

Mark Drakeford AM/AC
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid
Cabinet Secretary for Finance



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Simon Thomas AM
Chair
Finance Committee
National Assembly for Wales

19 December 2017

Dear Simon,

I would like to thank the Committee for its report, *Inquiry into the financial estimates accompanying legislation* and welcome the opportunity to respond to the recommendations. The full response is attached to this letter.

The Welsh Government recognises the importance of continuing to develop and improve our approach to assessing and presenting the financial implications of legislation. Since the end of the Fourth Assembly, a number of changes have been made to the guidance on developing Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIAs) for Assembly Bills. It was pleasing to note the Committee's report recognised the improvements made to the presentation of RIAs during the Fifth Assembly.

There are a number of common areas in the recommendations made in the report and the Welsh Government's own thinking on how RIAs can be improved going forward. Of the 16 recommendations in this report, we have been able to accept 15 of these in whole or in principle. The advice given to teams working on Assembly Bills will be revised accordingly.

Again, I thank the Committee for this helpful report and for their continued scrutiny of the financial estimates accompanying legislation.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Drakeford AM/AC
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid
Cabinet Secretary for Finance

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Mark.Drakeford@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Mark.Drakeford@gov.wales

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.