Elin Jones AM
Llywydd

7 June 2018

Dear Elin

Renting Homes (Fees etc) (Wales) Bill

Thank you for your letter of 23 May about the Bill.

We do not envisage any difficulties with the timetable as proposed by the Welsh Government.

I think it is worth highlighting that it is likely that pending the passing of the financial resolution on the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) (Bill), our Committee are expecting to be undertaking stage 2 scrutiny on that Bill early in the autumn term. We wanted to make you aware of this so you can take into account the deadlines we will be working towards for the Renting Homes Bill, when you consider a revised timetable for the Ombudsman Bill.

You may recall that we had a similar double incidence of legislative scrutiny with the Trade Union (Wales) Bill and the Abolition of the Right to Buy and Associated Rights (Wales) Bill last year. A further double incidence of Bills being referred to our Committee was avoided when the Business Committee referred the Regulation of Registered Social Landlords (Wales) Bill to the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee.
We appreciate the delays to the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Bill were not anticipated. However, it does reinforce the Committee’s views in our letter to you dated 19 July 2017 about the amount of the legislation referred to our Committee:

While we acknowledge that an important part of our role is to undertake legislative scrutiny it is far from ideal for the bulk of legislative scrutiny to be in the hands of one committee. It also restricts the ability of individual Members to influence and shape the forward work programme, with our programme being ultimately shaped by external factors.

I trust this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

John Griffiths AM
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.