

30 January 2023

Dear Rebecca,

The UK Government's Procurement Bill – supplementary legislative consent memoranda

At our meeting on 26 January 2023, we considered the supplementary legislative consent memoranda (Memorandum No. 3 and Memorandum No. 4) you have laid in respect of the UK Government's Procurement Bill.

We note that the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee wrote to you on the 26 January 2023 seeking clarity on a number of matters referred to in the memoranda. We would also like clarity on those matters and fully endorse that letter. We would be grateful if you could copy us into your response to the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

In addition to the issues raised by the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee we would also like clarification on an additional point.

In Memorandum No. 4, you identified the duty on the Secretary of State to publish a timeline for the removal of physical technology or surveillance equipment from the Government's procurement supply chain (where the Secretary of State is satisfied there is established evidence that a provider has been involved in modern slavery, genocide, or crimes against humanity). You state that as Government is not defined, it is not limited to the UK Government. You state that you consider that this means the timeline will also cover the removal of suppliers from the Welsh Government's procurement supply chain.

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.


We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Please could you provide clarification on:

the involvement, if any, the Welsh Government will have in developing the timeline that must be laid before the UK Parliament by the Secretary of State; and
the impact this might have upon Welsh Businesses and the Welsh Government's procurement supply, including details of the practical implications of the removals of suppliers.

Since the deadline for reporting on both memoranda is 2 March, we would be grateful to receive your responses to these questions by noon on 13 February. I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mark Isherwood', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Isherwood MS
Committee Chair

