

Rebecca Evans AS/MS
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: RE-PO-60-25

Mike Hedges MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

14 February 2025

Dear Mike,

During my appearance at the Committee's evidence session on the Data (Use and Access) Bill on 3rd February 2025, I agreed to provide write to set out why Welsh Government has not sought consent in relation to the other provisions in Part 2 of the Bill on Digital Verification Services.

The Welsh Government has not sought consent in relation to the provisions in Part 2 of the Bill, with the exception of clauses 45, 47 and 49, as we consider the purpose of these provisions to be about the regulation of digital verification services. As such, these are reserved under the "regulation of the sale and supply of...services to consumers" (paragraph 72 of Schedule 7A to Government of Wales Act 2006).

At the evidence session, my officials also committed to provide feedback regarding the Scottish version of the National Underground Asset Register. We will provide this once we have met with the relevant officials in Scotland.

I hope this provides further clarity to the Committee. In relation to the wider Bill, I will provide further updates to the Senedd on the outcome of discussions with the UK Government when appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Evans AS/MS
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.