

Agenda Supplement – Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

Meeting Venue:	For further information contact:
Video conference via Zoom	P Gareth Williams
Meeting date: 19 February 2024	Committee Clerk
Meeting time: 13.30	0300 200 6565
	SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

Remote – Supplementary Pack

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

6 Inter–Institutional Relations Agreement

(13.50 – 13.55)

6.4 Correspondence from the Minister for Climate Change: Interministerial Group on Net Zero, Energy and Climate Change

(Page 1)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–06–24 – Paper 48 – Correspondence from the Minister for Climate Change, 16 February 2024

6.7 Written Statement by the Deputy Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing: British and Irish Council Ministerial Meeting on Drugs & Alcohol

(Pages 2 – 3)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–06–24 – Paper 49 – Written Statement by the Deputy Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing, 15 February 2024

6.8 Correspondence from the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution: Inter–Ministerial Standing Committee

(Page 4)



Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-06-24 – Paper 50 – Correspondence from the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution, 16 February 2024

7 Papers to note

(13.55 – 14.00)

7.14 Correspondence with the First Minister of Wales: The agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Convention and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction

(Pages 5 – 7)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-06-24 – Paper 51 – Correspondence from the First Minister of Wales, 16 February 2024

LJC(6)-06-24 – Paper 52 – Correspondence to the First Minister of Wales, 18 January 2024

7.15 Correspondence from the Minister for Climate Change: The Packaging Waste (Data Collection and Reporting) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2024

(Page 8)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-06-24 – Paper 53 – Correspondence from the Minister for Climate Change, 16 February 2024

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: JJ/PO/0047/24

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

Llŷr Gruffydd MS
Chair
Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee

Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

16 February 2024

Dear Huw, Llŷr,

I am writing in accordance with the inter-institutional relations agreement to notify you of a meeting of the Interministerial Group on Net Zero, Energy and Climate Change, which will take place on the 13 March 2024.

I will attend, and UK Government is expected to chair, the Net Zero, Energy and Climate Change meeting. In this virtual meeting I anticipate the discussion will focus on behavioural change, Industrial Decarbonisation and CCUS.

I will provide an update after the meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
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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.



WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE Ministerial Overseas Visit to Dublin, Ireland

DATE 15 February 2024

BY Lynne Neagle MS, Deputy Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing

On the 25th and 26th January 2024, I visited Dublin to attend a British and Irish Council Ministerial Meeting on Drugs & Alcohol.

The British Irish Council was formed as part of the multi-party agreement reached in Belfast on 10 April 1998. Its membership comprises representatives from the Irish Government; UK Government; Scottish Government; Northern Ireland Executive; Welsh Government; Isle of Man Government; Government of Jersey and Government of Guernsey. Its primary aim is to further promote positive, practical relationships amongst its participant nations and to provide a forum for consultation and co-operation.

The purpose of the meeting I attended was to allow Ministers to review recent activity of the British Irish Council's workstream on Drugs and Alcohol and to discuss a proposed new forward work plan. I also had the opportunity to undertake a Bilateral meeting with Minister Hildegard Naughton TD of Department of the Taoiseach with special responsibility as Government Chief Whip; and the Department of Health with special responsibility for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy.

On arrival in Dublin I attended, with other Ministers, a showcase event with representatives of projects and organisations active in a number of areas including prevention, drug related violence and overdose. This also featured a discussion on 'Preparing and Responding to the emergence of Synthetic Opioids' with Professor Eamon Keenan, the Clinical Lead for Addiction in the Irish Health Service.

The second day began with the Bilateral with Minister Naughton where I was able to detail and discuss the Welsh Government experience of the national implementation of injectable buprenorphine (Buvidal) as a treatment for heroin users in Wales.

I then attended the Ministerial meeting alongside the Ministers for Ireland and Guernsey who attended in person, we were also joined virtually by the Scottish, Jersey and Isle of Man Ministers. The meeting was used to review the recent activity of the BIC Drugs and Alcohol Work Sector including Drug Related Deaths, the Covid-19 Impact on substance misuse and work around Financial Mechanisms for Alcohol. We also discussed a proposed new Forward Work Plan. The meeting concluded with a presentation by Paul Reid, Chair of the Irish Citizens' Assembly on Drugs on Deliberative Democracy.

I found the visit to Dublin to be of huge benefit and we will continue to engage with our partners in the British and Irish Council. The Council gives us the ability to share our learning and look at new approaches that can be undertaken to tackle substance misuse in Wales and across all administrations.

This statement is being issued during recess in order to keep members informed. Should members wish me to make a further statement or to answer questions on this when the Senedd returns I would be happy to do so.

Agenda Item 6.8

MICK ANTONIW AS/MS
Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol a Gweinidog y Cyfansoddiad
Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: CG/PO/50/2024

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

16 February 2024

Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement: Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee

I am writing in accordance with the inter-institutional relations agreement to notify you of the sixth meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee (IMSC), which will take place on 20 February 2024.

I will be chairing the meeting, which will be the first IMSC meeting since the re-establishment of the Northern Ireland Executive. I anticipate that this virtual meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss intergovernmental relations as a whole following the return of Northern Ireland Ministers, as well as UK legislation and also community cohesion. I will also be highlighting the recent final report from the Independent Commission on the Constitutional Future of Wales.

I have copied this letter to the the Llywydd, and to the Chairs of the Finance Committee, the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee, the Equality and Social Justice Committee, and the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee.

I will provide an update after the meeting.

Mick Antoniw AS/MS

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol a Gweinidog y Cyfansoddiad
Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution

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Ein cyf/Our ref: FM -/00105/24

Huw Irranca-Davies
Chair
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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

16 February 2024

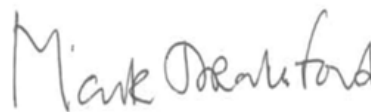
Dear Huw

I am writing in response to your letter of 18 January regarding the agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Convention and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (the BBNJ Treaty).

In September 2023, UK Ministers wrote to the Minister for Climate Change to notify her about the agreement. The Minister was asked to consider any implications of the Treaty on the Welsh marine zone. No further inter-Ministerial correspondence has been received about this matter.

Officials are considering the policy requirement for legislation and have notified legal services, however, capacity to consider this is limited. At this stage, the requirement for Welsh legislation is not clear, as the Welsh marine zone does not have any direct access to Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ). It is, therefore, unlikely that any proposals within the ABNJ would have any impact on the Welsh Marine Protected Area Network. Additionally, there is little evidence to suggest the Welsh fishing fleet operate within the ABNJ.

We have duly provided the UK Government with an official point of contact and agreed to support any progressional work when appropriate. However, beyond the initial September 2023 correspondence, further inter-governmental work has not taken place. It is not clear at this stage if the UK Government has progressed this matter further.



MARK DRAKEFORD

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Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS
First Minister of Wales

18 January 2024

Dear Mark,

Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (“BBNJ treaty”)

As you are aware, the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee is responsible for monitoring the implementation of non-trade international agreements in the Sixth Senedd.

During our meeting on 4 December 2023, we considered the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (“BBNJ treaty”). The BBNJ Treaty provides for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction through effective implementation of the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and international cooperation.

As you are aware, although foreign affairs and international relations are reserved matters, observing and implementing international agreements in devolved areas is not reserved. As noted in our report, the Treaty also relates to fisheries, marine, and environmental policy, which are matters devolved to Wales.

The Explanatory Memorandum details the intergovernmental engagement which took place in relation to the agreement, including updating and consulting the devolved governments on the agreement’s development.

We would be grateful if you could please provide:

- your view of the process of updating and consulting the devolved governments on the agreement’s development;

- an update on legislation required to implement the agreement; and
- information on any intergovernmental work taking place, or due to take place, to implement the agreement, as well as confirmation of which existing intergovernmental structures are being utilised.

Yours sincerely,

Huw Irranca-Davies

Huw Irranca-Davies

Chair



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA/JJ/3318/23

Huw Irranca-Davies MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Welsh Parliament
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16 February 2024

Dear Huw,

I am writing to inform you that the Packaging Waste (Data Collection and Reporting) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 which will shortly be laid before the Senedd fall under the scope of the Resources and Waste Common Framework.

Yours sincerely,

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change

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