

Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a  
Llywodraeth Leol

Communities, Equality and Local Government  
Committee

Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru  
National  
Assembly for  
Wales



Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd / Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

**Darren Millar AM**  
**Chair**  
**Public Accounts Committee**

25 March 2014

Dear Darren

Thank you for your letter of 19 February 2014, enclosing a copy of the report of the Wales Audit Office on the financial challenges facing local government in Wales.

This is an area of considerable interest to members of the Committee and you may be aware that we will shortly be hearing from Sir Paul Williams and some of his fellow Commissioners about the report on Public Service Governance and Delivery. You may also be interested in our [report](#) into progress with local government collaboration, published in December 2013. The purpose of the inquiry was to consider the extent to which local government collaboration is taking place, and to evaluate the success of this in terms of efficiency savings and the delivery of services. As part of the inquiry, we took evidence on the overall costs and benefits of collaboration in delivering local government services.

Members will be able to consider the matters raised by the Wales Audit Office, as well as the issues identified in our own report on collaboration, in the context of our consideration of the Commission's report.

We would, of course, be interested in hearing further from you should the Public Accounts Committee agree to undertake its own inquiry in this area. I will send you a copy of the transcript of our meeting with Sir Paul Williams for information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine Chapman".

**Christine Chapman AC / AM**  
**Cadeirydd / Chair**