

Julie James AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd  
Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru  
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27 July 2022

Dear Elin,

The UK Government introduced the Data Protection and Digital Information (DPDI) Bill to the House of Commons on 18 July. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of a delay in laying a Legislative Consent Memorandum in relation to the DPDI Bill. There are a number of reasons for this which relate primarily to complexity of the Bill, its length and the late sight of the draft Bill.

The UK Government believe this is an important and complex piece of legislation which touches upon a number of areas of policy, as demonstrated by the Long Title of the Bill:

*A Bill to make provision for the regulation of the processing of information relating to identified or identifiable living individuals; to make provision about services consisting of the use of information to ascertain and verify facts about individuals; to make provision about access to customer data and business data; to make provision about privacy and electronic communications; to make provision about services for the provision of electronic signatures, electronic seals and other trust services; to make provision about the disclosure of information to improve public service delivery; to make provision for the implementation of agreements on sharing information for law enforcement purposes; to make provision about the keeping and maintenance of registers of births and deaths; to make provision about information standards for health and social care; to establish the Information Commission; to make provision about oversight of biometric data; and for connected purposes.*

The Bill itself is 194 pages long and covers multiple policy areas and Ministerial responsibilities.

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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.

My officials received first sight of the draft Bill in its entirety on 15 July and Welsh Ministers also received it on the same day. The UK Government have stated they will be seeking legislative consent from the Senedd in respect of three measures within the Bill - Smart Data Measures; Digital Economy Act Data Sharing Gateway; and the International-Law Enforcement Alerts Platform (I-LEAP).

Welsh Government lawyers are currently analysing the Bill to assess whether we agree with on the devolved areas of competence and we will be providing advice to Ministers as soon as is practicable. Whilst we do expect to lay a Legislative Consent Memorandum before the Senedd, unfortunately this will be outside the normal two-week Standing Order 29 deadline due to the reasons outlined above. However, we will lay prior to the end of the recess period.

I am copying this letter to the First Minister, the Deputy Minister for Climate Change, the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution, the Minister for Health and Social Services, the Minister for the Economy and the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Julie James AS/MS**  
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Minister for Climate Change