



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
The National Assembly for Wales**

Jon Shortridge
Ysgrifennydd Parhaol · Permanent Secretary

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Dear Brian

APPROACHES TO THE ASSEMBLY

We have received a number of queries in recent weeks from Assembly Sponsored Public Bodies about the most appropriate route of access to the Assembly.

The first line of formal communication between an ASPB and the Assembly should normally be through the Chair of the ASPB to the appropriate Assembly Secretary or to officials within the Assembly - normally the Sponsor Division. Contact at Chief Executive level and below should normally be to the Sponsor Division of the Assembly as has been the practice in the past. A revised model Management Statement and Financial Memorandum which will set out in more detail the respective roles of the Assembly and ASPBs is nearing its final draft and will be issued for consultation shortly.

In the meantime, the Finance Secretary of the Assembly will very shortly make available details of her Preliminary Draft Budget. This will be published on the Assembly Website and will be debated by the Assembly on 10 November. This is the next stage of the Assembly's budget procedures and I am attaching a note which sets out the process in more detail. The Preliminary Draft Budget has been prepared in the light of comments received following the "Better Wales" consultation, and taking into account the views of Subject Committees on priorities. After this stage Assembly Secretaries will seek the views of their relevant Subject Committees and convey these to the Finance Secretary to enable her to publish a final draft Budget early in December.

If you wish to comment on the proposals in the Preliminary Draft Budget then please do so through the avenues set out above.

Best wishes

J D SHORTRIDGE

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