

Llyr Gruffydd AM
Chair, Finance Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Ref: 114SUB 19

14 February 2019

Dear Llyr,

Thank you for your recent letter inviting me to attend an evidence session with your Committee on the implementation of the fiscal provisions in the Wales Act 2014.

The implementation of the Wales Act 2014 is of course the joint responsibility of the UK Government and the Welsh Government. The fourth annual report which I published in December last year demonstrates a great deal of progress and collaborative working between the UK and Welsh Governments to achieve a transition to devolved taxes. I trust this work will continue as we prepare for the implementation of Welsh Rates of Income Tax in April this year.

While I appreciate the invitation to attend your committee I would like to direct you to my previous responses. It is my belief that it's appropriate that your committee formally scrutinises the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government in relation to these matters given the respective lines of accountability. As you will be aware I am frequently scrutinised by the Welsh Affairs Select Committee in the Houses of Parliament.

As ever, I am more than happy to offer to meet committee members on an individual basis to discuss any particular concerns relevant to your inquiry.



Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP
Secretary of State for Wales
Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru