

Ken Skates MS

e-newsletter 13/05/22



Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament



Council tax rebates already reaching residents

More than £50m has been provided to Welsh households to help tackle the cost-of-living crisis through a £150 council tax rebate which had already reached more than 330,000 homes yesterday.

The £152m scheme is being delivered by local authorities with Welsh Government funding. The support is being provided to all households in council tax bands A-D and all other homes which receive support from the Council Tax Reduction Scheme regardless of their band.

Payments will be made directly into people's bank accounts if they pay their council tax by direct debit. Where bank details are not held, eligible households will need to complete a simple registration form and will be contacted by their local council.

Wrexham Council has said anyone who is eligible for the payment should expect to receive it in May or June. Denbighshire Council said it would start payments to direct debit customers in early May and will then invite others to apply for the rebate this month.

Rebecca Evans, Minister for Finance and Local Government, said: "Rising bills and prices will stretch budgets and force people into difficult decisions. This £150 payment is one of the ways in which we are alleviating some of that pressure." [Read more](#)

Clwyd South report

I was pleased to have the chance to raise Wrexham AFC's **Stadium for the North** campaign and Wrexham's UK City of Culture bid in the Senedd with Welsh Government Trefyndd and Wrexham MS Lesley Griffiths this week.

- Read more [here](#)
- Watch [here](#).



The Welsh Government has now officially confirmed the news that £2.8m has been awarded to Wrexham Council to repair the B5605 at Newbridge following the Minister's letter to me of April 4. [Read more here](#)

My latest column for Wrexham.com can be read [here](#).



I have invited the Minister for Climate Change, Julie James, to Clwyd South to further discuss the Welsh Government's plans to designate the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty as a new National Park.

CAIS DINAS DIWYLLIANT Y DU 2025

WRECSAM

UK CITY OF CULTURE BID 2025

Welsh Government updates



UK household recycling stats released this week show Wales outperforming other nations for at least the tenth year running. Wales is currently ranked third in the world.

[Read more](#)



Climate Change Minister Julie James has announced the upcoming launch of a consultation on a proposed new social housing quality standard for Wales. [Read more](#)



First Minister Mark Drakeford and Plaid Cymru leader Adam Price have set out a way forward for Senedd reform in time for the next election in 2026. [Read more](#)



A new Welcome Ticket will provide refugees and people from Ukraine with free bus travel and they will also receive free entry to Cadw sites across Wales. [Read more](#)



The Welsh Government has reached agreement with the UK Government on the establishment of Freeports in Wales, Economy Minister Vaughan Gething, has confirmed.

[Read more](#)



- The latest information on international travel is [here](#).
- Information on protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable from Covid-19 is [here](#).
- The latest self-isolation guidance is [here](#).
- Advice about what to do if you are struggling to pay your rent and help to pay it is available [here](#).
- Information on getting your NHS Covid Pass is [here](#).