

Mike Hedges MS
Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

24 June 2024

The legislative consent process

Dear Mike,

Thank you for your letter dated 5 June outlining your Committee's further concerns and recommendations regarding Standing Order 29 and the legislative consent process. We discussed the letter at our meeting on 11 June and acknowledged the significant amount of work that your Committee has undertaken in this area during the current Senedd.

I have previously confirmed that the Business Committee's current work on legislative consent includes specific consideration of Standing Order 29.1 and the tests currently being applied by the Senedd, the Welsh Government and the UK Government when determining whether a Bill's provisions require the Senedd's consent.

We agreed to continue with our current work on Standing Order 29.1 given the opportunity it presents to potentially harmonise the understanding of whether a Bill's provisions require the Senedd's consent, and to do so in a shorter timescale than a full procedural review of the process would allow. It remains our intention to consider this matter prior to the summer recess.

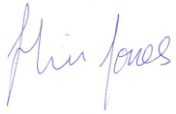
We are grateful to you for drawing our attention to your Committee's recent reports on the Renters (Reform) Bill and the Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 4) on the Data Protection and Digital Information (DPDI) Bill. We acknowledge that the issues raised in your recommendations highlight a potential need for a full review of the legislative consent process and Standing Order 29.

Given your Committee's expertise and detailed involvement in this area, as well as the need to engage with a range of stakeholders both inside of and external to the Senedd,

we consider that you would be well-placed to lead any detailed consideration of the way in which the legislative consent process and Standing Order 29 currently operate. It would then be the role of the Business Committee to consider and take forward any changes to Standing Orders which might be proposed as a result of that work. We agreed that I should respond to ask you to consider whether your Committee would have the capacity to undertake that work.

Thank you once again for your diligence and collaboration in considering these important matters.

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.