

David T.C Davies MP  
Chair, Welsh Affairs Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

19 December 2015

Dear David

Thank you for your letter dated 16 November 2015. We agree that the concurrent meeting was successful. We would hope that our successor committee in the next Assembly would look to build on this approach, if the opportunity arises.

Both our Committee as a whole, and I, in my roles as Committee Chair and Deputy Presiding Officer would strongly welcome the opportunity for Westminster committees to have greater procedural freedom to meet jointly with Assembly committees.

We believe that our Standing Orders allow Assembly committees greater opportunities for joint working which benefit the public we serve. Increasing the opportunity for joint working will also help improve, more generally, inter-parliamentary cooperation between the two legislatures, a point which was the subject of recommendations 54 and 55 of Part II of the Silk Report, Empowerment and Responsibility: Legislative Powers to strengthen Wales. We would be interested to hear of the points you raise.



Additionally, as you are aware we published our report on the draft Wales Bill recently. I have enclosed a hard copy of the report for you. We look forward to reading your report on the draft Bill in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Melding". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

**David Melding**

**Chair**

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

