

**Jane Hutt AS/MS**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol, y  
Trefnydd a'r Prif Chwip  
Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref JH/PO/125/25

Elin Jones MS  
Llywydd  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

[Llywydd@senedd.wales](mailto:Llywydd@senedd.wales)

24 March 2025

Dear Llywydd,

The UK Government introduced the Crime and Policing Bill (CP Bill) to the House of Commons on 25 February. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of a delay in laying a Legislative Consent Memorandum in relation to this Bill. There are a number of reasons for this, which relate primarily to the complexity and length of the Bill.

This is a complex piece of legislation which cuts across a number of Welsh Government policy areas and Ministerial portfolios. The breadth of the CP Bill, which is made up of fifteen Parts and covers 332 pages in length, is demonstrated through the Bill's long title as follows:

*A Bill to make provision about anti-social behaviour, offensive weapons, offences against people (including sexual offences), property offences, the criminal exploitation of persons, sex offenders, stalking and public order; to make provision about powers of the police, the border force and other similar persons; to make provision about confiscation; to make provision about the police; to make provision about terrorism and national security, and about international agreements relating to crime; to make provision about the criminal liability of bodies; and for connected purposes.*

As you will be aware, the previous UK Government introduced the Criminal Justice Bill (CJ Bill), which fell following the dissolution of Parliament prior to the General Election. Although the majority of the CJ Bill concerned reserved matters, a Legislative Consent Memorandum was laid on the CJ Bill.

The Welsh Government were supportive of the policy intent of the majority of the Bill's provisions.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

[Gohebiaeth.Jane.Hutt@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Jane.Hutt@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Jane.Hutt@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Jane.Hutt@gov.wales)

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.

My officials received first sight of the draft CP Bill on 21 January 2025, with an updated version [Crime and Policing Bill](#) as introduced on 25 February 2025.

The UK Government have stated they will be seeking legislative consent from the Senedd on the following clauses:

- Clauses 1, 5, and 7 and Schedule 2 – Strengthening anti-social behaviour powers
- Clause 14 – Assault of a retail worker
- Clauses 74 - 75 – A broader offence of encouraging or assisting serious self-harm
- Clauses 127 - 129 – Implementation of international law enforcement information sharing agreements.

To date, our Legal Services have provided an analysis and have highlighted the following clauses also requiring consent from the Senedd:

- Clauses 2, 6, Schedule 1 (Amendments of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014) and Schedule 3 (Reviews of responses to complaints about anti-social behaviour)
- Clause 90 (War Memorials)
- Clauses 132 (Regulations) and 133 (Regulations made by the Scottish Ministers, a Northern Ireland department or the Welsh Ministers).

We are currently finalising an Legislative Consent Memorandum which we expect to lay before the Senedd shortly. This will be outside the normal two-week Standing Order 29 deadline due to the reasons outlined above.

I am copying this letter to the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery and the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Hutt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke above the first few letters.

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