



Huw Irranca-Davies MS  
Chair  
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

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19 April 2023

Dear Huw

Thanks for your letter. In principle, I agree to attend your committee as requested subject to the following considerations.

As you know, I attend First Minister's Scrutiny Committee each term to take questions across the range of government business; this is in addition, of course, to my weekly duties in the Senedd. Our long-standing policy is that the First Minister should not normally attend committees scrutinising portfolio business for which individual ministers exercise accountability on behalf of the Welsh Government.

I recognise that the issues you specify – the Legislative Programme, International Relations and Europe - are matters on which, as First Minister, I have specific and strategic responsibilities. I would, therefore, be content to attend your committee to take questions on these topics. For clarity, and in keeping with the policy described above, I would be unwilling to take questions, for example, on the Justice portfolio which is covered by direct ministerial accountability in the normal way.

If you are content to proceed on this basis then I will be happy for our offices to make the necessary arrangements.

Yours sincerely

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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.