

24 November 2023

Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill

Dear Rebecca,

On 12 September 2023, the Business Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 29.4(i), to invite the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee and the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee to consider and report on the Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill.

In accordance with Standing Order 29.4(ii), the Business Committee agreed that the committees should report to the Senedd by 24 November 2023.

Unfortunately, these timescales have not enabled us to undertake detailed scrutiny but we welcome the promptness with which you responded to the queries we raised regarding the LCM.

We note and agree with the view of the Welsh Government that consent is not required for Clauses 12 and 13. This is because both clauses apply to local government workers' pensions, which are reserved under paragraph 134 of Schedule 7A to the Government of Wales Act 2006 and the provisions do not have regard to devolved matters.

We also note from your response to us that there are a limited number of occupational pensions which fall within the exception to the reservation in paragraph 134 (e.g., pensions for members of local authorities) however these are not relevant to clauses 12 or 13. Further, clause 13(3) amends an Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

instrument which only applies in relation to Northern Ireland, which would be outside of the Senedd's competence.

We welcome the clarity you have provided in regard to the interaction between clause 15 of the Bill and section 115 of the Procurement Bill and note that your clarifications are satisfactory.

We do not have any further observations on the LCM and on this occasion will not be reporting on the LCM. However, please note that Adam Price MS wishes to record his view that he is opposed to the Legislative Consent Memoranda in relation to the Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Isherwood', written over a horizontal line.

Mark Isherwood MS

Chair of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee