

Ken Skates AM

Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure

30 October 2017

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

### **Inquiry into the implications of Brexit for Welsh ports**

I am writing with regards to the Welsh Government's response to the Committee's inquiry into the implications of Brexit for Welsh ports. You may be aware that on 25 October 2017, during his appearance before the Exiting the European Union Select Committee, the Secretary of State David Davis MP stated that he had not had explicit discussions with the Welsh Government on the issue of ports, with particular reference to the port of Holyhead.

In our report we made a number of recommendations that explicitly relate to the need for the Welsh Government to press the UK Government on specific matters relating to Wales. The relevant recommendations are one, two, three and four, all of which are accepted, or accepted in principle.

It is a cause of concern, therefore, that the Secretary of State should state in his evidence that explicit discussions relating to Holyhead, or the wider Welsh ports sector, have not taken place. It is our hope that this will be rectified quickly and such discussions will commence shortly.

In the meantime, in light of the comment by the Secretary of State that discussions had not taken place, I ask that you provide the Committee with:

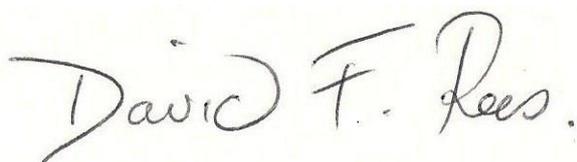
- Full details of any formal meetings between the Welsh and UK Government, at both a ministerial and official level, where the issue of Brexit and Welsh ports were discussed;



- Details of any telephone conversations between the Welsh and UK Governments, at both a ministerial and official, where the issue of Brexit and Welsh ports were discussed;
- Copies of all correspondence between the Welsh and UK Government on the subject of Brexit and its implications for Welsh ports.

Although our report was published during the summer recess, I would be grateful if this request for information could cover the period since the outcome of the EU referendum to the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David F. Rees." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

David Rees AM

Chair of the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

