

**Y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol
Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee**

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Dylan Hughes
First Legislative Counsel
Office of the Legislative Counsel
Cathays Park
Cardiff CF10 3NQ

26 March 2015

Dear Dylan

Inquiry: Making Laws in the Fourth Assembly

Thank you for giving evidence to us on 9 March 2015 in connection with the above inquiry.

Unfortunately, because of the constraints of time we were unable to ask you about your views on overview sections in Bills. The Welsh Government's evidence suggests that overview sections could replace the long title of a Bill and that amendments to such sections could be undertaken as printing changes. It would be helpful if you could answer the following questions:

- Please could you explain the pros and cons of such an approach, and the implications for the accessibility of legislation?
- What potential is there, if any, for confusion to be caused by having two kinds of legislative text?
- What scope is there to use overview sections to explain the way in which a Bill amends existing statutes?

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I would be grateful to receive your response as soon as possible and by no later than 16 April 2015.

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 that extends to the right.

David Melding AM
Chair