

## Agenda Supplement – Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

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Meeting Venue:	For further information contact:
Hybrid – Committee Room 4, Tŷ Hywel and video conference via Zoom	P Gareth Williams Committee Clerk
Meeting date: 15 May 2023	0300 200 6565
Meeting time: 13.30	<a href="mailto:SeneddLJC@senedd.wales">SeneddLJC@senedd.wales</a>

### Hybrid – Supplementary Pack

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Please note the documents below are in addition to those published in the main Agenda and Reports pack for this Meeting

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#### 5 Papers to note

(14.40 – 14.45)

#### 5.6 Correspondence from the First Minister: UK–EU Windsor Framework

(Pages 1 – 3)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–15–23 – Paper 16 – Letter from the First Minister, 12 May 2023

LJC(6)–15–23 – Paper 17 – Letter to the First Minister, 23 March 2023



Huw Irranca-Davies MS  
Chair  
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee  
Senedd Cymru

Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

[SeneddLJC@Senedd.Wales](mailto:SeneddLJC@Senedd.Wales)

12 May 2023

Dear Huw,

I am writing in response to your letter of 23 March seeking the Welsh Government's position on certain issues related to the Windsor Framework.

The UK Government has led negotiations with the European Commission in relation to matters arising from the Northern Ireland Protocol, as it has responsibility for international relations, including relations with the EU and its institutions. These led to the announcement on 27 February 2023 of new arrangements known as the Windsor Framework. The Welsh Government was informed by the UK Government of the agreement immediately prior to that public announcement.

The Welsh Government, along with the Scottish Government, was not invited to the meeting on 24 March 2023 of the Withdrawal Agreement Joint Committee, in line with arrangements imposed by the UK Government since that Committee was established in 2020. The Welsh Government continues to request attendance at these meetings where issues of relevance to it are expected to be discussed. Welsh Government officials attended as observers at the Partnership Council meeting held on the same date.

The arrangements for pre-meetings between UK Government and Devolved Governments are now governed by the agreement following the [Review of intergovernmental relations \(HTML\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) published in January 2022. The now established Interministerial Group on UK-EU Relations meets before meetings of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement Partnership Council and of the Withdrawal Agreement Joint Committee. It duly met on 20 March 2023, before the above meetings held on 24 March 2023.

Yours sincerely,



**MARK DRAKEFORD**

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS  
First Minister of Wales

23 March 2023

Dear Mark

## UK-EU Windsor Framework

Following the introduction on 27 February 2023 of the Windsor Framework ("the Framework") - the agreement in principle reached by the UK Government and the EU on changes to the Northern Ireland Protocol – I am writing to seek the Welsh Government's view and detailed assessment of the implications of the Framework for Wales. As part of this assessment, please could you also provide specific information on:

- how the Welsh Government was engaged in the negotiations;
- what input the Welsh Government had in to the Framework's contents;
- which intergovernmental forum, if any, was used to discuss the negotiations;
- the Welsh Government's involvement in March's Joint Committee and Partnership Council meeting;
- whether the UK Government has reconsidered your requests to attend meetings of the Joint Committee where matters relating to the Northern Ireland Protocol which affect Wales are discussed;
- whether the Joint Committee pre-meetings between the UK and devolved governments, established under Prime Minister Theresa May, continue to take place (as described in correspondence from Lord Frost in May 2021);

- whether the involvement of the devolved governments in UK-EU meetings, as set out by Lord Frost in May 2021, will continue or whether there are any UK Government plans to revisit these.

I would be grateful to receive a response by 17 April 2023.

Yours sincerely,

*Huw Irranca-Davies*

Huw Irranca-Davies

Chair