



Elin Jones MS  
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28 February 2022

Dear Elin,

I write to you regarding the UK Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill (the Bill) and our proposal to seek to hold a legislative consent motion debate on Tuesday 1 March.

The Bill was introduced in the House of Commons on 9 March 2021 and carried over into the current Parliamentary session. We laid a legislative consent memorandum (LCM) on 28 May 2021 and three supplementary LCMs (Memorandum Nos 2-4) prior to the legislative consent debate held on 18 January 2022 where the Senedd voted to consent to one motion but rejected the other motion.

The UK Government tabled its final amendments to the Bill on 21 February and the Minister for Social Justice has today laid Supplementary LCM (Memorandum No 5). The Bill will return to the House of Commons for consideration of final amendments stage ("Ping Pong") today. As the Minister for Social Justice committed to do so during the legislative consent debate held on 18 January, Memorandum No 5 also addresses relevant amendments agreed at House of Lords Report stage on 17 January.

We wish to seek to provide the Senedd with the opportunity to debate and vote on consenting to the inclusion of these amendments in the Bill in a further Senedd debate which we propose be held on Tuesday 1 March.

As set out in the Supplementary LCM (Memorandum No 5) on this Bill laid today, whilst we recommend the Senedd gives its consent to some provisions of the Bill making provision within devolved matters, we cannot recommend the Senedd gives its consent to others. Therefore, as during the previous debate on 18 January, we propose the Senedd is given the opportunity to vote on two separate Legislative Consent Motions.

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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.

In accordance with the Standing Orders, both motions will ask the Senedd to approve the relevant clauses for consideration by UK Parliament. However, one motion will include the clauses to which we recommend the Senedd gives consent by agreeing the motion and the other motion will include the clauses to which we recommend the Senedd withholds consent by voting against the motion.

The Bill is now in Ping Pong, therefore, given the passage of the Bill and the timing of the tabling of the amendments we will need to table a motion seeking to suspend Standing Orders in order to hold the debate tomorrow. We are unable to lay the motion to suspend standing orders and the legislative consent motions themselves until the outcome of the votes on the amendments in the House of Commons today is known. It is, therefore, possible the motions will need to be tabled tomorrow on the day we propose the debate is held. Consequently, in accordance with Standing Order 33.8, we are seeking your agreement, in advance, to potentially tabling the motions tomorrow, which would be less than the requisite one working day before we propose to hold the debate. We would, where possible, always seek to provide the Senedd with as much formal notice of a debate as possible and would wish to avoid suspending Standing Orders however in the case of this Bill, we consider it important the Senedd has its say given the significant impact of its provisions on Wales.

I am copying this letter to Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Jenny Rathbone MS, Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee and all Members of the Senedd.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**Lesley Griffiths AS/MS**  
**Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd**  
**Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd**