

Julie James AM
Leader of the House and Chief Whip
Dafydd Elis-Thomas AM
Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport
Welsh Government

19 February 2018

Dear Julie and Dafydd,

Ofcom: Draft Memorandum of Understanding

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Welsh Government, the National Assembly for Wales and the Office of Communication (Ofcom). This was considered by the Public Accounts Committee on 12 February 2018, Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee on 14 February and Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee on 15 February.

The Committees noted that Welsh Ministers will lead on the appointment of the Welsh Ofcom Board Member. We believe that there is real merit in a pre-appointment hearing being held for this candidate by one of the Assembly Committees. While this hearing may not afford a power of veto, it is a vitally important appointment, and such a hearing will enable Members to endorse and support the appointment, or highlight any concerns which may need to be addressed. We believe it will bring transparency and accountability to the process.

As you are aware, the MoU commits to the Ofcom accounts being laid before the National Assembly for Wales. Each Committee supports this position and agreed that this should be considered as part of the annual account scrutiny work that takes place across the Assembly's Committees.

Yours sincerely,



Committee Chair

cc: Elin Jones AM, Llywydd



Committee Chair



Acting Committee Chair

