Y Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee CELG(4)-32-14 Papur 5 / Paper 5

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Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Christine Chapman AM
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Dear Clustine,

Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No.3)
Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill – Public Sector Exit Payments

On 18 November 2014, the Business Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 29.4, to invite the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee to consider and report on the Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No 3) for the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill in relation to Public Sector Exit Payments.

As part of the scrutiny process, I wish to make the Committee aware of recent amendments to the Public Sector Exit Payment provisions within the Bill which were debated in Parliament on 19 November. The amendments, now included in Clause 150, enable regulations made under the Bill to include provision that would prevent an exit payee, covered by the regulations, from taking up new public service employment, office or contract before they have made arrangements to repay their exit payment.

Details of the relevant amendments tabled by the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills are in the House of Commons Notices of Amendments given on Thursday 13 November (amendments 61, 62, 63 and 64), and can be found at the link to the Parliament website below:.

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2014-2015/0117/amend/pbc1171411a.pdf

I am content with the amendments, as they seek to strengthen the arrangements for recovery of exit payments made to highly paid public sector employees or office holders, if those employees or office holders later return to work in the same part of the public sector. I do not intend to lay a revised memorandum, as I consider the

wording of the existing memorandum (which refers to the relevant regulation making power) is broad enough to cover these amendments too.

Jane Hutt AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Busnes y Llywodraeth Minister for Finance and Government Business