

Hannah Blythyn AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Partneriaeth Gymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Social Partnership



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref **DC HB 00202 23**

Stuart Stanley
Brigade Chair, North Wales
Fire Brigades Union

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21 September 2023

Dear Stuart Stanley

Thank you for your email of 4 September to my diary secretary. In it, you requested a further meeting to discuss North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority's Emergency Cover Review, and in particular whether Welsh Government financial support might be available to support your proposed "growth option".

As you know, the Welsh Government does not directly fund FRAs' core costs and therefore we do not have an allocated budget for this. You may also have seen the First Minister's [recent statement](#) in which he set out the unprecedented financial pressures which the Welsh Government is facing, because of underfunding by the UK Government and persistently high levels of inflation. In that context it would not be realistic for me to hold out any prospect of additional Welsh Government funds being made available to North Wales FRA at this time.

As we agreed at our meeting last month, I have relayed your concerns about the review and the consultation to the Chief Fire Officer and I hope that will help to enable a productive dialogue with the FRA about these important issues.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Blythyn AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Partneriaeth Gymdeithasol
Deputy Minister for Social Partnership

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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.