

**Julie James AC/AM**  
**Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol**  
**Minister for Housing and Local Government**



**Llywodraeth Cymru**  
**Welsh Government**

Mark Isherwood AM

[Mark.isherwood@assembly.wales](mailto:Mark.isherwood@assembly.wales)

8 January 2020

Dear Mark,

In our exchange during my Assembly Questions on 12 December you asked whether any Local Authority in Wales had formally requested a change to the local government distribution formula since you had last asked the question on October 9<sup>th</sup>. I said I would confirm the latest position. My officials have checked and I can confirm that no council has done so.

You referred to a letter of the 8 October from Group Leaders in Flintshire County Council and, for the avoidance of doubt, I did not and do not regard that correspondence as a request to change the formula. The letter was clearly about the overall level of funding being provided to Local Government in Wales. A general expression of concern about the impact of the formula on a specific Council is not the same as a serious proposal for specific changes. I did not agree to meet on this occasion. As I said to you in our exchange I have met every local authority in Wales and I and my colleagues discuss local government funding, including the distribution formula, regularly with local government through the Finance Sub Group. Since our first exchange on the 9<sup>th</sup> October I and the Finance Minister have met Leaders in the Finance Sub Group in November and also met WLGA Leaders specifically on the budget in October.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Julie James AC/AM**  
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**Minister for Housing and Local Government**

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.