

**SWYDDFA'R ARWEINYDD
OFFICE OF THE LEADER**

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM43103

Dyddiad / Date: 18 February 2020



Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088
www.caerdydd.gov.uk
County Hall
Cardiff,
CF10 4UW
Tel: (029) 2087 2087
www.cardiff.gov.uk

John Griffiths AM
Chair
Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA
Email: SeneddCommunities@assembly.wales

Annwyl / Dear Chair,

I was pleased to attend the meeting of the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee on 23 January 2020 to give evidence on the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill as part of the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) delegation. I can also confirm, from a Cardiff Council perspective, that the Council supports the WLGA's position on most aspects of the Bill.

Whilst the evidence session covered a lot of ground, I was surprised that we did not spend a lot of time discussing matters relating to the proposed Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs). As a result, primarily in my role as the Leader of Cardiff Council rather than as a WLGA representative, I took the opportunity to urge the Committee to also give consideration and due regard to the voting arrangements of CJCs, in particular, the implications of a 'one Authority, one vote' approach within a CJC given the differing sizes of Local Authorities and the potential diminution of the weight and size of an electorate of one Authority when compared to another.

I hope that the Committee will reflect on the future voting rights and arrangements of CJCs, which are not set out fully within Part 5 of the Bill at this stage. I would expect that these matters will become clearer when the regulations relating to CJCs are co-designed by the Welsh Government and WLGA to ensure that they deliver a regional model that works for local government.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely,

**CYNGHORYDD / COUNCILLOR HUW THOMAS
ARWEINYDD / LEADER
CYNGOR CAERDYDD / CARDIFF COUNCIL**

GWEITHIO DROS GAERDYDD, GWEITHIO DROSOCH CHI

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, Saesneg neu'n ddwyieithog. Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis, dim ond i chi roi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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