

John Griffiths MS
Chair of the Local Government and Housing Committee

11 January 2023

Legislative Consent Memoranda

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 9 December 2022 drawing the Business Committee's attention to the volume of Legislative Consent Memoranda (LCMs) that your Committee has received so far during the Sixth Senedd.

Business Committee considered the letter on 13 December and noted your concerns on the impact that the recent volume of LCMs has upon the work of committees in general.

The issue of the increased use of UK Bills and the legislative consent convention to legislate in devolved areas has been raised with us by other committees, as well as on the floor of the Senedd. I and other Members of the Business Committee agreed with the concerns expressed in your letter about the impact that the increased use of the LCM process during the Sixth Senedd to date is having on Senedd committees. We also agree that Senedd legislation, brought forward by Welsh Government, is preferable in several respects, not least because it allows for full scrutiny by the Senedd. We also note the short amount of time available for scrutiny of specific LCMs in recent times, and the impact that this also has on the amount of scrutiny that is possible.

At the same meeting that we considered your letter, we agreed to write to the Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd to raise concerns about the extremely

restrictive deadline available for the scrutiny of a specific LCM and will use that letter to stress to the Government the importance of ensuring that LCMs are brought forward in such a way that affords committees with sufficient time for scrutiny prior to the Senedd being asked to decide whether it wishes to provide consent.

I will enclose a copy of this letter to the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee who have previously raised similar concerns.

Kind regards,



The Rt Hon. Elin Jones MS

Y Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.