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13th October 2026

Dear Ken,

RE: Local Government Funding Formula Review

I am writing to you in your capacity as a Senedd Group Leader on behalf of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council following the adoption of a Notice of Motion concerning the Welsh Government's review of the Local Government Funding Formula.

As a matter of vital principle, the Council understands the importance of ensuring that public funding is distributed fairly and according to need. However, we wish to raise concerns regarding the potential implications of future changes to the formula for communities such as those within Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Many of our residents continue to face the challenges associated with deprivation, poverty and health inequality. Demand for social care services, support for vulnerable residents and Additional Learning Needs provision remains high.

The Council believes these factors must remain central to any assessment of need. Whilst there is a legitimate discussion to be had regarding rurality and sparsity, addressing one set of pressures must not come at the expense of communities facing different but equally significant challenges.

As the third largest authority in Wales and one of the County Boroughs where deindustrialisation has been felt keenly, we are particularly concerned that a redistribution of existing resources between authorities, without addressing the wider financial challenges facing local government, would simply transfer pressures from one set of communities to another rather than resolving the underlying issues.

We would therefore ask all Senedd groups to support a review process that is evidence-based, transparent and focused on protecting services and residents across all parts of Wales.

The Council's position is, therefore, clear in that Rhondda Cynon Taf must not be unfairly financially disadvantaged by any revision of the Local Government Funding Formula.

Yours sincerely,

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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