

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

Mike Hedges MS, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

Mike.Hedges@senedd.wales

26 March 2026

Dear Mike,

Thank you for your letter dated 9 March 2026, in which you requested further information following the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee meeting on Monday 9 March 2026. At this meeting, you considered the Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 3) laid in relation to the Crime and Policing Bill on 3 March 2026. I have responded to the Committee questions below:

Memorandum No. 3 specifies provision contained in amendments tabled to the Bill which, at the time of writing, are yet to be agreed by the House of Lords. While we note that the House is sitting today to consider more amendments, we are cognisant of the possibility that amendments 466 and 468 referred to in the memorandum may not be considered and agreed in time for the consent debate. If it is the case that these amendments are not agreed in time, will you postpone the consent debate or schedule a further debate so that the Senedd's consent can be sought for all relevant provision in the Bill before it is passed in the UK Parliament?

You are correct that the amendments included in SLCM (No.3) at the time of laying, were yet to be agreed. Our rationale for inclusion, was that they are UK Government (UKG) amendments and we were therefore confident they would likely be agreed by the UK Parliament. I can now confirm these amendments have been agreed on 18 March 2026. The debate was rescheduled following the UKG advising us that amendments were to be tabled on 13 February and further amendments on 23 February 2026.

Rescheduling the debate ensured that these amendments could be included in the debate, giving the Senedd the opportunity to vote on them. This adjustment allowed committees to consider the further amendments brought forward late in the Bill's passage.

I was not able to move the debate back any further due to the Plenary timetable and the constraints of the pre-election period. While the time available for scrutiny has been limited,

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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.

I was keen to ensure that the Senedd had the opportunity to debate and vote on these provisions.

Holding the debate on 10 March 2026 allowed Members to vote on their legislative consent position, before the end of the Sixth Senedd. At the debate, I put on record that if further amendments are made to this Bill, I would ensure a further Supplementary Legislative Consent Memoranda is tabled, as required.

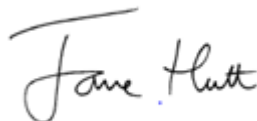
Memorandum No. 3 identifies amendment 335 as containing provision requiring consent. Please confirm if this should instead be a reference to amendment 334.

At the debate, I confirmed there were some typographical errors in SLCM (No.3) as you mentioned in your letter. Namely, that amendment 335 noted as containing provision requiring consent should instead be a reference to amendment 334.

Memorandum No. 3 identifies amendments 466 and 468 as containing provision requiring consent, which concern the extent and commencement of the new clause inserted by amendment 375. In this context, please confirm your reasons for not seeking consent in respect of provision within amendment 375.

In relation to the question regarding not seeking consent in respect of provision within amendment 375, at the debate I confirmed this was a drafting error and amendment 375 should have been included in SLCM (no.3).

Yours sincerely,

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

Jane Hutt AS/MS

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