



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ90780

Paul Davies
Welsh Parliament
Paul.davies@senedd.wales

7 March 2024

Dear Paul,

I write in response to WQ90780: What assessment has the Minister made of each of the regional economic frameworks?

Since 2021 we've had significant churn at UK level, which has directly impacted on the work of businesses, Welsh Government, local authorities and further afield. We've also had a period of significant economic difficulty, with real challenges around inflation that have changed the environment.

That has been unhelpful for businesses and for all of our economic regions. The Welsh Government is working with regions to reflect on what has happened and to want to understand how we can continue to maintain purpose and direction from the shared priorities that we have gathered together. This work has also been delayed due to local authorities having to utilise their limited resources to bid for UK Government levelling-up and shared prosperity funding, but that work is continuing now, and, going forward, the frameworks can provide an important foundation for the corporate joint committee in relation to their economic well-being functions.

I published the Economic Mission: Priorities for a Stronger Economy in November 2023, this sets out four national priority areas, including a specific focus upon Stronger partnerships for stronger regions and the everyday economy.

We remain committed to working with partners and stakeholders to deliver against the vision and priorities set out in each of the Regional Economic Frameworks (REFs). We are working with our partners to develop a delivery plan for the priorities identified in each REF which recognise and build on existing partnerships and to maximise the economic benefits

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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.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy