

# Agenda – External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 5 – Tŷ Hywel

Meeting date: 14 October 2019

Meeting time: 14.00

For further information contact:

Alun Davidson

Committee Clerk

0300 200 6565

[SeneddEAAL@assembly.wales](mailto:SeneddEAAL@assembly.wales)

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## 1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

(14.00–14.05)

## 2 Round table discussion with academics on the scrutiny of UK-wide common policy frameworks

(14:05–15:30)

(Pages 1 – 14)

Dr Andrew Blick – King’s College London

Dr Jack Simson Caird – Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law

Professor Jo Hunt – Cardiff University

Professor Michael Keating – University of Aberdeen

Professor Aileen McHarg – University of Durham

Professor Alan Page – University of Dundee

Akash Paun – Institute for Government

Professor Alison Young – Cambridge University

### Break

(15.30–15.40)



### **3 Round table discussion with academics on the scrutiny of international agreements**

(15.40–17.00)

(Pages 15 – 24)

Dr Andrew Blick – King’s College London

Dr Jack Simson Caird – Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law

Professor Jo Hunt – Cardiff University

Professor Michael Keating – University of Aberdeen

Professor Aileen McHarg – University of Durham

Professor Alan Page – University of Dundee

Akash Paun – Institute for Government

Professor Alison Young – Cambridge University

#### **Final contributions**

(17.00–17.15)

### **4 Paper(s) to note**

(17.15–17.20)

#### **4.1 Paper to note 1: Changes to freedom of movement after Brexit – the implications for Wales – consultation responses – September 2019**

[Consultation responses](#)

#### **4.2 Paper to note 2: Correspondence from the Minister for International Relations and the Welsh Language regarding international agreements – 3 October 2019**

(Page 25)

### **5 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting**

(17.20)

### **6 Changes to freedom of movement after Brexit – consideration of focus group output**

(17.20–17.30)

(Pages 26 – 31)

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# External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee

## UK-wide common policy frameworks: scrutiny of non-legislative framework agreements

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This paper proposes a model procedure for the Assembly's scrutiny of draft non-legislative UK-wide common policy framework arrangements, as starting point for discussion on 14 October 2019.

It is expected that non-legislative arrangements, as opposed to legislation, will be sought in the majority of policy areas requiring common frameworks. There may also be accompanying intergovernmental agreements in policy areas that require legislation.

This paper proposes establishing a process through seeking written commitments from the Welsh Government to:

- keep Assembly committees informed of progress in developing frameworks;
- lay draft framework agreements before the Assembly i.e. once their text is stable but before they have been finally agreed;
- include specified explanatory material within or alongside each draft agreement;



- support allowing the Business Committee to coordinate committee scrutiny and agree timescales for its conclusion;
- consider and respond to any committee reports (and allow any associated committee report debate to take place) before finalising a framework agreement.

## 1. Background

1. Since the Committee's establishment in June 2016, it has considered the question of how devolved policies currently governed by EU frameworks might operate after the UK has left the EU.
2. This included scrutiny of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and monitoring the development of the UK-wide common policy frameworks programme of intergovernmental work.
3. The Chair of the Committee has contributed to ongoing discussions at the Interparliamentary Forum on Brexit on the coordination of scrutiny across the Assemblies and Parliaments of the UK.
4. During the summer term of 2019, the Committee decided to take a deeper look at the development of UK-wide common policy frameworks. In August 2019, the Committee published a discussion paper that summarised its current understanding of the frameworks programme and the scrutiny challenge it posed for the Assembly.
5. Continuing with this work, the Committee agreed to develop a model for Assembly scrutiny of the frameworks.
6. This paper provides an initial scrutiny model that the Committee has agreed as the basis for further discussion with a range of constitutional experts on 14 October 2019.
7. The paper does not provide an overview of the frameworks programme or the Committee's wider work in this area. This can be found in the Committee's discussion paper.

## Scrutiny

**8.** It is likely that most of the policy areas subject to a framework will require a non-legislative framework agreement to be agreed between the governments of the UK.

**9.** Some policy areas subject to a framework will be underpinned by legislation.

### Legislative elements

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**10.** Under the Assembly's Standing Orders, it has established procedures for the scrutiny of legislation that can be utilised for the scrutiny of the legislative aspects of any framework. For example:

Type of legislation	Procedure
Assembly Bill	Standing Order 26
Assembly secondary legislation	Standing Order 27
Westminster Bill that seeks to make provision in a devolved area of competence	Standing Order 29
Westminster secondary legislation that seeks to amend primary legislation in a devolved area of competence	Standing Order 30A
UK Ministers SIs to temporarily restrict the Assembly's competence (under the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018)	Standing Order 30B

**11.** The list above is not exhaustive, but illustrates the type of legislative approach that might be used to underpin a framework and the associated Assembly scrutiny procedure. The provisions in Standing Orders are, in several cases, augmented by inter-institutional agreements between the Assembly and the Government.

**12.** The Committee has not considered the question of whether or not these procedures need to be enhanced to ensure they adequately deal with legislation that seeks to establish a framework.

**13.** For example, should Standing Order 26 be amended to add a requirement for any provisions that relate to a UK-wide common policy framework to be identified in the documentation accompanying a Bill?

### Question

- Are the Assembly's legislative scrutiny procedures sufficient to ensure adequate scrutiny of legislation relating to UK-wide common policy frameworks?

## Non-legislative framework agreements

**14.** Currently, the Assembly has no formal procedures in place for the scrutiny of the non-legislative framework agreements that are expected to be developed for most of the policy areas subject to a framework.

**15.** Notwithstanding the importance of ensuring that the Assembly's procedures are adequate for the task of scrutinising the legislative aspects of frameworks, the focus of this paper – and the discussion on 14 October – will be on the development of an approach to scrutiny of the non-legislative framework agreements.

## 2. The model

### A note on the framework agreements

**16.** The framework document(s) that are being considered for this scrutiny process are intergovernmental agreements.

**17.** Consequently, whilst these agreements might impact policy development in Wales, they cannot constrain the competence of the Assembly's legislative competence. Any constraint on the Assembly's legislative competence would need to be established through legislative means, and would be subject to procedures that the Assembly has in place for the scrutiny of legislation within its areas of competence.

**18.** Executive action on the part of the Welsh Government to enter into an agreement that constrains the level of policy flexibility available to it can be the subject of Assembly scrutiny.

**19.** Given the constitutional and political significance of the framework agreements, and their possible interaction with legislative measures, there is a case for a formalised approach to their scrutiny.

**20.** However, following any scrutiny process, the final decision to enter into an intergovernmental agreement will be for the Welsh Government to make - an executive decision that the Assembly and its committees will hold Welsh Ministers to account for subsequently.

**21.** This draft model for scrutiny suggested in the next section of this paper aims to strike a balance between ensuring that the Welsh Government has the freedom to perform its executive role whilst enabling an appropriate level of the Assembly scrutiny. Crucially, it is designed to ensure the Welsh Government has the opportunity to consider the views of Assembly committees before a framework agreement is finalised and signed.

### Stages of scrutiny

**22.** As explained in the Committee's recent discussion paper, the governments of the UK describe the development of the frameworks according to a five phase process.

**23.** This strand of work focuses on the fourth phase i.e. once a draft framework agreement has been developed.

### Early engagement

**24.** It will be important to start a process of tracking and engagement during the preceding stage. However, as considered in the Committee's discussion paper, this could be a less formal mode of scrutiny – akin to the engagement Assembly committees have with Green and White Paper proposals.

**25.** Behind the scenes, the staff supporting Assembly scrutiny are developing an approach to tracking the development of frameworks in each of the identified policy areas. This information will allow them to alert Assembly Committees in sufficient time to take decisions on their approach to scrutiny of each framework area.

**26.** Whilst the Committee acknowledges the importance of timely completion of the frameworks, the Committee would expect to see the published outline drafts of frameworks as they become available. This will be of considerable assistance in prioritising the scrutiny of more contentious or complex areas.

### Stage 1: Documents laid

**27.** As a document-based scrutiny process, there needs to be an entry point into the Assembly that triggers the process.



**28.** Committing the Welsh Government to laying draft framework agreements (and associated explanatory information) once the agreement text has been provisionally agreed between the governments (i.e. once it enters the fourth phase) would provide a clear starting point for Assembly scrutiny.

**29.** In seeking the laying of these texts, it is also worth considering the information that these texts should contain, or that should be provided in an accompanying memorandum.

**30.** The type of information that could be sought includes:

- the policy objectives of the framework;
- the evidence to support the need for a framework in this area;
- a summary of the consultation process and responses received;
- governance arrangements, including the dispute resolution process and review mechanism;
- a devolution impact assessment i.e. the extent to which this framework agreement constrains executive competence and the extent to which the constraints imposed by the framework agreement compare to those that exist under current EU frameworks;
- a legislative impact assessment i.e. what legislation, passed or associated, is associated with this framework (retained EU law, other SIs, primary legislation) and any issues of legislative consent; and
- a financial impact assessment.

### Questions

- Should draft framework agreements be laid before the Assembly?
- If it is considered desirable to seek the laying of draft framework agreements before the Assembly, then what is the appropriate route to ensuring this happens? (e.g. Assembly-Welsh Government agreement, Standing Orders etc.)
- Is the suggested list of information that should be required within or alongside each draft agreement sufficient? Should anything be removed or added to this list?

### Stage 2: Scrutiny period

**31.** Once a draft framework agreement has been laid, the next task is to consider how they should be scrutinised.

- 32.** Given their likely complexity, committee scrutiny would appear to be the most appropriate approach.
- 33.** If this is accepted, then there is also a need to coordinate committee activity.
- 34.** The obvious locus for this would be the Business Committee.
- 35.** In keeping with how the Business Committee coordinates the scrutiny of Bills and legislative consent memorandums, it could play a role in determining the committee(s) responsible for scrutiny of each draft framework agreement and the timescale for scrutiny.
- 36.** This would also allow a coordinated approach in terms of ensuring any legislation associated with a particular draft framework agreement could be remitted to the same committee.
- 37.** Once a draft framework agreement is remitted to a committee, it would be for the committee to decide on how it wished to scrutinise the agreement, including determining how it links to any legislative aspect of a framework and any interparliamentary element it wished to bring to its work.

### Questions

- Is committee scrutiny the most appropriate approach to scrutiny?
- Should the Assembly's Business Committee perform the role described i.e. lead on the coordination and timescales for committee scrutiny?
- Are there alternative ways in which to manage the coordination and timescales for scrutiny?

### Stage 3: End of this phase of scrutiny

- 38.** The scrutiny model proposed in this paper aims to establish a mechanism to enable meaningful Assembly committee scrutiny of the draft framework agreements, alongside other framework elements, including legislation.
- 39.** It does not seek to establish a control over the Welsh Government's ability to enter into an intergovernmental framework agreement as this, in of itself, is an executive decision for Welsh Ministers – a decision for which the Assembly can hold Welsh Ministers to account for subsequently.

- 40.** Where a framework includes legislative elements, the Assembly has procedures in place to exercise controls, for example through the legislative consent process.
- 41.** As described above under the proposal for committee scrutiny, and analogous to the LCM scrutiny process, a committee would be provided with a timescale within which to report on a draft framework agreement.
- 42.** It therefore follows that, as a minimum, the Assembly would want to seek a commitment from the Welsh Government to not enter into a framework agreement until a committee had reported or the deadline for reporting (set by the Business Committee) has passed.
- 43.** This could be further strengthened by seeking a commitment from the Welsh Government to respond to any representations made by a committee before proceeding to make an agreement and, in keeping with normal committee reporting arrangements, allow time for a ‘take note’ debate on the committee’s report in Plenary.
- 44.** In summary, it is proposed that the end point for this more formalised stage of scrutiny would be, more or less, the normal committee reporting process unless a committee (or committees) chose not to report or did not report within the timescale set by the Business Committee.

### Question

- Do you agree that the end point for scrutiny should be the normal committee reporting process (in circumstances where a committee chooses to report) i.e.
  - committee reports;
  - Welsh Government responds;
  - ‘take note’ debate in Plenary.
- Should the Assembly seek a commitment from the Welsh Government to not enter into a framework agreement until a committee reports or the deadline for reporting has passed?
- Are there alternative ways for committees or the Assembly to scrutinise draft framework agreements?

### 3. Establishing the procedure

**45.** A scrutiny procedure can be established in a number of ways, including by:

- specifying it in legislation;
- specifying it in the Assembly's Standing Orders; or
- making an inter-institutional agreement between the Assembly (or one of its committees) and the Welsh Government.

**46.** A requirement set out in law or in the Assembly's Standing Orders carries more weight than one established through agreement, but we face a question of what might be proportionate and appropriate in the circumstances.

**47.** There is also a question of the time available to establish a new procedure and the possible need for a degree of flexibility in the application of any new procedure that is established.

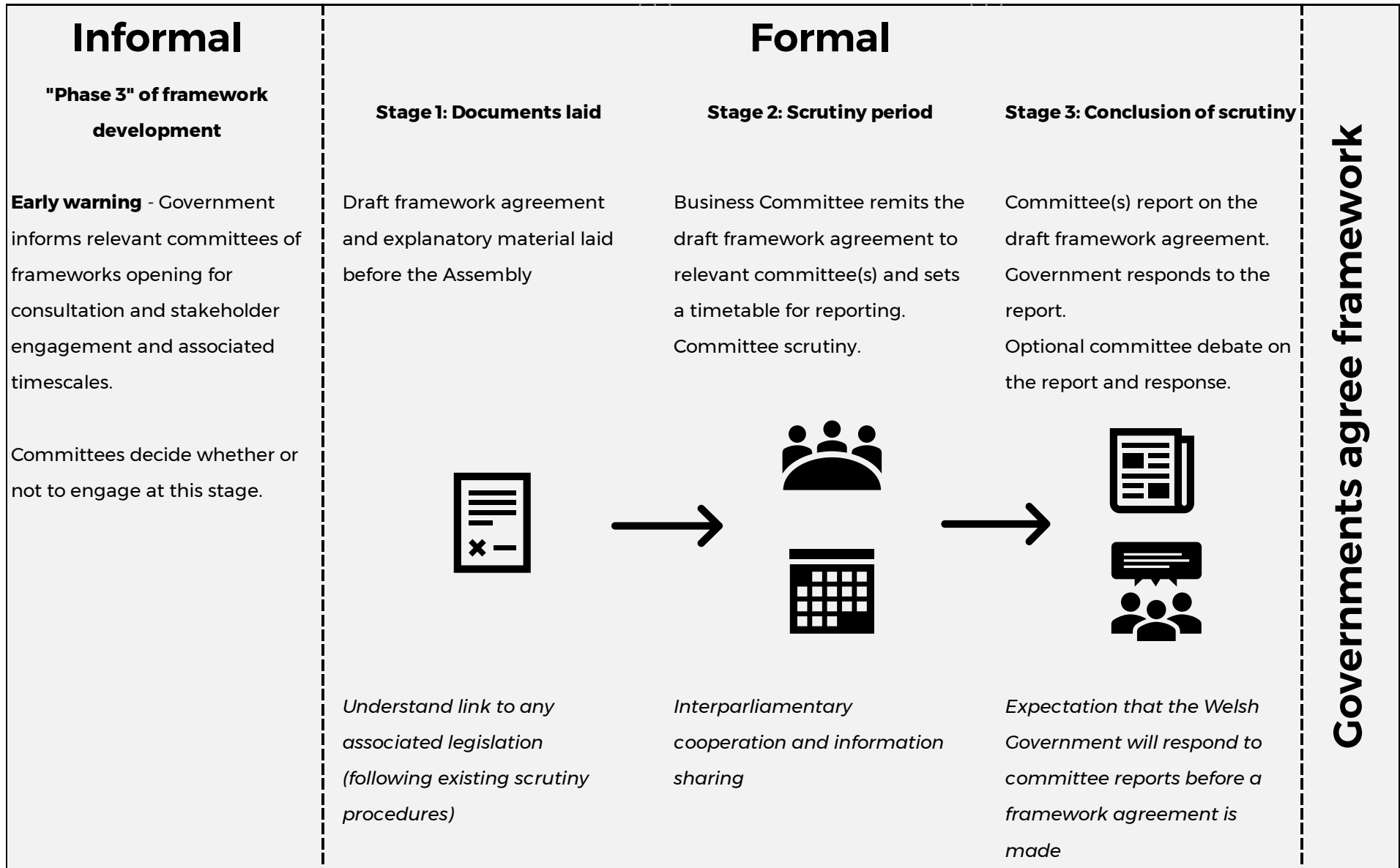
**48.** In these circumstances, seeking a written commitment from the Welsh Government to the scrutiny requirements described in this paper, perhaps underpinned by an inter-institutional agreement that outlines the process, could be considered a proportionate and practical approach to establishing this procedure.

#### Questions

- Do you agree that this scrutiny procedure should be established through an inter-institutional agreement between the Assembly (or one of its committees) and the Welsh Government?
- Alternatively (or alongside the above suggestion), should scrutiny arrangements be established through the Assembly's Standing Orders?
- Is there a case for seeking a legislative route for formalising the scrutiny of framework agreements?
- How can the establishment of Assembly scrutiny procedures interact with the scrutiny processes established in the other UK legislatures?

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Alun Davidson  
Clerk to the EAAL Committee  
[alun.davidson@assembly.wales](mailto:alun.davidson@assembly.wales)



# Agenda Item 3

## External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee

### International agreements: a suggested approach to engagement and scrutiny

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#### 1. Purpose

1. This paper provide an outline approach for Assembly engagement with, and scrutiny of significant future UK international agreements (e.g. the proposed post-Brexit UK-USA, UK-Australia, and UK-New Zealand trade agreements).
2. It has been prepared to inform discussion with a range of constitutional and legal experts at a roundtable discussion on 14 October 2019.

#### 2. Background

##### Previous work

3. The Committee has been considering the implications for Wales of the UK Government's trade policy since the autumn of 2016.
4. During the first quarter of 2019, the Committee developed an approach to scrutinising international agreements, in response to the increasing volume of trade continuity agreements that were being made in preparation for exiting the EU.
5. This approach has been necessarily reactive, due to the tight timescales involved and the limited level of engagement prior to their signature.
6. The proposals contained in this paper are made in preparation for the post-Brexit period and the significant international agreements that the UK Government intends to negotiate with partners such as the USA, Australia, and New Zealand.
7. In February 2019, the Committee wrote to the UK Government with an initial view of what it might want to see from the perspective of Assembly engagement and scrutiny.



**8.** Since then, the Welsh Government has shared its view that it is seeking significant involvement in the shaping of the UK negotiating mandate.<sup>1</sup>

**9.** The model below is provided as a starting point for discussion. It is written from the perspective of the Committee.

## 3. The model

### 1. Early engagement and the UK mandate

**10.** Our institutional experience of engaging with EU negotiations on significant reforms (such as those to the Common Agricultural Policy and Common Fisheries Policy for the post 2013 period) has demonstrated the need for engagement at the earliest phases of the process, ahead of the UK's negotiating position being settled or a mandate agreed.

**11.** For the Assembly to be in a position to engage in this way, it would need to be consulted by the UK Government ahead of the UK Government finalising its negotiating position and, ideally, be notified in advance of plans for forthcoming international agreements through a published multiannual forward work programme.

**12.** The model would emphasise the importance of this early engagement and the value that this can add in terms of the early identification of any Wales-specific technical, legislative or policy issues. Addressing issues upstream should lead to a clearer route through subsequent phases of engagement and scrutiny.

**13.** It would also enable the Assembly to engage with the other party to any agreement, and/or relevant sub-state regions that exist should it wish.

**14.** The Committee could outline that for these reasons, it believed that this type of early engagement can make a positive contribution to UK trade policy objectives.

**15.** We would also emphasise the importance of engaging with the Assembly and not solely with the Welsh Government to ensure a complete understanding of the devolved position.

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<sup>1</sup> See paragraphs 12-26 of [the transcript of the First Minister's appearance before the Committee on 8 July 2019](#).

**16.** As set out above, the Welsh Government has emphasised the importance of being involved in the setting of the UK negotiating mandate. It follows that the Assembly will also want to scrutinise the position taken by the Welsh Government and any compromises it has had to make in seeking agreement with the UK Government on the mandate.

**17.** In circumstances where the Welsh Government is seeking to reach an agreement that would constrain the future legislative competence of the Assembly once implemented, then the model would suggest that the Welsh Government should seek the Assembly's consent before making such representations to the UK Government.

**18.** To enable this scrutiny to take place, the Assembly could seek a commitment from the Welsh Government to lay the text of UK mandates, accompanied by a memorandum that explains the Welsh Government's position and the effect of implementing the eventual agreement on the Assembly's legislative competence and/or the Welsh Ministers' functions.

### Questions

- Is the approach suggested above for engagement with the setting of a mandate sufficient to ensure the possible implications for the devolution settlement and the views of the Assembly are adequately considered?
- Should the proposals be strengthened to seek the establishment of a parliamentary convention, along the lines of Sewel, that would normally require the Assembly's consent to the setting of a mandate that covers areas of devolved competence?

## 2. Negotiation phase: timely provision of information and engagement during the negotiating phase, including parity of access to negotiation texts

**19.** On commencement of the negotiating phase, the timetable and format of the negotiations should be transparently communicated by the UK Government.



**20.** Once a structure for negotiations has been developed, the Assembly should receive regular pre- and post- negotiation briefing from the Welsh Government on the position taken and the outcomes achieved at each negotiating round, with particular emphasis on how issues of concern raised during the early stage of scrutiny/position development have been addressed.

**21.** This approach will rely on the UK Government ensuring that the Welsh Government has a meaningful role in the process.

**22.** In the absence of more formalised intergovernmental relations, our preference would be to see the establishment of a JMC International Trade, as called for by the Welsh Government. We note the creation of a Ministerial Forum for International Trade, but that it has not yet met (as far as we are aware). We await details of this new Forum's terms of reference, and the role that is anticipated for it.

**23.** We understand the need to maintain a degree of confidentiality around aspects of the negotiating process and that the degree of confidentiality can vary. For example, there might be a need to restrict certain information absolutely. In other cases, a controlled sharing of information through the use of e.g. reading rooms might be appropriate.

**24.** For the Assembly to play its part in holding the Welsh Government to account, and representing the interests of the people of Wales, it must have the same level of access to information as UK Parliamentarians in cases where negotiations relate to devolved competences, or matters that might affect devolved competences.

**25.** On occasion, the opportunity to discuss progress with UK Ministers directly can be of considerable assistance to the Assembly's work. We would hope that UK Ministers would continue to look favourably on reasonable requests to participate in the work of Assembly Committees.

### Question

- Would the arrangements described above provide the Assembly with sufficient opportunity to exercise oversight and scrutiny of the Welsh Government's role and to effectively respond to any deviation from the mandate that might emerge during negotiations?

### 3. Ratification

#### Option 1: Assembly consent requirement

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**26.** In our view, adjusting the devolution settlement through acceding to international agreements is as constitutionally significant as adjusting it through UK legislation.

**27.** It follows, therefore, that a consent convention is needed to cover this area of shared competence as the point when a stable text emerges from the negotiations.

**28.** As international agreements have the potential to adjust the devolved competence of the Assembly, we believe that the convention should (as with the legislative consent convention) be a convention between legislatures.

**29.** In these circumstances, we hope that any proposals for a revised process of UK Parliamentary scrutiny will incorporate the need to consider the consent decisions of the Assembly before the ratification of an agreement. We hope that both the UK and Welsh Governments will undertake to support this.

#### Option 2: No Assembly consent requirement

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**30.** Once a stable text emerges from the negotiations, the Assembly will want to consider how it compares to the mandate and whether any new implications for Wales, and the devolution settlement, have arisen as a consequence of compromises made.

**31.** As with the current process followed for international agreements, an Assembly committee could consider the draft agreement and report on it to the Assembly and seek to raise any issues with the Welsh Government, UK Government and committee colleagues in the UK Parliament.

### Questions

- What are the different benefits and advantages of the two options described above ? Or is there an alternative approach that can be taken?
- How does a decision on managing the ratification stage of scrutiny relate to decisions taken when considering the mandate?
- How might this work in circumstances where there was an Assembly election between the point at which it expressed a view on a mandate and any consideration at ratification phase?

## 4. Differential implementation of international agreements

**32.** Ultimately, UK international agreements that incorporate the particular needs of Wales and that respect the devolution settlement have the potential to be of significant benefit to the people of Wales.

**33.** We would hope that a UK international agreement would work in the best interests of all of the UK.

**34.** However, we recognise that there could be circumstances in which a particular Welsh issue cannot be addressed through a more general UK approach.

**35.** In such circumstances, well-established mechanisms exist to accommodate differential implementation of agreements. For example, the inclusion of annexes of reservations to an agreement.

**36.** We believe that the scope for differential implementation of future UK international agreements should be considered seriously by the UK Government as it develops its approach.

### Question

- Could differential implementation of international agreements work in the context of the UK and devolution?

## 5. Implementation of devolved aspects of international agreements

**37.** We would expect the Assembly and/or Welsh Ministers to be responsible for the domestic implementation of devolved aspects of international agreements, including any legislative measures that might be necessary.

**38.** In circumstances where the UK Government intends to give provisional effect to an international agreement (in part or in full) then it should be required to notify Welsh Ministers and the Assembly of this intention.

## 6. Governance and development after ratification

**39.** We would anticipate the Assembly wanting to be engaged in the ongoing process of monitoring the governance arrangements associated with an international agreement and any interinstitutional arrangements it establishes e.g. dispute resolution mechanisms.

**40.** The Assembly might wish to periodically review an agreement to ensure that it has delivered the benefits it was designed to provide for Wales and to learn lessons for engagement with subsequent international agreements.

### Questions

- What documentation should be laid before the Assembly to enable effective scrutiny at the different stages?
- To what extent (if at all) should the Assembly's consent be sought at:
  - mandate stage (paragraph 17); and/or
  - ratification stage (options set out in paragraphs 26 - 31)
- In tandem with the development of a scrutiny procedure, is there a case to be made for seeking changes to the devolution settlement?
- For example, the repeal or amendment of Section 82 of the Government of Wales Act 2006, due to the change in the UK's foreign policy as a consequence of Brexit?

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Alun Davidson, Clerk to the Committee  
[alun.davidson@assembly.wales](mailto:alun.davidson@assembly.wales)

# Summary of key stages

## Stage 1 Early Engagement:

- Publication by UK Government of a multiannual forward work programme for forthcoming international agreements.
- Consultation by UK Government with the Assembly in the development of its negotiation mandates.
- Scrutiny of the Welsh Government position on any mandates.
- Welsh Government required to seek the consent of the Assembly prior to agreeing any mandate that may constrain the future legislative competence of the Assembly.

## Stage 2 Negotiation Phase:

- UK Government to transparently publish the timetable and format for negotiations.
- Welsh Government commitment to regularly brief the Assembly pre and post each negotiation round on the position taken and outcomes achieved.
- Assembly to be provided to the same access as UK Parliamentarians to negotiating texts.
- UK Ministers to commit to continue to appear before Assembly committees where relevant to discuss negotiations.

## Stage 3: Ratification of final text:

- Consent convention developed between UK legislatures where the final text of any agreement reached adjusts the devolution settlement (under 'Option 1' only).
- Scrutiny of Welsh Government on how the final text compares to any mandates between the Welsh Government and UK Government.



## Stage 4: Implementation and Governance post-ratification

- Assembly scrutiny of any domestic legislation needed to implement any agreements reached.
- Assembly scrutiny of governance arrangement of international agreements e.g. dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Assembly scrutiny of the impact of the agreement on Wales and lessons learnt for future agreements.

# Agenda Item 4.2

Eluned Morgan AC/AM  
Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Chysylltiadau Rhyngwladol  
Minister for International Relations and the Welsh  
Language



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref EM/05596/19

David Rees AM  
Assembly Member for Aberavon  
National Assembly for Wales  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA  
david.rees@assembly.wales

3 October 2019

Thank you for bringing to my attention the publication of the Committee's recent report: *International Agreements: Implications for Wales*. I welcome the Committee's ongoing work scrutinising international agreements and considering the implications for Wales.

The Welsh Government will continue to press the UK Government to remind it of the constitutional boundaries that need to be respected, and the need for the Welsh Government to be engaged in the negotiation of these agreements in order to uphold the devolved settlement.

I am copying my response to the First Minister who was also sent a copy of this report

## Eluned Morgan AC/AM

Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Chysylltiadau Rhyngwladol  
Minister for International Relations and the Welsh Language

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

[Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales)

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.

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