



Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref

Mike Hedges, Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru
CF99 1NA

23 Chwefror 2026

Annwyl Mike

Reporting points in relation to Welsh-Language Subordinate Legislation

I thank the Committee for its letter of 26 January. As the Cabinet member responsible for the Legislative Programme, I am responding on behalf of the Government. Our current arrangements have been reviewed in order to provide this response.

The Welsh and English texts of subordinate legislation that is made bilingually is of equal standing for all purposes (Government of Wales Act 2006, section 156 and Legislation (Wales) Act 2019, section 5). The Welsh Government, therefore, recognises the importance of avoiding inconsistencies between the Welsh and English texts of the subordinate legislation it makes.

The Government's continued aim is to produce good law and minimise the number of reporting points that require amendment, within a culture of continuous improvement. We welcome the Committee's feedback and reporting points are always analysed carefully.

I am pleased to say that despite a significant increase in the number of Welsh statutory instruments laid, in the three-month period between September 2025 and December 2025 the number of notified reporting points was considerably reduced. However, the Government welcomes the opportunity to engage with the Committee in the context of our commitment to continuous improvement and will continue to monitor this as we move towards the Seventh Senedd.

In addition to increasing capacity in relevant teams and resolving transitional issues as we move to new legislative drafting software, the recently appointed Director of Legal Services intends to work with First Legislative Counsel and relevant teams to pursue continuous improvement with respect to drafting and translation of secondary legislation, with the aim of further reducing reporting points by the Committee.

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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.

As I stated in my letter to the Committee on 22 July 2025 the Welsh Government is keen to continue to work collaboratively with the Senedd and the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee and its successor following the election. To this end, I have asked my officials to arrange a meeting with the Clerk of the Committee to consider how they can best work with the Committee to improve the scrutiny process in relation to Welsh statutory instruments and non-WSI subordinate legislation.

I have copied this letter to the Rt Hon Eluned Morgan MS, First Minister of Wales, Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, Jayne Bryant MS, Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government, and the Rt Hon Elin Jones MS, Llywydd.

Yn gywir,



Julie James AS/MS

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol a'r Gweinidog Cyflawni
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