



Huw Irranca-Davies MS
Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru
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6 February 2022

Dear Huw,

I would like to thank you and the Committee members for your consideration of the third and fourth Legislative Consent Memoranda on the UK Government's Social Housing (Regulation) Bill.

I welcome the report published by the Committee on 13 January, and its conclusion that the Committee agrees with my assessment that the clauses and schedules listed in the memoranda fall within a purpose within the legislative competence of the Senedd.

I would like to take this opportunity to correct an inaccuracy in the Committee's report. Paragraphs 30 and 40 note that I disagree with the UK Governments' view that clauses 13 and 14 and Part 1 of Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 do not require the consent of the Senedd. This is only partly correct. In the supplementary LCM (Memorandum no 4), I referred to the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Communities' letter which notes that clauses 13 and 14 and Part 1 of Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 do not require a legislative consent motion. I then acknowledged the Under Secretary's view (in paragraph 27 of memorandum no 4) but maintained my original recommendation which is that legislative consent is required for clause 13 and Part 1 of Schedule 1. I therefore agree that clause 14 and Schedule 2 do not require a legislative consent motion but disagree with the UK Government's view in relation to clause 13 and Part 1 of Schedule 1.

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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 the interest of being as open as possible with the Committee, I understand that UK Ministers are due to table further amendments to the Bill at House of Commons Report stage. We continue to highlight to the UK Government the importance of early engagement and of accommodating Senedd processes in their Bill timetabling considerations.

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

Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change