

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ddiwylliant a Chyfiawnder
Cymdeithasol
Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Sarah Murphy MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru
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7th May 2024

Dear Sarah,

Further to the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee's report on the Legislative Consent Memorandum (LCM) on the Criminal Justice Bill published on 29 January 2024.

I would like to thank the Committee for their valuable scrutiny during this process.

I note your recommendation and conclusions and have responded to them below.

Recommendation 1. The Minister should explain why the Memorandum was laid nearly 11 weeks after the Bill's introduction.

The former Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip's letter to the Llywydd on 22 November, explored the circumstances surrounding the introduction of the Bill and the scale of analysis required which impacted the timing of the LCM. Information on the context surrounding the delay was also included in the LCM.

Conclusion 1. We consider that clauses 11 and 12 of the Bill, as set out in the Memorandum, fall within a purpose within the legislative competence of the Senedd, as described in Standing Order 29, and therefore require the consent of the Senedd.

Conclusion 2. We do not believe that clauses 30, 38 to 40, 42, 43, 46, 47, 51 to 53, 55, 56, 59 to 61, 63 to 65, 71, 72, and Schedule 8 of the Bill, as set out by the Welsh

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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.

Government in the Memorandum, contain relevant provision for the purposes of the purposes of Standing Order 29.1.

Conclusion 3. The Senedd's consent is not required for clauses 30, 38 to 40, 42, 43, 46, 47, 51 to 53, 55, 56, 59 to 61, 63 to 65, 71, 72 and Schedule 8 of the Bill.

I welcome the Committee's views on these clauses. The rationale for our position on which clauses engage the LCM process is set out in the LCM laid on 29 January.

Clauses making provision in respect of nuisance begging and nuisance rough sleeping

I welcome the Committee's decision to write to the UK Government on the begging and rough sleeping elements of the Bill, following the letter you received from charities which underlines the points the former Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip made in the LCM.

I am copying this letter to all Members of the Senedd and Jenny Rathbone MS, Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
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Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice**