

Jenny Rathbone MS
Chair, Equality and Social Justice Committee

19 July 2022

Dear Jenny

Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence

You may recall that at our meeting on 6 June we considered the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (also known as the 'Istanbul Convention'). Following the meeting we wrote to your Committee to draw the Convention's ratification to your attention, in light of your inquiry into violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence.

We also wrote to the Welsh Government to seek its views on the accuracy of the information provided in the accompanying Explanatory Memorandum on the UK Government's engagement with the devolved governments and information on its compliance with the Convention. At our meeting on 11 July we considered a response from the Minister for Social Justice, in which she outlined concerns she had raised with the UK Government in relation to policy and constitutional matters. We therefore agreed to share this response with your Committee and the House of Lords International Agreements Committee.

Yours sincerely,



Huw Irranca-Davies
Chair