

# Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr Bridgend County Borough Council



Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont, CF31 4WB / Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

GYFRINACHOL – I'W HAGOR GAN  
CYREIRIWDYD ATO UN UNIG / CONFIDENTIAL  
TO BE OPENED BY ADDRESSEE ONLY

Jayne Bryant MS/ Rt Hon Mark  
Drakeford  
Cabinet Secretary for Housing  
and Local Government / Cabinet  
Secretary for Finance and Welsh  
Language  
Welsh Government

Cadeirydd Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu  
Corfforaethol / Chair of Corporate Overview and  
Scrutiny Committee  
Deialu uniongyrchol / Direct line: (01656) 643515  
Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Scrutiny

Ein cyf / Our ref: Scrutiny  
Eich cyf / Your ref:

**Dyddiad / Date: 24 April 2025**

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Dear Cabinet Secretary,

## **Fully funding of National Policy Commitments – Housing and Homelessness**

I am writing to formally put on record the concerns of our Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 which met on 14 November 2024 to consider the Authority's Annual Corporate Safeguarding Report 2023-24.

During discussions, Officers advised that during the COVID-19 pandemic, emergency legislative guidance from Welsh Government was introduced leading to increased statutory duties on local authorities to provide temporary accommodation.

Officers confirmed that the legislative change is now permanent and, as such, is impacting on the number of placements, exacerbated by wider issues such as the cost of living crisis and the particularly challenging private rent market are causing both increase in demand and making it harder for households to move on from temporary accommodation.

Whilst during the emergency measures, the local authority was able to largely recover their costs through the Hardship Fund, following the legislation becoming permanent, the cost of

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We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Please let us know if your language choice is Welsh

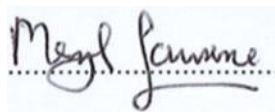
statutory provision far outweighs the level of funding that the local authority has been able to recover from the No One Left Out Grant, putting significant pressure on public finances.

During discussions, the Committee expressed that national policy commitments should be fully funded both in terms of capital funding and ongoing revenue funding and that core responsibilities should not be diluted by not fully funding national policy commitments.

I have been asked by Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 to express the Committee's concerns about the impact of not fully funding WG national policy commitments upon the Authority's budget and services.

The Committee requests that due consideration be given to the above and look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Meryl Lawrence', written over a light blue rectangular background. The signature is cursive and fluid.

Meryl Lawrence - Uwch Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd – Craffu / Senior Democratic Services – Scrutiny

Ar ran Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Pwnc (Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol) / On behalf of Chair of Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 (Social Services)