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Y Gwir Anrhydeddus Elin Jones AS Llywydd, Senedd Cymru — Right Honourable Elin Jones MS Llywydd, Welsh Parliament

David Rees MS
Chair of the Reform Bill Committee

14 December 2023

Dear David,

Senedd Cymru (Members and Elections) Bill: Constituency Office Provisions

Thank you for your letter of 1 December about the considerations of the Reform Bill Committee.

I am writing in response to your request for information about the Commission's considerations relating to hub working. You made particular reference to the proposal made by the Public and Commercial Services Union, in a letter to your Committee, that 'consideration be given to the establishment of 16 permanent constituency offices, one in each of the new Senedd constituencies, from which Members, support staff and Commission staff could operate.'

In our meeting of 30 January this year the Commission was presented with information about themes which had emerged from the engagement exercise with Members, which had been undertaken during the latter part of 2022 as a joint exercise with the Independent Remuneration Board.

The purpose of the exercise was to establish a better understanding of Members' medium-to-long term ways of working needs with an intention that the findings would inform future service and support provision. Two thirds of Members participated. The views Members expressed were presented to us in five main themes one of which was Hub Working. Commissioners noted the strength of feeling expressed against hubs as shared constituency office space for Members and as a Commission we therefore did not intend to explore the option further.

I hope that this information is useful to the Committee's considerations.

RBC(6)-01-24 Papur i'r nodi 2.1 | Paper to note 2.1 Yours sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Elin Jones MS/AS

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Llywydd, on behalf of the Senedd Commission

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg / We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English