Angela Burns AC/AM

Comisiynydd y Cynulliad Assembly Commissioner

Jocelyn Davies AM
Chair of the Finance Committee
National Assembly of Wales
Tŷ Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

12 February 2014

Dear Jocelyn

Thank you for the Committee's response of 7 February to the Commission's supplementary budget proposal for 2013-14. Please find below the additional information requested.

The breakdown of the rebate is:

Effective Date	Saving
01/04/2010	£118,638
01/01/2011	£188,945
01/01/2012	£188,945
01/01/2013	£188,945
Rebate impacting budget for 2013-14	£685,473

In future years there will be a similar annual saving in the order of £0.2m. The Committee has heard evidence from me about our determination to pursue value for money savings wherever possible

Bae Caerdydd Caerdydd CF99 1 NA

> Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

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and we have been encouraged by the Committee's support for this. In seeking out ways to achieve savings, we aim to make best use of the budget agreed by the Assembly. We will reinvest the savings from the rates rebate, and other savings, in pursuit of our corporate goals and priorities and in a way that demonstrates wise use of resources. In exceptional circumstances, where we are unable to make effective use of funds because of the timing of the savings (as with the significant backdated rebate received in 2013-14), we will return those funds to the Welsh block.

May I also use this opportunity to point out that the adjustment to the AME budget for 2013-14 will need to follow through to future years. Whilst we are in a position to build that into the baseline budget for 2015-16, we will need to lay a further supplementary budget to deal with this in 2014-15. This will be progressed later in the year, once the valuation has been reassessed and there is more information to inform the potential liability.

As always, we are happy to provide the Committee with any further information it needs.

Yours sincerely

Angela Burns

Comisiynydd y Cynulliad

Assembly Commissioner