

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

24 January 2024

Limited Review of Standing Order 26C

Dear Huw,

The Business Committee has undertaken a limited review of Standing Order 26C – Consolidation Acts of the Senedd, to consider several issues raised by the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee in your letter dated 28 September 2023.

Business Committee agreed to propose that the Senedd agrees an amendment to Standing Orders to clarify when Detailed Committee Consideration is completed, as well as several minor typographical corrections to Standing Order 26C identified through this limited review. We have today laid a report proposing those changes and tabled a motion for the consideration of the Senedd on 31 January.

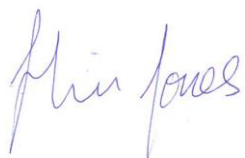
As you are aware, Business Committee's procedural work programme includes a commitment to a full review of Standing Order 26C once the next Consolidation Bill has been considered by the Senedd.

In considering the other matters raised in your letter, both of which relate to the process through which a Consolidation Bill proceeds from the Detailed Committee Consideration to Detailed Senedd Consideration or Final Stage, we agreed to wait until the full review before reaching a conclusion as to whether to propose any changes to this aspect of the processes under Standing Order 26C. This will enable us to further consider the advantages and disadvantages of amending the Standing Orders in the areas you have raised, in light of the further experience gained through the consideration of a further Consolidation Bill. We will naturally consult with the LJC Committee and others as part of the full review.

In the meantime, should a situation arise in which your Committee is unable to reach unanimous or majority agreement on your recommendation arising from the Detailed Committee Consideration stage on a Consolidation Bill, the clerk will provide procedural advice to you, as Chair, on how to use your casting vote in order to resolve the situation. This advice would be in line with the underlying principles and precedents applied to the use of the casting vote and contained within **guidance**.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for writing to share your experience of considering the first Consolidation Bill introduced to the Senedd and raising with us the matters referred to above.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elin Jones', is positioned above the typed name.

The Rt Hon. Elin Jones MS

Y Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

