

To: Councillor Rob Stewart, Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance and Strategy Please ask for: Gofynnwch am: Direct Line: Llinell Uniongyrochol: e-Mail e-Bost:

Date

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Scrutiny

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BY EMAIL

18 January 2024

Summary: This is a letter from the Service Improvement, Regeneration and Finance Scrutiny Performance Panel to the Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance and Strategy concerning the meeting held on 12 December 2023 and the Review of Revenue Reserves and the Mid Term Budget Statement 2023/24. This letter does not require a response.

### Dear Councillor Stewart,

On the 12 December, the Service Improvement, Regeneration and Finance Scrutiny Performance Panel met to discuss the Q2 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2023/24. The Panel are grateful to you and Ben Smith for attending to discuss and answer questions.

### **Review of Revenue Reserves**

As this item was discussed at length at the recent Council meeting, we had no further questions regarding the Review of Revenue Reserves.

## Mid Term Budget Statement 2023/24

The officer highlighted that there are several concerns and pressures in current year with regards to budget monitoring which will require discussions on deployment of reserves in the future.

We asked if the additional £305m which has been awarded to Wales will all go to the health service, you are expecting some of this to flow to local government but that this is complex, and the Council continues to lobby the WLGA to ensure the voice of local governments are heard in Welsh Government. We await further developments on budget proposals in the new year when available.

### Your Response

We are interested in any thoughts you may have on the contents of this letter but in this instance, we require no formal written response.

Yours sincerely,

### **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY / TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU**

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CAAHolley,

# **Councillor Chris Holley**

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