

LGF (S20) 24
Bil Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru)
Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill
Ymateb gan: Paul Higman
Response from: Paul Higman



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Dear Sirs,

I want to express my deep concerns regarding a proposal in the Local Governance Finance Bill, Wales. This proposal is suggesting the removal of the requirement for local authorities to share changes in local council tax through printed materials. I strongly urge the Welsh Administration to reject this proposal. Approving it will seriously harm local newspapers and deprive many people in Wales of critical information.

Local newspapers play a significant role in keeping people in Wales connected and informed about what's happening in their communities. This is especially crucial for vulnerable groups like the elderly, residents in remote areas, and those with lower incomes. Local newspapers provide essential information that profoundly impacts people's lives and decision-making.

The UK government in Westminster recognises the importance of local newspapers in disseminating official information. They have committed to maintaining the rule that requires local authorities to publish this information in local newspapers. I urge the Welsh administration to follow this lead, championing openness and responsibility, similar to the UK government in Westminster.

Continuing the requirement for sharing information about tax changes in local newspapers goes further than protecting the vital local media ; it's about maintaining a crucial means for the Welsh administration to communicate effectively with its citizens. I trust you will carefully consider the implications of this proposal and advocate for retaining this important information within the pages of the much loved local newspapers in Wales.

Yours sincerely

Paul Higman
Sales Director
Tindle Newspapers Wales and the Borders Ltd.

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