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Croesawn ohebu yn Gymraeg a fydd gohebu yn y Gymraeg ddim yn arwain at oedi. Rhwch wybod inni beth yw'ch dewis iaith e.e Cymraeg neu'n ddwyieithog. We welcome correspondence in Welsh and corresponding with us in Welsh will not lead to a delay. Let us know your language choice if Welsh or bilingual.



13th October 2026

Dear Elin,

RE: Local Government Funding Formula Review

I am writing following a resolution to a Notice of Motion passed by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council regarding the forthcoming review of the Local Government Funding Formula.

The Council recognises the importance of maintaining a fair and transparent funding system and welcomes the opportunity to ensure that the formula continues to reflect relative need across Wales. However, we are concerned about the potential consequences of any changes which could weaken recognition of deprivation and service demand within authorities such as Rhondda Cynon Taf.

RCT is the third largest local authority in Wales and our communities are still experiencing the effects of deindustrialisation, with entrenched deprivation and poverty providing significant challenges and demands on service provision.

There are substantial acute pressures in terms of demand relating to social care; education and, in particular, Additional Learning Needs; and public health services. These are ongoing while the continuing effects of the cost-of-living crisis continue to impact many households and exacerbate these challenges.

To that end, the Council does not believe that fairness should be defined solely as a redistribution of existing resources between authorities. Rather, fairness must mean ensuring that communities facing similar levels of need receive appropriate support and that communities facing greater levels of need continue to receive recognition for the demands placed upon local services.

As part of any review, the Council is requesting that Welsh Government ensures that any changes are supported by clear and compelling evidence of relative need. Indeed, as part of this, we would urge you to ensure that the particular factors of deprivation, poverty, health inequalities, social care demand, Additional Learning Needs and demographic pressures remain central considerations. This will, firstly, help to ensure that the impact on residents and essential local services is fully assessed before any changes are implemented; but it will also guarantee that no authority experiences a reduction in funding that cannot be objectively justified by an evidenced reduction in relative need.

We would welcome ongoing dialogue with Welsh Government as the review progresses.

Yours sincerely,

A. Crimmings

Ann Crimmings

Arweinydd y Cyngor ac Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Cyllid

Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance

Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol dros Ward Gorllewin Aberdâr a Llwydcoed

County Borough Councillor for the Aberdare West & Llwydcoed Ward

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