

Mike Hedges AM
Chair of the Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

29 November 2016

Dear Mike,

Petition P-04-660 Additional Pressures on Funding for Education Provision Faced by Sparsely Populated Areas

Thank you for your letter dated 3 August 2016 regarding the above petition which received 1,049 signatures.

The Committee was able to question representatives from the Welsh Local Government Association on the continuing work to reform the local government funding formula with regard to rural authorities. The Committee is also aware that, during its scrutiny of the Welsh Government's draft budget 2017-18, the Cabinet Secretary for Education announced new rules to support rural schools in Wales and a £2.5m per year rural and small schools grant to support schools working together.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Finance Committee's report on the Welsh Government's draft budget 2017-18, which was published today.

The response from the Welsh Government will be published in due course on the Committee's webpages. The debate on the draft budget is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 6 December 2016.



Kind regards

Simon Thomas

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Chair

