Dear David

As you will be aware, matters relating to the Welsh language fall within the remit of the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee. We have recently taken evidence from the First Minister, as Minister with responsibility for overseeing and co-ordinating Welsh language policy. The Committee has subsequently written to the First Minister highlighting specific areas of Welsh language policy that we intend to keep under review. A copy of the letter is enclosed, for information.

The session covered a number of issues, including some that fall within the remit of other scrutiny committees. As such, it served to reinforce the cross cutting nature of the Welsh language and highlighted the importance of a more co-ordinated our approach to its scrutiny across committees.

In this context, the Committee agreed that I should write to all committees asking them to consider their existing approach to scrutiny of the Welsh language as it relates to their remit and to seek views on how best the Welsh language can be mainstreamed into all aspects of our scrutiny work. In addition, the Committee would welcome your views on how best Welsh language considerations could be taken forward in the budget scrutiny process.

It would be helpful if you could provide your views on the above as soon as practicable and, if possible, by the end of February.
I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Christine Chapman AC / AM
Cadeirydd / Chair