

Huw Irranca-Davies MS  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change  
and Rural Affairs

30 January 2025

Dear Huw,

**Legislative Consent Motion: The Water (Special Measures) Bill (21 January 2025)**

During the Senedd debate on the above motion, I raised two important points of principle that were relevant to the matter the Senedd was being asked to vote on.

I noted that the motion referred to clause numbers in the Bill. I therefore asked you to confirm which version of the Bill in the UK Parliament the clause numbers referred to, as some of the clause numbers referred to in the relevant legislative consent memoranda have changed as a result of amendments made to the Bill during the amending stages. The purpose of the request was therefore to obtain clarity about what the Senedd was specifically being asked to consent to and, in light of the vote to agree the motion, to understand clearly what it has now consented to.

I also noted that you would be laying a further supplementary legislative consent memorandum in relation to Report Stage amendments in the UK Parliament and sought an explanation on what that would mean in terms of the consent the Senedd was being asked to provide.

In closing the debate, you did not address these important points. As such, the Committee would be grateful to receive this information by 13 February 2025.

I am copying this letter to the Rt Hon Elin Jones MS, Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Hedges". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Mike Hedges

Chair