

CYPE(6)-21-22 - Paper to note 3

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Rt Hon Elin Jones MS
Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

llywydd@senedd.wales

18 October 2022

Dear Elin,

You will be aware of the UK Energy Prices Bill (the Bill), which includes relevant provision requiring the consent of the Senedd.

The Bill, which we did not have sight of until the evening before introduction, was introduced in the House of Commons on 12 October 2022. All House of Commons stages took place on 17 October, with no amendments to the Bill. All House of Lords stages are scheduled to complete on 24 October and the Bill is expected to receive Royal Assent on 25 October. Despite representations to the UK Government to seek to extend the timetable, the period available to complete the legislative consent process is, therefore, extremely short. The regrettably limited opportunity for scrutiny in the Senedd arising from the UK Government's timetable and the lack of advance sharing of the Bill, will be pursued further with the UK Government.

In order to provide the Senedd with the opportunity to debate and vote on consenting to the relevant provisions in the Bill, we propose to hold a Legislative Consent Motion Debate on Wednesday, 19 October. Our Legislative Consent Memorandum will be laid today recommending the Senedd gives consent to the relevant provisions in the Bill. This will be followed by the tabling of the Legislative Consent Motion.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
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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 order to allow the debate to take place on 19 October, it will be necessary to suspend Standing Orders upon the tabling of our legislative consent motion. It is possible the motions will need to be tabled less than the requisite one working day before we propose to hold the debate. Consequently, in accordance with Standing Order 33.8 we are seeking your agreement in advance to the tabling of these motions. 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, and in light of the timing imposed by UK Government, we consider it important the Senedd has its say given the significant impact of its provisions on Wales.

I am copying this letter to all Senedd Committee Chairs 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 initial 'L'.

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