



Ein cyf/Our ref : LW-224-20

Members of the Senedd

8 June 2020

Dear colleague,

I wanted to provide a brief update for Members on the work of the Valleys Taskforce at this current time. You will recall the Taskforce was moving into its final phase of delivery and a number of flagship projects, like the Empty Homes Grant Scheme and the Peer to Peer Valleys Leadership Programme had been progressing successfully. Following the initial impact of Covid-19, a number of the projects within the programme have had to be paused due to capacity constraints and health and safety restrictions.

I asked officials to undertake a review of each of the seven priorities within the current Valleys Taskforce programme and they have reported on their status and likely timescales for recommencement, if possible and where the projects may need to be flexed to be successful in the future. I also convened an extraordinary meeting of the Taskforce on 7 May to discuss how we could use the resources we have to intervene and make a positive contribution to the recovery in the South Wales Valleys. The results of these discussions will be fed into the work being led by the Counsel General.

Yours sincerely

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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.