

Julie James MS
Minister for Climate Change

19 March 2024

Dear Julie

Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memoranda on the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Bill

We laid our [report](#) 14 March covering the Welsh Government's [Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Bill](#) (the Memorandum) and the [Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum \(Memorandum No. 2\) on the Bill](#) (Memorandum No. 2).

In the Memorandum, on financial implications you state:

79. This Bill makes significant provision in relation to the devolved Leasehold Valuation Tribunal, which will have an impact on its powers and case load. Work is ongoing to assess the potential impact on the tribunal and to understand what the financial implications of that impact will be.

80. The UK Government have prepared an Impact Assessment for the Bill which covers the wider implications of the Bill as a whole, including the impacts on Wales. I understand that this is due to be published shortly.

In Memorandum No. 2, you repeat paragraph 79 of the Memorandum at paragraph 55 and, in paragraph 56, you provide an update to what is set out in paragraph 80 of the Memorandum by providing a [link](#) to the UK Government's impact assessment, which covers the impacts on Wales.

You laid a [Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum \(Memorandum No. 3\) on the Bill](#) (Memorandum No. 3) on 4 March 2024. In Memorandum No. 3, at paragraph 56, you repeat that "Work is ongoing to assess the potential impact on the tribunal and to understand what the financial implications of that impact will be."

Please could you let us know:

- i. when you intend to publish your assessment of the potential impact of the Bill on the devolved Leasehold Valuation Tribunal, including the financial implications;
- ii. who assessed the Bill's impacts on Wales in order to provide information for inclusion in the UK Government's impact assessment and (if applicable) if you were consulted;
- iii. how the work being undertaken by the Welsh Government differs from the work undertaken on information for inclusion in the UK Government's impact assessment;
- iv. why the Welsh Government's assessment was not undertaken in time to be included in the UK Government's impact assessment, such that it is not currently available for scrutiny in the legislature where the Bill will be considered and subject to amendment.

I would be grateful to receive a response by 17 April 2024.

I am copying this letter to the Chairs of the Finance Committee and Local Government and Housing Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Huw Irranca-Davies

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Chair