

Huw Irranca-Davies MS

Chair, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

16 July 2021

Dear Huw

Legislative Consent Memorandum – Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill

Thank you for your letter of 2 July 2021 in relation to the referral of the LCM on the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill to your committee for scrutiny.

Business Committee initially discussed this LCM at its meeting of 29 June, referring it to your committee only as, in deciding the committee remits, we wished to ensure that you are able to consider the future devolution of justice and policing as part of your wider constitutional affairs remit. However, in the light of your letter of 2 July, we did suggest at our meeting of 6 July that your committee may wish to invite the Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee to attend any meetings at which this LCM may be discussed.

As was the case in the Fifth Senedd, the remits of policy and legislation committees are not prescriptive or restrictive. We have deliberately allowed them to remain broad and we decided not to provide a definitive list of subjects attached to each committee. As in the previous two Seneddau, we believe that providing committees with the ability to pursue issues across portfolios and subject areas makes for better scrutiny and avoids the risk of too narrow an approach.

Business Committee specifically considered where the responsibility for justice should sit within the committee structure at its meeting of 13 July. We agreed that high-level justice policy matters, such as the devolution of justice and policing, and any matters which relate to law-making, should be assigned to the LJC Committee. Other matters which relate to the practical application of justice



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policy should be open to scrutiny by appropriate policy and legislation committees. In the same vein, LJC Committee is not expected to consider the wider policy interactions with the justice system and policing that currently exist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elin Jones".

Elin Jones MS

Y Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee

