Dear Rosemary

Publication of Welsh legislation: the Queen’s Printer

As you will be aware, I maintain a close interest in improving the accessibility of Welsh legislation both in terms of the quality of the legislation and how it is prioritised. This is of course an interest shared by many Assembly Members and I have recently been receiving a number of questions about the development of the legislation.gov.uk website, upon which Assembly Measures, Acts and Statutory Instruments are published.

Answering such questions can at times be difficult as I am conscious that I am not always the most appropriate person to deal with such matters, meaning that I have occasionally had to have research undertaken and answer questions after the event. In practice I have limited day to day input into what is being done to publish the laws governing citizens in Wales as this is done by the National Archive under an administrative arrangement.

Naturally I anticipate that I will continue to be asked questions about the publication of legislation as it is a very important matter of public interest, and I will be happy to respond. However, Assembly Members may be interested to hear direct from the Queen’s Printer of legislation (Carol Tullo) who has kindly offered to come to Cardiff to speak to Members. Carol has suggested that Members (perhaps the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee) may wish to understand more about the role of the National Archive in publishing legislation, what is being done to improve the legislation.gov.uk website and their plans for the future.

If this is of interest I trust I correctly assume that you will wish to make contact with Carol Tullo direct to make the relevant arrangements. My private office can provide the contact

Wedi’i argraffu ar bapur wedi’i ailgylchu (100%)

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details if necessary. I am copying this letter to David Melding, Chair of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee.

Theodore Huckle QC
Y Cwmsler Cyffredniol
Counsel General