



*Neuadd y Sir / County Hall, Llandrindod, Powys, LD1 5LG*

## **QUESTIONS AT ANY TIME TO CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDERS**

Response by the Cabinet Members:

The Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance and Corporate Transformation thank Cllr McIntosh for his further question on this issue.

As previously stated, no apology is required as the collection of business rates (NNDR) is an important function performed by the county council, which has a significant impact on individual businesses and the Powys economy. In addition, the efficient administration of the business rates collection system in the county (including the application of mandatory and discretionary reliefs) is an important contribution to the formation of the all-Wales pool of business rates money which is then distributed to local authorities as a key part of their budgets and from which Powys County Council derives significant benefit.

Proposals to change the business rates relief thresholds in Wales would need to be subject to a careful impact assessment before such a suggestion is made to Welsh Government, as it could have a negative impact on all local authority finances in Wales, potentially requiring higher Council Tax increases to compensate for lost revenues.