

Llyr Gruffydd, Chair of the Climate Change, Environment  
and Infrastructure Committee

Paul Davies, Chair of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs  
Committee

John Griffiths, Chair of the Local Government and Housing  
Committee

23 July 2024

### **Committee remits**

Dear Llyr, Paul and John,

On 9 July, the Business Committee reviewed responses received from committees to its invitation to them to provide comments on current remits in light of changes to ministerial portfolios. This followed a request from the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure (CCEI) Committee that consideration be given to a reconfiguration of committee remits, which included suggestions for responsibility for several policy areas to be transferred to the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs (ETRA) Committee and the Local Government and Housing (LGH) Committee in line with existing links with Cabinet Secretaries.

To ensure it was able to consider a fuller range of options and views, Business Committee wrote to all policy committees, as well as the Finance, Petitions and Standards of Conduct Committees. The responses received indicate only a very limited appetite for changes to be made to current committee remits, including from the ETRA and LGH committees.

However, the ETRA Committee has indicated its willingness to assume responsibility for scrutiny of freeports and the circular economy. That Committee also proposed that it would be content to enter into arrangements with the CCEI Committee to ask questions around energy, digital connectivity, the airport and ports on CCEI's behalf

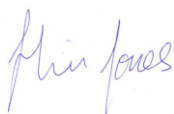
during budgetary and general ministerial scrutiny sessions with the relevant Cabinet Secretary.

Having considered the responses received, the Business Committee agreed with the proposal for scrutiny of freeports and the circular economy to be transferred from the CCEI Committee to the ETRA Committee. As these are subject areas beneath the broader policy areas contained within the remits that were agreed by the Senedd when it established the two committees in June 2021, Business Committee does not consider that a Plenary motion is required to give effect to this to this change of practice.

Given the additional suggestion made by the ETRA Committee, and conscious that committees have not had an opportunity to discuss these matters with each other, Business Committee also agreed at its meeting to propose that you may wish to meet as chairs of the respective committees to explore ways to enhance coordination in ministerial scrutiny across committees, particularly during budget scrutiny. Should these discussions result in a request for further formal changes to the remits of your respective committees, the Business Committee would be keen to consider your proposals.

Thank you for your consideration in addressing these important matters.

Kind regards,



**The Rt Hon. Elin Jones MS**

Y Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg | We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.