

John Griffiths AM
Chair, Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Our ref: PO765/EJ/BG

4 December 2019

Dear John,

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill.

At its meeting this week, the Business Committee considered your committee's response to the proposed timetable for the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill, as well as the alternative proposal that emerged after last week's Business Committee meeting for extending Stage 1 by having a shorter Stage 2.

Whilst Darren Millar, Rhun ap Iorwerth and Caroline Jones expressed support for your committee's position, the Trefnydd opposed any change to the proposed timetable.

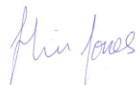
The three non-government Business Managers emphasised the importance of good evidence for good legislation and stated that in their view 12 weeks should be the minimum period for Stage 1, rather than a standard or maximum period, especially for such a substantial Bill.

The Trefnydd reiterated the government view that the timetable was already tight for implementation and that a full Stage 2 window was needed to allow tabling of amendments, including time to implement anticipated committee recommendations. Under the Business Committee weighted voting system there was a majority for the government's proposed timetable, which was therefore agreed.



In light of the issues raised by this Bill, the Business Committee agreed to look at timetabling the scrutiny of legislation as part of its preparations for the Sixth Assembly.

Yours

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elin Jones', is positioned below the word 'Yours'.

Elin Jones AM

Y Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee

