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Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Mick Antoniw AM  
Chair  
Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

18 February 2019

Dear Mick,

**The Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill**

Thank you for your letter dated 14 February 2019 regarding your consideration of the draft Memorandum of Understanding.

The draft MoU which has been shared with the Committee is subject to ongoing sensitive negotiations with the UK Government. The draft MoU has been shared to provide as much information as possible to Committee members at this time, as the timescales of the Healthcare (International Relations) Bill will limit the amount of time available for scrutiny of any supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum.

I believe the request not to publish the MoU at this point is in line with the Inter-Institutional relations agreement between the National Assembly for Wales and the Welsh Government which the Committee reported on recently. In particular, it falls within the scope of the statement that "The National Assembly also recognises and respects the need for confidential inter-governmental discussion between the administrations within the United Kingdom, for example, in situations where negotiations on particular issues are taking place".

When final agreement has been reached with the UK Government, the MoU will of course be shared with the Committee with the intention of publication. It is expected that negotiations will be concluded shortly.

Yours sincerely,

**Vaughan Gething AC/AM**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.