

House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

23 March 2018

Dear Member of the House of Lords,

Amendment of clause 11 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill

On 19 February I wrote to you to explain the six objectives that the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee has to improve the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill.

The UK Government has recently proposed amendments to clause 11 of the Withdrawal Bill.

We appreciate the UK Government's willingness to propose a solution to the impasse we currently face on the treatment of devolved areas of competence once EU law restrictions are lifted from them.

From our perspective, whilst it is clear that positive progress has been made, the UK Government's amendments fall short of the six objectives we set for the improving the Withdrawal Bill.

In the context of the amendments, a key factor for us is the failure to acknowledge a role for the Assembly in the control of powers for which it is responsible. We believe that any regulations laid under an amended clause 11,

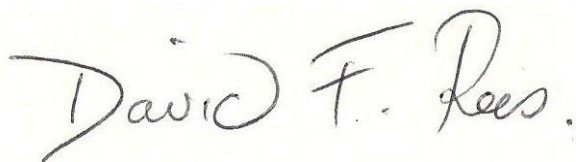


and any primary legislation utilised to establish frameworks in devolved areas, should be subject to the Assembly's legislative consent.

We note that the amendments were debated before being withdrawn or not moved in the House of Lords on 21 March 2017 and hope that further progress can be made in the coming weeks. We hope that you are able to support our position in forthcoming debates and divisions on the Withdrawal Bill.

Should you require any further information in relation to our position, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David F. Rees." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'R'.

David Rees AM, Chair of the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

