

Mark Drakeford AM/AC
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a Llywodraeth Leol
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-681
Ein cyf/Our ref MD/05542/16

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
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13 December 2016

Dear Mike,

Thank you for your letter of 1 November regarding a petition from Councillor Mike John Powell calling for the public recording of Local Government meetings.

I encourage all local authorities to allow, when possible, access to their proceedings and I am pleased to see that broadcasting of council meetings is now a regular practice in many local authorities. I consider the public should also have a right to report live from these meetings through live blogging or using social media.

Our plans to reform broadcasting and engagement will be set out in the White Paper, which will be published for consultation early in the new year. The Draft Local Government Bill consulted upon last year contained proposals to make it compulsory for local authorities to make arrangements to broadcast their full council and executive meetings and to give the public a right to report live from council proceedings. I will consider whether to continue with this policy in a future Bill.

Best wishes,

Mark

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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.