1 Description of the Project

The Welsh Government spends around half its budget on health and social services. In 2020-21 this totalled £8.9 billion. The importance of understanding Welsh Government spending plans and funding decisions is therefore crucial.

The specific focus of the research is to be negotiated but could focus on one or more of the following:

- The funding formula for NHS resource to Health Boards.
- An exploration of how Welsh Government uses funding for specific policies and additional in-year initiatives, such as to reduce NHS waiting lists or service transformation.
- A review of mental health funding in Wales.
- How scrutiny of health spending in prevention across the life course can be improved.

2 Skills/expertise required

- Ability to write clearly in a completely impartial manner
- In-depth knowledge of health economics/ funding arrangements for NHS Wales
- Ability to crystallise complex subject matter into readable formats for people of differing levels of knowledge
- Excellent oral communications skills – be comfortable giving evidence to Assembly Committees
3 Expected Outputs

- Research briefing
- Possible evidence or oral briefing to the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee.
- Possible blog publication with Senedd Research

4 Expected timescale

It is expected that the project would be complete before the end of the year 2020.

5 Working arrangements

Working arrangements will be negotiated with the successful candidate. There is no requirement for the academic to be based in the Assembly's offices in Cardiff. Periodic meetings with researchers will be required. The time commitment, phasing of work and the delivery deadlines will be determined and agreed with the successful candidate, but it is unlikely to be more than 1-2 days a week for up to 6 months.