



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

The Chief Financial Officer,

Welsh County and County Borough Councils
Welsh Police and Crime Commissioners
Welsh Combined Fire Authorities
Welsh National Park Authorities

Parc Cathays / Cathays Park
Caerdydd / Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Dyddiad / Date: 21 February 2024

Dear Colleague,

CAPITAL FORECAST RETURN (CFR), 2024-25

We will today be sending an email to our contact at your authority containing a weblink to the above returns and notes for guidance. This information is collected under section 14 of the Local Government Act 2003.

Please complete and return the spreadsheet by 29 March 2024 by email, **a signed hard copy is no longer required.**

1. Capital Forecast Information

HM Treasury continue to require this data from Welsh Local Authorities to assist with planning of UK finances. We appreciate that the information you provide at this stage in the budgetary cycle may be tentative and could be affected by a variety of factors over the coming months.

Providing this information at this time does not prejudice your Authority's future decisions on capital finance. Nonetheless, it would greatly assist HM Treasury if you could complete the enclosed capital forecast form using the guidance enclosed.

2. Uses of the information

The data will be aggregated to provide an estimate of the maximum amount of incremental Local Authority Self-Financed Capital Expenditure for the coming financial year and will be used to monitor public sector borrowing and capital investment activity at a UK level.

3. Form Requirements

The form requires estimates of the 'additional liabilities' of companies which would be regulated companies under the Local Authorities (Companies) Order 1995 (SI 1995/849 as amended), or subject to the Public Airport Companies (Capital Finance) Order 1996 (SI 1996/604 as amended), as if those orders had remained in force in 2024-25. This is because the liabilities of these companies although not covered by the Prudential Regime, come within the scope of the Local Government Act 2003 and are therefore relevant to decisions about a National Limit.

None of the data will be used in any part of the calculations of non-current Standard Spending Assessments. We have agreed these principles with the Welsh Local Government Association.

4. Publication of Figures

We will publish the figures in a Welsh Government Statistical First Release in June.

The figures will be used within the Welsh Government to monitor trends in capital expenditure and financing and to assess the effects of government policy. This information will also be used in response to Welsh Government Assembly Questions, in dealing with ministerial correspondence, and for more general monitoring purposes.

5. Contact Details

Please send a copy of the completed spreadsheet by 29 March 2024, and any other correspondence and enquiries, in the first instance to: LGFS.Transfer@gov.wales

Phone enquiries: Frank Kelly – 0300 025 5673 or Bruce Anderson – 0300 025 9169.

Postal address: Local Government Finance Statistics,
Knowledge and Analytical Services,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Kind regards,

Anthony Newby

Local Government Finance Statistics / Ystadegau Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol,
Knowledge and Analytical Services / Gwasanaethau Gwybodaeth a Dadansoddi,
Welsh Government / Llywodraeth Cymru