



Llyr Gruffydd MS
Chair Finance Committee

SeneddFinance@senedd.wales

23 December 2020

Dear Llyr Gruffydd MS,

Thank you for your letter of 18 November. As the Counsel General confirmed on 11 November in Plenary, his Ministerial responsibilities in regard to Covid recovery concluded with the publication of *Covid-19 Reconstruction: Challenges and Priorities* in October.

The Government's immediate priority is one responding to the continuing public health emergency, maximising the emerging testing technologies available to us and delivering the Covid-19 vaccination programme.

At the same time, we are progressing the reconstruction priorities set out in the document. It is essential Covid recovery is taken forward by all the Welsh Government and are not regarded as the preserve of a single Minister. Our priorities for recovery stretch across all our functions as a government, both now and into the future.

As noted in the correspondence you received the responsibility for managing and delivering these priorities has now been moved to the relevant portfolio Ministers.

Ministers are best placed to ensure the immediate priorities within their portfolios are delivered and can focus their policies and programmes to align with the priorities for recovery. They can best determine what further work may be needed within the resources available to them, to action these priorities.

As the Minister for Finance and Trefnydd set out in the Senedd on 6 October, the eight priorities identified in *Covid-19 Reconstruction: Challenges and Priorities* will shape our budget discussions. Further details are available in the draft Budget published on 21 December.

Best Wishes

MARK DRAKEFORD

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400
YP.PrifWeinidog@llyw.cymru • ps.firstminister@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.

