



22 January 2013

Dear Colleague

The National Assembly for Wales' Environment and Sustainability Committee is undertaking a short inquiry into **water policy in Wales**.

The purpose of this inquiry will be to:

- Assess the implications of the Draft Water Bill for Wales, particularly with regard to competition in the non-household market.
- Assess progress made by the Welsh Government in addressing water affordability issues for households.

The Committee will consider:

- What impact will the Draft Water Bill have on competition in the non-household market in Wales?
- Are there any specific issues that might arise from having different market regimes in Wales and England for non-household customers, particularly in border areas?
- What current mechanisms does the Welsh Government have in place to ensure water affordability in the household market?
- What progress has the Welsh Government made on its commitments set out in its Programme for Government Update (May 2012)?
- Is there anything further the Welsh Government should be doing to ensure water affordability in the household market?
- With specific regard to affordability and competition, what should the Welsh Government include in its forthcoming Water Strategy?

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd / Cardiff
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Ffôn / Tel: 029 2089 8639
E-bost / Email: ES.Comm@wales.gov.uk

Invitation to contribute to the inquiry

The Committee welcomes evidence from both individuals and organisations. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please provide a brief description of the role of your organisation.

We will be holding oral evidence sessions during the spring term 2013 so it would be helpful if you could indicate in your submission whether you would be prepared to give oral evidence, if invited.

Generally, we ask for submissions to be made in writing because it is normal practice for the National Assembly to publish evidence provided to a Committee on our internet site so that it becomes part of the public record. However, we are also able to accept evidence in audio or video format. The Committee welcomes contributions in English or Welsh, and we ask organisations with Welsh Language policies / schemes to provide bilingual responses, where applicable, in line with their public information policies.

If you wish to submit evidence, please send an electronic copy of your submission to ES.Comm@wales.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can write to: Committee Clerk, Environment and Sustainability Committee, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA.

Submissions should arrive by **Friday 1 March 2013**. It may not be possible to take into account responses received after this date.

A copy of this letter has been placed on the National Assembly's website with an open invitation to submit views.

Disclosure of Information

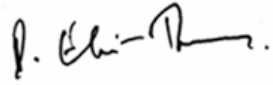
It is normal practice for the National Assembly to publish evidence provided to a Committee. Consequently your response may appear in a report or in supplementary evidence to a report. The National Assembly will not publish information which it considers to be personal data.

In the event of a request for information submitted under UK legislation, it may be necessary to disclose the information that you provide. This may include information which has previously been removed by the National Assembly for publication purposes.

If you are providing any information, other than personal data, which you feel is not suitable for public disclosure, it is up to you to stipulate which parts

should not be published and to provide a reasoned argument to support this. The National Assembly will take this into account when publishing information or responding to requests for information.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Elis-Thomas'.

Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas AM
Chair