

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Huw Irranca-Davies MS Chair, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee Senedd Cymru Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA

30 January 2023

Dear Huw,

I am writing to inform you a meeting of the Finance: Interministerial Standing Committee (F:ISC) will take place on 9 February.

The focus of the meeting will be on UK economic and fiscal plans and EU replacement funding.

The UK Government is in the process of finalising its supplementary estimates for 2022-23. I will be highlighting the challenges this process presents for the Welsh Government budget, building on previous discussions in regard to providing greater funding certainty for devolved governments.

With the UK Spring Budget confirmed to take place on 15 March, I will be reiterating previous asks of the UK Government to provide the necessary support to protect public services and respond to the inflationary, pay and other cost pressures. With this year marking 75 years of the NHS, I will be requesting investment from the UK Government in our NHS and social care sector to respond to the significant pressures it is facing and to deliver wider reform.

The EU replacement funding item will be the first time we have had a substantive discussion on this issue. I will be highlighting the impact UK Government decisions have had on Wales and the financial shortfall of £1.1billion¹. I will be seeking a commitment from the UK Government to address the loss of funding and enable greater devolved involvement in the use of replacement structural funds. For this item an invite has been extended to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

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¹ Written Statement: Loss of funding to Wales as a result of the UK Government's arrangements for replacement EU funding (4 May 2022) | 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.

Under AOB I will be highlighting the publication of the interim report by the Independent Commission on the Constitutional Future for Wales.

Alongside the F:ISC I have also requested a bilateral meeting with the Chief Secretary to the Treasury to discuss Wales specific issues including fair funding for Wales and decarbonisation.

I will report to the Committee on the outcome of the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Evans.

Rebecca Evans AS/MS Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Llywodraeth Leol Minister for Finance and Local Government