

Delyth Jewell MS

Chair, Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International
Relations Committee

18 January 2024

Dear Delyth,

UK/Belgium: Agreement on the Gainful Occupation of Certain Family Members of the Personnel of the Diplomatic Missions and Consular Posts

You will be aware that the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee is responsible for monitoring the implementation of non-trade international agreements in the Sixth Senedd.

During our meeting on 4 December 2023, we considered the UK/Belgium: Agreement on the Gainful Occupation of Certain Family Members of the Personnel of the Diplomatic Missions and Consular Posts. The aim of this agreement is to allow family members (spouses, partners or children) of those employed by the UK in diplomatic missions, consular posts or international organisations to undertake gainful occupation outside the mission in Belgium (and vice versa).

Although foreign affairs and employment policy within the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and the civil service are reserved matters, there are potential implications for the devolved governments. For example, we consider that this agreement could apply to Welsh Government's representatives who work within Welsh Government overseas offices that are afforded diplomatic status.

As the agreement may affect the Welsh Government's representatives in its Brussels office, we agreed to draw it to the attention of your Committee, for information.

Our latest report is available [here](#).



Yours sincerely,

Huw Irranca-Davies

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Chair

