



Ein cyf/Our ref JB/00454/25

Meryl Lawrence
Bridgend County Borough Council

scrutiny@bridgend.gov.uk

1 May 2025

Dear Meryl Lawrence,

Thank you for your letter of 24 April to Dawn Bowden MS, Minister for Children and Social Care, on behalf of your authority's Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding funding for the provision of statutory and preventative services. I am replying as I am responsible for local government core settlement funding.

I know that demand for services, alongside cost pressures mean that authorities have had to make difficult decisions on services, and council tax in setting budgets. The Welsh Government again prioritised local government and front line public services in its budget decisions. The local government settlement for 2025-2026 provides over £6.1bn in core revenue funding which is an increase of 4.5% compared to 2024-25 on a like for like basis. Bridgend CBC received an additional £10.2 million in the 2025-26 settlement.

Please be assured I am engaging closely with local authorities on the pressures facing them. I have a regular series of meetings with council leaders collectively as well as meeting individual Leaders. While the outlook is challenging, I welcome the pragmatic way we are working together with local government to ensure we do all we can within the funding available. This engagement will continue alongside preparation for future years budgets, while we await the outcome of the UK Government spending review.

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Bryant AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.