



Ein cyf/Our Ref: MA/RE/0967/25

Llyr Gruffydd MS  
Chair  
Climate Change, Environment & Infrastructure Committee  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay

01 May 2025

Dear Llyr,

Thank you for your letter in relation to the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee report on the Legislative Consent Memoranda for the Data (Use and Access) Bill laid on 19 March 2025.

I thank the members of the Committee for their report. I acknowledge the conclusion reached by the Committee in relation to Part 3 of the Bill on the National Underground Asset Register (NUAR) and welcome its endorsement of the Welsh Government's position on this matter.

I am pleased to confirm that as a result of positive discussions with the UK Government, amendments were tabled to clauses 56, 57(3), 57(4) and 57(9) in Part 3 of the Bill on 25 March 2025. As set out in Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum No.3 laid on the Bill on 3 April 2025, these amendments have provided necessary constitutional safeguards and will ensure devolved interests are protected in the development of further subordinate legislation surrounding the creation of the NUAR. As a result, I have recommended that the Senedd supports the Bill and gives its consent.

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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.

The Committee also requested reassurance that the WLGA has been consulted on the proposals and their potential impact in Wales. The WLGA has met with both the Welsh and UK Government to discuss NUAR and this engagement will continue on a regular basis as work progresses. In parallel, Local Authorities have been regularly engaged throughout the development of NUAR since the build phase began in 2021.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Evans". The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

**Rebecca Evans AS/MS**

Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio