

[Welsh Universities]

June 2017

Dear

### **A stronger voice for Wales/Llais cryfach i Gymru**

I am writing as Chair of the **National Assembly for Wales's Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee**. You may be aware that the Committee is currently undertaking an **inquiry** into inter-institutional relations between Wales and the UK.

We launched our inquiry in December 2016 and set the following objectives:

- To produce best practice principles for inter-institutional working for constitutional legislation.
- To reflect and build on the work of other legislatures on inter-institutional working as it relates to broader policy areas.
- To seek, establish and promote opportunities for inter-parliamentary working, including promotion of citizen engagement.

Whilst our inquiry looks back at Wales's devolution journey, we are also examining how the National Assembly and the Welsh Government, now and in the future, can work with counterparts across the UK to further improve the lives of citizens across our country.

One of the emerging themes is that knowledge of devolution particularly amongst Whitehall civil servants can be poor.

It is important we address the challenge of changing mind-sets in Whitehall where that needs to happen. In considering how this could be best achieved we are interested in the role education can play. As such, I'd be grateful for your comments on:

- What work your University currently undertakes in relation to parliamentary studies?



- What broad role do you believe Welsh universities could play in helping to improve knowledge and understanding of Welsh devolution across the UK?
- What relationships you have with other UK universities and whether it would be feasible to use these relationships to help in promoting an understanding of Welsh devolution?
- Any other matter you think would be helpful in addressing this issue.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

*Huw Irranca-Davies*

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Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

