P-05-804 We need Welsh Government funding for play!, Correspondence- Welsh Local Government Association to Chair, 10.02.20

Dyddiad /Date: **Gofynnwch am**/Please ask for: **Llinell uniongyrchol**/Direct line: 10 February 2020 D Hopkins

Janet Finch-Saunders, AM
Chair of the Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA



Dear Ms Finch-Saunders,

Petition P-05-804 'We need Welsh Government funding for play!'

My sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your letter of 21st June, 2019.

This petition has been submitted by RAY Ceredigion, and asks the National Assembly for Wales to provide annual designated funding to provide financial support to all local authorities in fulfilling their duties in line with their Play Sufficiency Assessments.

The WLGA understands that organisations such as RAY Ceredigion would like to see specific funding for the services they and others provide across Wales. However, in its support of local authorities and the wide range of services they deliver, the WLGA view, which reflects that of local authorities, is that all services should normally be funded through the annual Revenue Support Grant, and the distribution of funds at a local level is then a matter for local democratic processes.

There are exceptions in terms of specific grants, and where these are time limited the WLGA understands and accepts that they are meant to target particular policy areas as prioritised by the Welsh Government from time to time. These may be revenue or capital grants.

But the general position of the WLGA is to secure the overriding majority of funding for distribution to local authorities through the agreed formulae which exist for that purpose, and for spending decisions to be taken locally.

I trust that this makes the WLGA position clear.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely

David Hopkins

Pennaeth Addysg, Dysgu a Diwylliant Dros Dro Interim Head of Education, Learning & Culture

Dr Chris Llewelyn Prif Weithredwr Chief Executive

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