

The Rt. Hon Elin Jones MS
Llywydd and Chair of Senedd Commission

6 November 2025

Dear Llywydd,

Public Office (Accountability) Bill Legislative Consent Memorandum

The Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee considered the Public Office (Accountability) Bill ("the Bill") Legislative Consent Memorandum ("the Memorandum") during our meeting on 3 November 2025.

We note that Clause 12 provides that a person who holds public office commits an offence if (a) they use that office to obtain a benefit or cause another person to suffer a detriment and (b) they know, or ought to have known, that doing so is a seriously improper act. Schedule 4 sets out who "holds public office", which includes Members of the Senedd and members of staff of the Senedd.

To help us with our scrutiny of the Memorandum, we would appreciate your views on the following :

1. Has the Senedd Commission been involved in the development of the Bill and/or has it been consulted about any relevant provisions?
2. Do you have any views on the Bill's application to Members of the Senedd and to members of staff of the Senedd? In particular, do you consider that there could be any unintended consequences caused by the way in which the Bill is drafted?
3. Do you have any other comments to make on the Bill or on the Memorandum?

As you will be aware, the Business Committee has set a reporting deadline for the Memorandum of 19 December 2025. I would therefore be grateful if you could respond to this letter no later than 21 November so that we can consider your response before we issue our report. If you have any concerns with this timetable please let us know.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Hedges

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Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

