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Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth

Minister for Economy, Science and Transport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

William Graham AM
Chair of the Enterprise and Business Committee

02 March 2016

Dear William

Enterprise and Business Committee Update

I am writing to provide an update on the actions discussed at Enterprise and Committee on 9 December regarding hardship relief and information that is publically available on business rates. I agreed to provide an update for the Committee once I had met with Local Authority Leaders.

I discussed the awarding of hardship relief at my meeting with Local Authority Leaders in January. Following some discussion, it was agreed that the best way forward would be for a small group to be set up to examine the issues. Cllr Aaron Shotton, Leader of Flintshire Council and Finance Spokesperson of the WLGA, has offered to Chair the Group, and I understand that a meeting on this will be convened in due course.

I also promised to explore whether further information could be published on business rates. Firstly, I have published some information on reliefs currently supported through my Department, which is available via the following link: <http://gov.wales/topics/businessandconomy/how-we-support-businesses/business-rates/?lang=en>

I have asked for further advice regarding our options for collecting and publishing information on business rates and I am confident that there will be a continued focus here.

I have also enquired as to whether there is more information that the Valuation Office Agency can publish. I understand that the Valuation Office Agency is currently reviewing the information it publishes and that changes to its statistical publications could be forthcoming.

Edwina Hart

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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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