

Llyr Gruffydd AM  
Chair of the Finance Committee  
National Assembly for Wales

21 February 2019

Dear Llyr

### **Cumulative Impact Assessment briefing for Committees**

The Commission was pleased to provide evidence to the Joint meeting of the Finance, Children and Young People and Equality, Local Government and Communities Committees in November as part of the scrutiny of the Welsh Government's budget of 2018-19

Our evidence centred on the extent to which equality considerations had been built into the budget setting process and we provided advice on our recent work to develop a Cumulative Impact Assessment model of public spending decisions. The model enables Governments to analyse the cumulative impact of their spending decisions on certain groups with protected characteristics in order for them to take decisions to mitigate against unequal outcomes. We worked with Landman Economics on this work and since the evidence session we published our report - [The cumulative impact on living standards of public spending changes](#), which includes evidence on the impact of Welsh Government's public spending decisions.

We were pleased to see the series of recommendations in the Finance Committee's including:

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Bydd y Comisiwn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg.

The Commission welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English.

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- the Welsh Government should consider the Cumulative Impact Assessment approach recommended by the Equality and Human Rights Commission and;
- that Welsh Government provide an update on the outcome of its review of the new Integrated Assessment approach.

We are keen to further support the Committees in taking forward these recommendations and advise on the scrutiny of future Welsh Government budgets. To this end we are continuing to work on a research project to analyse how effectively the current Welsh Government Integrated Impact Assessment model builds in equality considerations. We believe the outcome of this analysis will be useful for drive improvements on how the Welsh Government considers equality outcomes as part of its decision making on budgets and support scrutiny by the National Assembly.

We are pleased to offer a briefing session to you and your Committee Members and staff on the Cumulative Impact Assessment work and the review of the Integrated Impact Assessment. This would take place on or around 14 March.

If this is something that you would be interested please come back to me and my team will be happy to liaise with the Clerks teams to organise.

Yours sincerely



**Ruth Coombs**

Head of Wales

cc: Lynne Neagle AM, Chair of Children, Young People and Educations Committee  
John Griffiths AM, Chair of Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

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