Date/Dyddiad: 18 March 2015

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Ms. Jocelyn Davies AM Chair Finance Committee National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

Dear Jocelyn,

I am writing in reply to your letter of 11 March in which you ask for details of the costs incurred by the Vale Council in the preparation of our Expression of Interest for a voluntary merger with Bridgend.

A substantial amount of senior officer time was spent on drafting the Expression of Interest; however, we did not record that time and so cannot provide an accurate estimate of the "opportunity" cost to the Council.

Yours sincerely

Siân Davies

MANAGING DIRECTOR