

The Rt Hon Elin Jones MS
Llywydd
Chair, Business Committee

Dyddiad | Date: 31 October 2025

Annwyl Lywydd

Pwnc | Subject: Senedd Cymru (Member Accountability and Elections) Bill – Stage 1 scrutiny and Stage 2 proceedings

Thank you for your letter dated 21 October in which you seek the views of the Member Accountability Bill Committee on the Welsh Government's proposed timetable for the scrutiny of the Senedd Cymru (Member Accountability and Elections) Bill (the Bill).

We note that the Government is proposing we conclude our Stage 1 scrutiny and report to the Senedd by 19 December. By virtue of the fact that Government is introducing the Bill in November, we appreciate that pushing our reporting deadline into the New Year would be problematic for the remaining stages of the legislative process.

Nonetheless, it should be acknowledged that this timetable means our work in scrutinising this proposed legislation will be challenging. We ask that you consider extending this deadline by two working days, to 23 December. We will be utilising as many as possible of the seven weeks available to us to gather evidence on the Bill; this means we may not be able to agree our report until the week commencing 15 December. As such, having these extra days could provide some much-needed breathing space to the Senedd Commission teams who will assist us in laying a bilingual report before the Senedd. We do not believe such an extension would have a material impact on the proposed date for a Plenary debate on the general principles of the Bill and, subsequently, the latter scrutiny stages in the Senedd.

You have also sought our views on the Business Committee's current assumption that the Bill will be referred to the Committee for Stage 2 proceedings. We are aware that Stage 2 proceedings for Bills of a similar nature have, on occasion, been referred to a Committee of the Whole Senedd. We do not



consider it to be our place to make a firm recommendation to you on where Stage 2 proceedings should take place; that decision is a matter for the Business Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David F. Rees." The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear first initial and a last name.

David Rees MS

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.