



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mike Hedges MS
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru

9 March 2026

Dear Mike,

In accordance with the inter-institutional relations agreement, I am writing to notify you that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Welsh Government, the North Sea Transition Authority (NTSA) and the UK Government regarding issues relating to onshore petroleum licencing was published on 9 March 2026. It can be found [here](#).

By mutual agreement, the MoU has been published on the NTSA website and a link will be included on the [Welsh Government's petroleum licensing guidance web page](#), rather than hosting it on the dedicated Concordats, memorandums of understanding and other agreements Welsh Government webpage.

This MoU sets out the agreed working arrangements in relation to reserved matters connected to onshore petroleum licensing in Wales. While onshore oil and gas licensing is devolved, certain functions remain reserved to the UK Government, including the setting and waiving of licence rentals, invoicing and collection of rentals, and the power to revoke licences for non-payment. The MoU clarifies how the parties will work together on these matters, including the roles of the NSTA and HM Treasury, and the processes for information-sharing, consent and decision-making.

I have also copied this letter to the chairs of the following committees: Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs; Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure; and Finance.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Evans AS/MS
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio

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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.