

Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS  
First Minister of Wales

23 March 2023

Dear Mark

## UK-EU Windsor Framework

Following the introduction on 27 February 2023 of the Windsor Framework ("the Framework") - the agreement in principle reached by the UK Government and the EU on changes to the Northern Ireland Protocol – I am writing to seek the Welsh Government's view and detailed assessment of the implications of the Framework for Wales. As part of this assessment, please could you also provide specific information on:

- how the Welsh Government was engaged in the negotiations;
- what input the Welsh Government had in to the Framework's contents;
- which intergovernmental forum, if any, was used to discuss the negotiations;
- the Welsh Government's involvement in March's Joint Committee and Partnership Council meeting;
- whether the UK Government has reconsidered your requests to attend meetings of the Joint Committee where matters relating to the Northern Ireland Protocol which affect Wales are discussed;
- whether the Joint Committee pre-meetings between the UK and devolved governments, established under Prime Minister Theresa May, continue to take place (as described in correspondence from Lord Frost in May 2021);

- whether the involvement of the devolved governments in UK-EU meetings, as set out by Lord Frost in May 2021, will continue or whether there are any UK Government plans to revisit these.

I would be grateful to receive a response by 17 April 2023.

Yours sincerely,

*Huw Irranca-Davies*

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Chair

