Dear Bernard

European Union (Withdrawal) Bill

Thank you for your letter dated 21 September 2017. I apologise for the delay in responding and I write as the new Chair of the National assembly's Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee.

It was with great interest that I read the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee’s report on inter-institutional relations in the UK. You may be aware that we currently have an ongoing inquiry into inter-institutional working. The inquiry entitled ‘A stronger voice for Wales: engaging with Westminster and the devolved institutions’ began in earnest in February 2017. We have completed the process of gathering evidence and are currently drafting the report with a view to publishing this in the New Year. I would be pleased to share this with you once it is available.

You will be interested to know that we received a response from Robin Walker MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Exiting the European Union to our letter to David Davis of 31 July, which set out the Committee’s initial response to the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill.

Robin Walker subsequently gave evidence, along with the Secretary of State for Wales, Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP to a meeting we held concurrently with the National Assembly for Wales, Y Pwyllgor Materion Cylamsoddidiadol a Deddfwriaeth.
Assembly's External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee on 6 November. The transcript for the meeting is available on our website.

I would very much like to take the opportunity to discuss with you matters around inter-institutional relations and the EU (Withdrawal) Bill and its implications for devolution. I am due to attend the inter-parliamentary forum on Brexit at the House of Lords on 18 January 2018, and wondered whether we could arrange to meet within the margins of that if possible.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Your sincerely,

Mick Antoniw
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.