, cost and timetable - have changed over time.

I hope this clarifies the reasoning behind this specific intervention. However, my officials would also be happy to deliver a technical briefing presentation on the Wrexham Gateway to the CCWLSIR Committee if that would be helpful.

Lastly, with regard to investment into sport, in total, over the course of this Senedd term, the Welsh Government has provided Sport Wales with £59 million of capital funding to enhance both community and elite sports facilities throughout the country. Since 2021-22 the Welsh Government has increased the annual capital allocation to Sport Wales from £3 million per annum to £11 million per annum in 2026-27 and, in this financial year, we provided an additional £5 million to save the Urdd's Llangrannog swimming pool, boost investment in women's facilities and invest in a variety of sports projects across Wales. In our final Budget for 2026-27, we have provided a revenue allocation of £23.368 million to Sport Wales.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Evans AS/MS

Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning
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Jack Sargeant AS/MS

Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership
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