



UK Government
Llywodraeth y DU

Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP
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Llyr Gruffydd AM
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Dear Llyr,

Thank you for your recent letter inviting me to attend a committee session with your Committee on the Welsh Government's capital funding sources.

In the case of capital funding sources, the lines of accountability are clear and are reflected in the annual reporting arrangements on the implementation and operation of the Wales Act 2014. The Secretary of State must report to Parliament and Welsh Ministers must report to the Assembly.

I am accountable to Parliament in my role as Secretary of State for Wales and I would normally expect to be scrutinised by the Welsh Affairs Select Committee. I would expect Welsh Ministers to be scrutinised by Assembly Committees given their accountability to the National Assembly.

You will appreciate that I receive many invitations to give evidence to Committees of the National Assembly for Wales, this being the third invite in recent weeks. I believe there is a case for me to give evidence to Assembly Committees. For example, when the UK Government is legislating in areas of Assembly competence and is seeking the consent of the Assembly for the legislation.

However, in respect of the implementation of capital funding sources, I believe it would be most appropriate for your Committee to scrutinise Welsh Ministers and I fully expect the Welsh Affairs Select Committee to consider scrutinising me.

Whilst on this occasion I am afraid that I will be unable to attend the meeting. I am very interested in the findings and would like to be kept updated.

Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP
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