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Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a'r Prif Chwip
Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

David Rees MS
Chair
Reform Bill Committee

seneddreform@senedd.wales

19 March 2024

Dear David,

During the committee scrutiny of the Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidates Lists) Bill on Wednesday 13 March, a commitment was made to write to the committee on two issues.

The first was the question “what were the costs to the Welsh Government of the last case that was taken to the Supreme Court in respect of a competency issue in relation to a Senedd Bill?”

The last Bill that was referred to the Supreme Court under section 112 of the Government of Wales Act was the Law Derived from the European Union (Wales) Bill. The costs of that reference however are not typical as the Attorney General withdrew the reference before any hearing in the Supreme Court. The reference before that was the Recovery of Medical Costs for Asbestos Diseases (Wales) Bill. The costs associated with that reference are recorded as £62,596.54.

The second question was asking whether the Welsh Government has sought external legal advice. I can confirm that external legal advice has been sought.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.