

Elin Jones MS

Llywydd

Chair of Business Committee

14 October 2022

Extension for reporting on Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill

Dear Llywydd

The Committee discussed the Legislative Consent Memorandum ("LCM") on the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill at its meeting on Thursday 13 October 2022. Given the serious implications arising from the Bill, Members were of the view that the current timetable for reporting is insufficient to allow for full consideration of the issues at large, nor for further consideration of its impact on Wales. Members are keen to undertake evidence sessions with relevant Welsh and UK Government ministers, as well as stakeholders working in international relations.

Finally, the Committee feels that the amount of time provided for scrutiny is minimal in comparison with the time available to the Welsh Government. The Bill was introduced in Westminster on 13 June 2022 but it was not referred to Senedd Committees until 4 October 2022. While the Committee accepts the Welsh Government's reasons for the delays, it has been allowed a substantial amount of time to consider the Bill's implications compared with the Senedd.

For the reasons outlined, the Committee would like to request an additional three weeks to the initial reporting deadline of 7th November 2022.

Yours sincerely,



Delyth Jewell MS

Chair of the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.