Julie James AC/AM Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol Minister for Housing and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref Ein cyf/Our ref: JJ/32/19

Cllr. The Baroness Wilcox of Newport Leader - Welsh Local Government Association Local Government House Drake Walk Cardiff CF10 4LG

Debbie.wilcox@newport.gov.uk cc daniel.hurford@wlga.gov.uk

November 2019

Dear Debbie

Thank you for inviting me to the WLGA Executive Board meeting on 25 October. As indicated at that meeting, I am now writing to formally invite proposals from local government as to which local authorities would wish to come together for the purposes of development of Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs).

As we have previously discussed, Welsh Ministers will be able to establish Corporate Joint Committees for a core set of functions in the areas of Transport, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Improving Education. My intention is to establish Corporate Joint Committees with responsibility for Transport and Strategic Planning as soon as possible.

I have made it clear that there is a window of opportunity for us to work together to develop these proposals and my preference is for local authority leaders to identify their preferred regional partners.

I am disappointed that the WLGA Executive Board voted to reject the principle of the Welsh Government having the power to instigate the establishment of Corporate Joint Committees in a limited number of specified functional areas.

However I continue to offer the opportunity, which I hope you will take, for local government to co-design the regulations to ensure that Corporate Joint Committees deliver a regional model that works for local government.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre: 0300 0604400 <u>Gohebiaeth.Julie.James@llyw.cymru</u> <u>Correspondence.Julie.James@gov.Wales</u>

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay Caerdydd • Cardiff CF99 1NA

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.

I look forward to receiving your proposals and to continuing the constructive discussions on the development of the Corporate Joint Committee regulations.

Yours sincerely

July James

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