

Jane Hutt AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Busnes y Llywodraeth
Minister for Finance and Government Business



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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Jocelyn Davies AM,
Chair, Finance Committee,
The National Assembly for Wales,
Cardiff Bay,
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

3 August 2015

Dear Jocelyn,

Following the Committee's inquiry into Best Practice Budget Processes, we are continuing to work collaboratively to successfully implement a new budgetary procedure. Building on that commitment, I know that our officials have met regularly to discuss the recommendations in the Committee's report.

As you know, I am keen to take a flexible approach to the implementation of a new budgetary procedure recognising the ongoing discussions regarding further devolution to Wales. It is my intention that the changes we make will be consolidated within Welsh legislation in the future. At this stage, however, it is prudent to implement changes to the budgetary procedures through the revision of standing orders and the budget protocol. Our continued co-operation throughout this process will be essential.

Developments are now underway in respect of the devolution settlement in Wales and I will consider the introduction of legislation, such as a Financial Framework Bill incorporating both budgetary and accountability arrangements, as we gain clarity on those developments.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss the implications of this with you. My office will be in touch to arrange a meeting early in the next Assembly term.

*Best wishes,
Jane*

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