

Sir Oliver Heald

16 July 2021

Dear Sir Oliver

The UK-EU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly

Senedd Committees have now been established following the Senedd General Election in May and I am writing to introduce myself as the new Chair of the Senedd's Legislation, Justice and Constitution (LJC) Committee. The LJC Committee has taken on responsibility for some of the functions previously carried out by the Fifth Senedd's External Affairs and Additional Legislation (EAAL) Committee. This includes the Senedd's engagement with the European Union and overarching scrutiny of UK-EU relations.

I am aware that the Chair of the EAAL Committee had begun conversations with colleagues in the House of Lords about a possible role for the devolved legislatures in the UK-EU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly and, in my role as Chair of the LJC Committee, I would welcome the opportunity to re-open these conversations with you and with Lord Kinnoull, whom I have written to separately.

As you will be aware, significant areas of devolved policy are covered by the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement. The devolved legislatures, through their scrutiny of their respective governments, will play a key role in ensuring that the Agreement is properly implemented. They therefore have an important contribution to make to the work of the Parliamentary Partnership Assembly.

I know that this issue will be of similar interest to colleagues in the Northern Ireland Assembly and Scottish Parliament and have therefore copied this letter to Colin McGrath MLA, Chair of the Committee of the Executive Office in the Northern Ireland Assembly, and Clare Adamson MSP, Convener of the Scottish Parliament's Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee.



I have asked the Committee Clerk to liaise with your office in order to facilitate a meeting, should you consider that would be helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Huw Irranca-Davies

Huw Irranca-Davies
Chair

