

**P-04-617 Stop the Wholesale Hiving Off of Public Libraries to the Voluntary Sector – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 06.05.15**

It is helpful to note that the deputy minister is encouraging local authorities to consider the independent research, but obviously this is non-statutory and in the meantime of no protection for groups like my own, which are forced down the path of judicial review to protect our libraries. The library service in Wales is the responsibility of the Welsh Government and it needs to have statutory provisions to protect the service from local authority cost-cutting. Encouraging authorities to do anything when it runs counter to their need to make savings is no protection at all for the library service.

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