

The Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP
Secretary of State for Wales
1 Caspian Point
Caspian Way
Cardiff Bay
CF10 4DQ

30 June 2016

Dear Alun

Wales Bill – first day of Committee Stage - proposed amendments

I am writing to inform you of the draft amendments to the Wales Bill I have published today which seek to address the issues I raised in my letter of 21 June which are to be debated on the first day of committee stage next week.

In the wake of last week's Leave vote in the EU Referendum, it is crucial that Wales has a strong constitutional framework and that the Bill continues its passage through Parliament. I recognise however, that the shortened timetable for scrutiny of this important Bill will constrain the ability of the National Assembly and its Committees to engage in the process.

As I have said I welcome the progress that has been made in improving the Bill. The amendments I have published are intended to provide further clarity and to address important points of principle where I believe it is more appropriate for the Assembly to determine its own procedures and, most particularly, ensuring that the statutory legislative consent arrangements between the Assembly and Parliament are no narrower than the scope of the inter-governmental convention currently in place.

It would be a welcome step if you were able to bring these amendments before the House for debate on behalf of the UK Government. In any case, I will follow the debate with great interest. I look forward to meeting with you in the near future to discuss these matters and that we continue to work constructively

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



together. I welcome the continued work between our officials and the further insight that these discussions have brought.

In the interests of transparency I enclose a copy of the letter I have sent to all Welsh MPs today, together with the detail of these amendments.

Copies of this letter have been provided to the First Minister; leaders of the political groups in the Assembly and the Chair of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elin', is positioned above the typed name.

Elin Jones AM
Presiding Officer

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