

Jenny Rathbone MS
Chair, Equality and Social Justice Committee

26 January 2024

Dear Jenny,

UK/Rwanda: Agreement for the Provision of an Asylum Partnership to Strengthen Shared International Commitments on the Protection of Refugees and Migrants

As you are aware, 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 8 January 2024, we considered the UK/Rwanda: Agreement for the Provision of an Asylum Partnership to Strengthen Shared International Commitments on the Protection of Refugees and Migrants. This agreement provides for the creation, maintenance and enforcement of a UK-Rwanda partnership for dealing with individuals relocated from the United Kingdom to Rwanda, including considering and determining claims for refugee status.

As noted in our report, the Explanatory Memorandum details the domestic legislation that will be used to give legal effect to the agreement in the UK and confirmed the Prime Minister's intention to bring forward new legislation to confirm the safety of Rwanda as a safe third country. The *Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill* was subsequently introduced in the UK Parliament on 7 December 2023.

Although this agreement relates to reserved matters, we agreed to draw it, and the *Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill*, to the attention of your Committee, to highlight their potential implications on individuals living in Wales who are relocated to Rwanda.

Our latest report, which was laid on 16 January 2024, is available [here](#).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Huw Irranca-Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Huw Irranca-Davies

Chair

