

The Rt Hon Elin Jones MS/AS  
Llywydd  
Chair of the Chairs' Forum

30 January 2025

Dear Llywydd

## Representation on interparliamentary bodies

Thank you for your letter of 7 January, which we considered at our meeting on 13 January.

During the Committee's consideration of your letter, members expressed concerns about the lack of transparency surrounding the decision made by the Chairs' Forum and asked for further clarity to be sought about the rationale for those decisions.

The LJC Committee has led the overview of Wales/UK/EU governance structures since the start of the Sixth Senedd. It has lead responsibility for examining the overall governance of the UK-EU relationship and Wales' role within it. The major work which will be undertaken in the coming year is the review of the TCA and the 'reset' in relations which is sought by the UK Government. Since this is part of the work of the LJC Committee, it is unclear why its members are being excluded from this work.

As a result, I wanted to draw your attention to the comments from committee members about whether the Chairs' Forum is the appropriate and therefore the competent Senedd body to make the final decision as regards the Senedd's representation on the Interparliamentary Forum and the UK-EU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly.

We consider that there may be merit in reviewing the processes involved, not least given the move to 96 members for the Seventh Senedd. In our view, a more consistent approach for nominating Members of the Senedd to the various interparliamentary bodies that exist would be worth consideration.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Hedges". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Mike Hedges

Chair

