



Delyth Jewell MS  
Chair Culture, Communications, Welsh Language,  
Sport and International Relations Committee

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7 March 2023

Dear Delyth,

I am writing in response to your letter of 17 February 2023, in which you requested additional information about overseas engagement, visits and Memoranda of Understanding.

### Overseas Engagement

In my letter of 7 December I agreed that my officials would notify the Committee of all diplomatic visits to Wales and Ministerial visits overseas – with a retrospective summary provided each month. That first summary, for visits in December and January, was provided on 6 February. That summary did include all diplomatic visits and Ministerial visits overseas in that time period.

In your letter, you request additional information on these visits. For Ministerial visits overseas, additional information is usually provided by Ministers via a Written Statement within a few days of that overseas visit.

Providing details of discussions held with representatives of other governments could be prejudicial to Welsh Government's future ability to have frank and open discussions with international stakeholders potentially inhibiting the openness of discussions. However, I am content for my officials to provide an overview in the summary which outlines the high-level topics discussed, for example trade and investment, education etc.

You also requested a list of meetings held by Welsh Government Sponsored Bodies which support the delivery of the International Strategy. This information is not held centrally therefore it will not be possible to provide this on a monthly basis. However, I will ensure that some of the key events undertaken by WGSBs are included in the annual report when it is published later this year.

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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.

## Memoranda of Understanding

You have requested a dedicated webpage which lists the current active Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) that we hold with other countries and regions. I can confirm that a webpage showing live MOUs has been created and is available here:

<https://www.gov.wales/international-bi-lateral-agreements>

We will not be publishing the full details of the MOUs online. As I said in my letter of 7 December bi-lateral agreements of this nature are not normally published. Unlike the MOUs and concordats published between UK and Devolved Governments as part of intergovernmental relations, these are agreements with third parties and, as such, we would need to have their permission to publish the documents.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Drakeford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

**MARK DRAKEFORD**