

Devolution (Further Powers) Committee

Mr Bernard Jenkin MP Chair Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Select Committee House of Commons London, SW1A 0AA c/o Clerk to the Committee Room T3.40 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 5000 devolutioncommittee@scottish.parliament.uk

19 November 2015

Dear Mr Jenkin MP,

Re. Parliamentary co-operation on scrutiny of intergovernmental relations

Thank you for your letter dated 26 October. This was considered by my Committee during its meeting today, along with correspondence of a similar nature from the Treasury Committee in the House of Commons, Constitution Committee in the House of Lords, Committee for Finance and Personnel in the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee in the National Assembly for Wales.

I am pleased to say that my Committee welcomed the positive spirit in which each of our counterparts listed above engaged with my initial letter to you all. We particularly noted your idea of an informal meeting of representatives of the various committees scrutinising constitutional affairs and intergovernmental relations in the UK legislatures. We agreed to pursue this and perhaps send a small number of representatives to such a meeting in the House of Commons in due course if you were able to host.

I would be pleased to suggest that the respective clerks to these committees liaise to find a mutually convenient date and to work on an agenda that would allow us to discuss shared interests and how we may maintain the new and more constructive means of working that you identify in your letter.

I am copying this letter to the chairs of the above-mentioned committees for their interests and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Bruce Crawford MSP

Convener

cc. Rt. Hon Andrew Tyrie MP

The Rt. Hon, the Lord Lang of Monkton, DL

Mr Daithí McKay MLA David Melding AM

Bruce Crawford.