

Elin Jones MS
Llywydd
Chair,
Business Committee

4 February 2022

Dear Llywydd

The accessibility of Welsh Law

Further to your letter dated 22 September 2021, in which the Business Committee invited our Committee to undertake an inquiry into the Counsel General's proposals to 'modernise the structure and presentation of Welsh law', my purpose in writing to you now is to provide an update on the limited progress we have made.

On 29 November 2021, we took evidence from the Counsel General following the Welsh Government's laying of the first 'future of Welsh law' programme which is required under the *Legislation (Wales) Act 2019*. As part of that session, we took the opportunity to ask the Counsel General some initial questions about his proposals for the structure and presentation of Welsh law. Following the session, we wrote to the Counsel General on 3 December 2021 to follow-up on a number of matters, to which the Counsel General replied on 17 January 2022.

You will know that the Committee's remit is broad and that, since our establishment, we have spent the majority of our time scrutinising subordinate legislation made by the Welsh Ministers and Welsh Government legislative consent memoranda for UK Bills. At our meeting on 31 January 2022 we again discussed at length our approach to handling our remit, and how we could and would approach the work we anticipate will fall to us in the coming months.

We agreed that our consideration of the Counsel General's proposals should be put on hold for the time-being, until such time that we may examine them thoroughly. These are issues that we have a keen interest in and recognise their importance. We will therefore return to this work at the earliest

opportunity in our forward work programme, and will provide you with an update when we are able to do so.

I am copying this letter to the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution.

Yours sincerely,

Huw Irranca-Davies

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Chair

