

Eluned Morgan, First Minister

Via e-mail

16 April 2025

Dear Eluned,

### **Committee for the Scrutiny of the First Minister meeting**

Thank you for attending the Scrutiny of the First Minister Committee on 28 March 2025. It was a useful and informative session and the Committee appreciated the opportunity to explore the Welsh Government's work in the context of inter-Governmental relations and workings, as well as more topical issues.

There were some areas the Committee would welcome further information on following the session:

- The Committee would welcome further information on a potential Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum for provisions in the Data (Use and Access) Bill that relate to the National Underground Asset Register.
- The Committee would like further information on the reporting of inter-governmental meetings, and how the Welsh Government intends to speed up that process so that information is published as quickly as possible.
- The Committee would welcome:
  - A progress report on how the Welsh Government is pursuing the recommendations of the Independent Commission on the Constitutional Future of Wales; and
  - An update on any discussions the Welsh Government is having with the UK Government to agree a new memorandum of understanding on the Sewel Convention.
- During the course of the meeting, you indicated that you would provide information on whom it was you had spoken to in the Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street regarding the recent welfare reforms. I would be grateful if you could supply that information.

- In relation to the UK announcement on welfare reform, the Committee was disappointed that an impact assessment relating to Wales and the Welsh economy was not forthcoming. The Committee noted the reasons why details of UK-wide spending reviews are not shared with devolved Governments prior to any announcements being made. You stated in your evidence that you would make representations to the UK Treasury to publish impact assessments for Wales alongside future announcements, so that this information is available immediately, and the Committee would welcome an update on those discussions.
- What consideration and discussions have taken place in relation to re-introducing the Aggregate Levy Fund for Wales?

The summer term scrutiny session is scheduled to take place on Friday, 11 July 2025 and the theme is likely to focus on your first 12 months in office and the delivery of the Programme for Government and your four priorities in that time.

Yours sincerely



David Rees MS

Chair, Committee for the Scrutiny of the First Minister

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.