

Welsh Parliament
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

Sixth Senedd Legacy Report

March 2026



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Sixth Senedd Legacy Report

March 2026



About the Committee

The Committee was established on 26 May 2021. Its remit can be found at www.senedd.wales/SeneddLJC

Current Committee membership:



Committee Chair:
Mike Hedges MS
Welsh Labour



Alun Davies MS
Welsh Labour



Mark Isherwood MS
Welsh Conservatives



Adam Price MS
Plaid Cymru

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1. Introduction

- 1.** The Committee was established in June 2021¹ to carry out the functions of the responsible committee as set out in Standing Order 21 and Standing Order 26C and to consider any other matter relating to: legislation within or relating to the competence of the Senedd or the Welsh Ministers, including the quality of legislation, devolution, the constitution (including Wales's constitutional future), justice, and external affairs, including (but not restricted to) changes to the devolution settlement, and intergovernmental relations.
- 2.** The Sixth Senedd has been exceptionally busy for the Committee, with legislative scrutiny dominating its workload, as the infographic on page 7 shows. Regrettably, too much of this work has focused on the scrutiny of Bills introduced to the UK Parliament making provision that has regard to devolved matters, a necessary task but one that has limited our ability to undertake policy inquiries across the breadth of our remit.
- 3.** Early in the Sixth Senedd, in recognition of its wide remit, the Committee agreed to monitor key policy developments of relevance to its work via regular monitoring reports published on our website. These monitoring reports provide a valuable snapshot of events related to our remit as they have occurred and developed from 2021 to 2026. We hope stakeholders have found them useful and will continue to benefit from them as a historical record of notable developments throughout the Sixth Senedd. For ease of reference, they are listed at Annex 1 of this report.
- 4.** Alongside these reports, we have produced annual reports for the years 2021/22², 2022/23³, 2023/24⁴ and 2024/25⁵, providing analysis and commentary of the work we have undertaken.
- 5.** This legacy report, which we agreed at our final meeting on 23 March 2026⁶, focuses attention on key themes emerging from our work in the Sixth Senedd, and where appropriate, highlights suggestions (by means of conclusions) for work

¹ Following a resolution in [Plenary on 23 June 2021](#), the [Interim Subordinate Legislation Committee](#) (established by resolution in [Plenary on 26 May 2021](#)) became the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

² Legislation, Justice and Constitution (LJC) Committee, [Annual Report 2021/22](#), October 2022

³ LJC Committee, [Annual Report 2022/23](#), November 2023

⁴ LJC Committee, [Annual Report 2023/24](#), November 2024

⁵ LJC Committee, [Annual Report 2024/25](#), November 2025

⁶ LJC Committee, [23 March 2026](#)

that could be pursued by a successor committee or committees (and also the Business Committee in respect of procedural and Senedd business matters). The breadth of the suggestions reflects the breadth of the Committee's remit.

6. We raised the issue of our remit in our contribution to the Chairs' Forum's Review of Committee Effectiveness⁷, stating:

"As you will be aware, the Committee's remit is exceptionally wide. The consequence of this broad remit is that we do not think as currently constituted the approach works, because it is not possible to give due consideration to the policy areas that fall within the Committee's remit and at the same time properly fulfil our standing order obligations. The amount of documentation, legislation and associated papers considered by the Committee is vast and the volume of this work impacts upon the decisions that we have to take."

7. We also highlighted the impact of our remit on citizen engagement, stating:

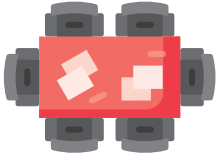
"We believe that the legislative workload of the Committee has impacted on our ability to engage with citizens. Constitutional issues are integral to understanding the functions of the Senedd, its purpose and how it operates. The greater the understanding of the Senedd, the more likely citizens are to have confidence in engaging with the Senedd and participating in the democratic process."

8. We reflect below the conclusion we drew in relation to our remit.

Conclusion 1. In the Seventh Senedd, we believe that there would be merit in considering a different approach to how matters within the current remit of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee are distributed, such that they are taken on by more than one Senedd committee in order to maximise the effectiveness of committee scrutiny, in particular when holding the Welsh Government to account.

⁷ [Letter to the Chairs' Forum](#), 15 October 2025

The Committee in the Sixth Senedd



HOW MANY FORMAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS WERE HELD?

168



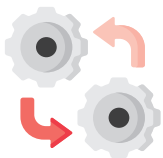
HOW MANY ITEMS OF SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION WERE CONSIDERED?

810



HOW MANY BILLS WERE CONSIDERED?

30



HOW MANY LEGISLATIVE CONSENT MEMORANDA WERE CONSIDERED?

167



HOW MANY NON-TRADE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS WERE CONSIDERED?

100



HOW MANY REPORTS (EXCLUDING REPORTS ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION) WERE PRODUCED?

210

2. Legislative scrutiny

Scrutiny of subordinate legislation

9. The Welsh Government has made, or will make, more than 800 items of subordinate legislation during the Sixth Senedd. Of those, 230 were subject to the affirmative or approval procedure; 398 were subject to the negative or annulment procedure; and 182 were either subject to other scrutiny procedures or were not subject to any scrutiny procedure.

10. As the responsible committee for the purposes of Standing Order 21, we must consider and report on all statutory instruments (SIs) or draft SIs that are required by any enactment to be laid before the Senedd. In doing so, we must consider the points set out in Standing Order 21.2, and may consider the points set out in Standing Order 21.3. We may also report on other subordinate legislation under Standing Order 21.7.

11. During the Sixth Senedd, we have reported on 686 SIs (see Figure 1 and Figure 2). Those reports contained over 2,250 reporting points, comprising around 1,500 technical reporting points under Standing Order 21.2, and around 775 merits scrutiny points under Standing Order 21.3.

Figure 1: Total number (and percentage) of statutory instruments reported on by the LJC Committee during the Sixth Senedd, broken down by Senedd scrutiny procedure.

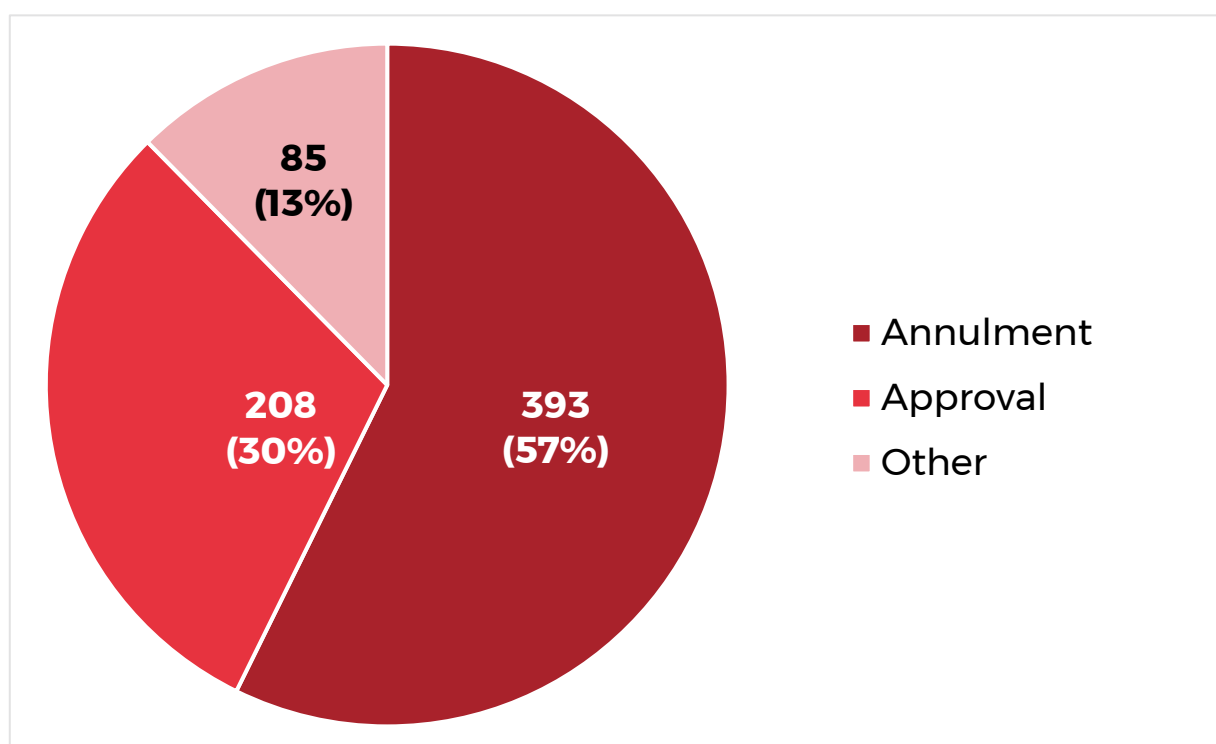
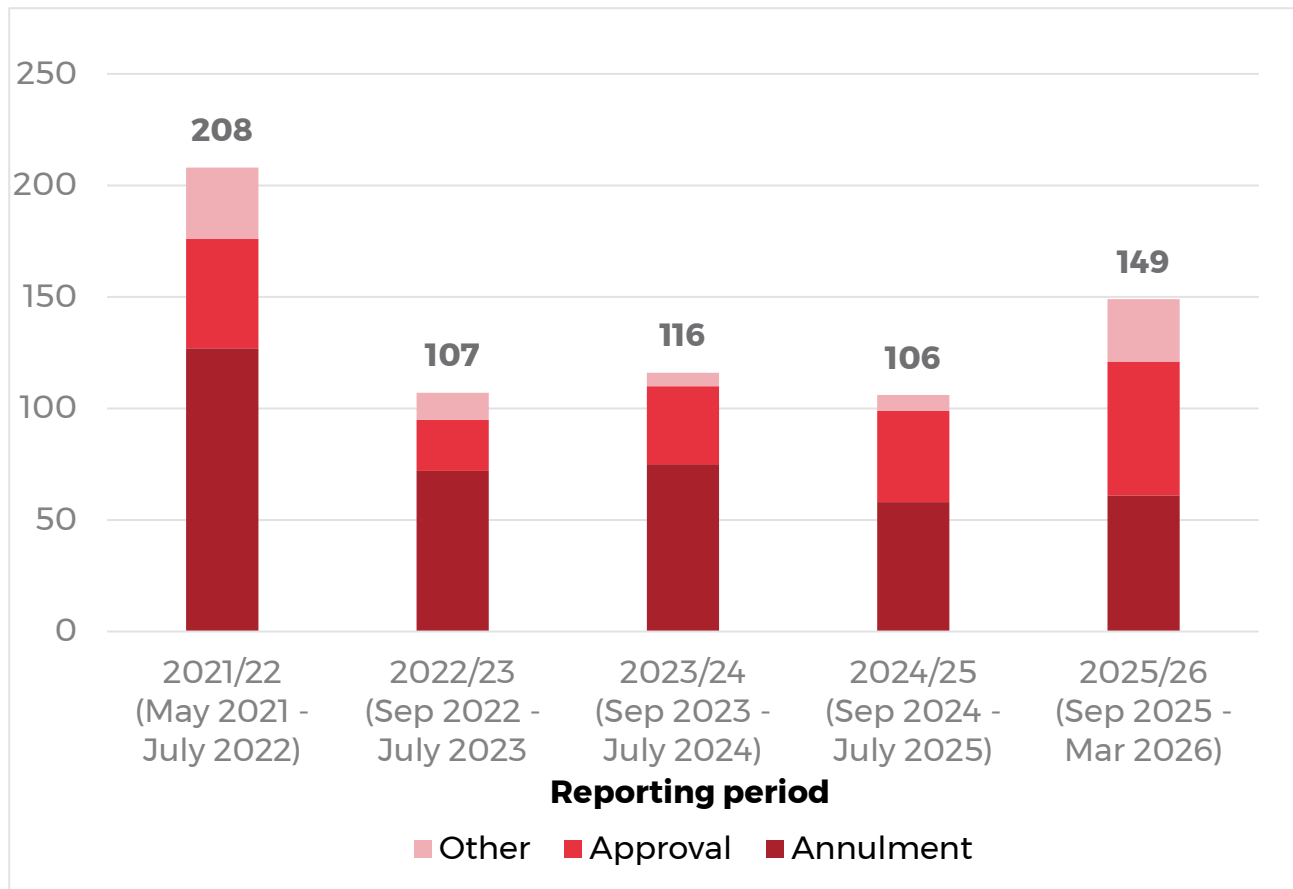


Figure 2: Number of statutory instruments reported on by the LJC Committee by Annual Reporting period, broken down by Senedd scrutiny procedure.



12. The Sixth Senedd marked a significant moment in the development of Welsh law. The *Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Act 2025*⁸ (the 2025 Act) received royal assent on 10 July 2025, with many of its key changes coming into force on 1 January 2026. Amongst other things, the 2025 Act defines a “Welsh statutory instrument”, changes the labels given to the scrutiny procedures attached to Welsh statutory instruments, and formalises the requirements for publishing Acts of Senedd Cymru and statutory instruments. We undertook scrutiny of the general principles of the then *Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Bill*⁹, and laid our report on 14 February 2025.¹⁰

13. A number of consequences of the 2025 Act have arisen for our work and will therefore be relevant to the work of a successor responsible committee for the purposes of Standing Order 21. For example:

⁸ *Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Act 2025*, (asc 3)

⁹ Senedd Cymru, *The Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Bill*

¹⁰ Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, *Report on the Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Bill*, February 2025

- The labels given to Senedd scrutiny procedures have changed. The affirmative procedure has become the Senedd approval procedure; the negative procedure has become the Senedd annulment procedure; and the made affirmative procedure has become the Senedd confirmation procedure.
- The ‘draft negative procedure’ will no longer be used in relation to any Welsh statutory instrument as defined in the 2025 Act (any references to the draft negative procedure in relation to Welsh statutory instruments contained in legislation enacted prior to 1 January 2026 are to be read as references to the Senedd annulment procedure for the purposes of Senedd scrutiny from 1 January 2026).
- All Welsh statutory instruments must be laid before the Senedd, including those that are not subject to any scrutiny procedure.
- Standing Order 21.2 places a reporting requirement on the responsible committee in relation to any SI that is laid before the Senedd. As a consequence of the third bullet point above, the responsible committee must now report on all Welsh statutory instruments. Prior to 1 January 2026, the responsible committee could, but did not have to, report on subordinate legislation that was not laid before the Senedd.
- The requirement to lay all Welsh statutory instruments has highlighted that some Standing Orders may require further¹¹ review (specifically Standing Order 21.7(iv)¹²).
- The process by which the Welsh Government notifies the Llywydd of subordinate legislation that comes into force prior to being laid before the Senedd has changed. This has an impact on how promptly the Llywydd is notified of such subordinate legislation during periods when

¹¹ Standing Orders were amended by the Senedd in light of the changes made by the 2025 Act following a review by the Business Committee, carried out in October 2025. See: Business Committee, [Amending Standing Orders: Changes resulting from the Legislation \(Procedure, Publication and Repeals\) \(Wales\) Act 2025](#), October 2025

¹² Commencement powers are usually not subject to any Senedd scrutiny procedure. Prior to the commencement of the 2025 Act, commencement orders were not required to be laid before the Senedd. Standing Order 21.7(iv) enabled the responsible committee to report on the exercise of those powers, should it wish to do so. However, from January 2026 commencement powers must be laid before the Senedd, and must therefore be reported on in line with Standing Order 21.2. Consequently, Standing Order 21.7(iv) is likely to only be relevant in a very narrow range of circumstances.

it is not possible for documents to be laid before the Senedd, such as dissolution periods.¹³

14. Section 42A of the *Legislation Act 2019*¹⁴, as inserted by the 2025 Act, places a duty on the Counsel General to carry out a review of the operation and effect of Parts 2A (procedure for making Welsh subordinate legislation) and 2B (publication etc. of Welsh legislation), to be carried out between January 2028 and January 2029. Section 42A(3) notes that the Llywydd, the Clerk of the Senedd and “any person the Counsel General considers appropriate” should be consulted as part of that review.

Conclusion 2. In light of our experiences responding to the changes made by the *Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Act 2025*, and our observations above regarding potentially unforeseen consequences of the 2025 Act for the work of the responsible Committee and the Senedd more widely, the responsible committee for the purposes of Standing Order 21 in the Seventh Senedd may wish to carry out a post-legislative review of the implementation of the 2025 Act, to feed into the review required under section 42A of the *Legislation Act 2019*, as inserted by the 2025 Act, or otherwise. Such a review could consider whether changes to legislation and/or to Standing Orders are required to ensure that there are no unintended impacts of the 2025 Act on the Senedd’s scrutiny of subordinate legislation.

15. At certain times during the Sixth Senedd, we have been concerned at the volume of errors and inconsistencies in subordinate legislation identified in our reports. We have written to the Welsh Government on various occasions to

¹³ Section 4(1) of the *Statutory Instruments Act 1946* (c. 36) required the Welsh Government to notify the Llywydd “forthwith” of any subordinate legislation that came into force prior to being laid before the Senedd. This applied irrespective of whether the Senedd was dissolved or in recess, and captured SIs subject to the made affirmative procedure and the negative procedure. Separate provision was made in section 11A of the 1946 Act that required the Welsh Government to notify the Llywydd, at the time of laying, of any subordinate legislation subject to the negative procedure that came into force less than 21 days after it was laid. As a consequence of the 2025 Act, the Welsh Government is no longer required to notify the Llywydd of subordinate legislation made subject to the Senedd confirmation procedure that comes into force prior to being laid. For subordinate legislation subject to the annulment procedure, the requirement is that the Welsh Government must notify the Llywydd, as soon as practicable after the instrument is laid, where it comes into force less than 21 days after laying. The requirement for the instrument to be laid means that notification will not be required during dissolution when it is not possible for an SI to be laid, the requirement will arise once the SI is laid when dissolution comes to an end. Effectively, this has removed the immediacy of the notification requirement under section 4(1) of the 1946 Act when an instrument came into force before being laid.

¹⁴ *Legislation Wales Act 2019*, (anaw 4)

highlight, and raise concern about, errors and inconsistencies in subordinate legislation brought before the Senedd, and how those errors are corrected:

- On 4 June 2024, we wrote to Julie James MS, the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery (the Counsel General), to seek clarity over the specific criteria the Welsh Government applies when deciding whether to correct errors in SIs prior to making or via correction slip.¹⁵ The Counsel General responded on 26 June.¹⁶
- On 10 November 2025, we wrote to Jayne Bryant MS, the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government, about a total of 87 reporting points we identified across three Codes.¹⁷ The Cabinet Secretary responded on 24 November.¹⁸
- On 26 January 2026, we wrote to the Rt Hon Eluned Morgan MS, the First Minister of Wales, to bring to her attention an excessive number of errors in the drafting of Welsh-language subordinate legislation.¹⁹ The Counsel General responded on behalf of the First Minister on 23 February.²⁰

16. In some instances, the Welsh Government has committed to correct errors in subordinate legislation that have been identified in our reports via further subordinate legislation. In January 2025, we agreed to monitor such commitments. We have considered updated analyses of outstanding corrections to be made by further SI, one per Senedd term, since January 2025. Following consideration of each analysis, we have written to the Welsh Government to share our conclusions and seek further information about certain matters.²¹ A final outturn analysis is set out as **Annex 2**.

Conclusion 3. In the Seventh Senedd, there may be merit in the responsible committee for the purposes of Standing Order 21 continuing to routinely monitor when and how the Welsh Government proposes new Welsh statutory instruments

¹⁵ [Letter to the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery](#), 4 June 2024

¹⁶ [Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery](#), 26 June 2024

¹⁷ [Letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government](#), 10 November 2025

¹⁸ [Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government](#), 24 November 2025

¹⁹ [Letter to the First Minister of Wales](#), 26 January 2026

²⁰ [Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery](#), 23 February 2026

²¹ Senedd Cymru, [Ongoing monitoring of statutory instruments considered by the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee](#)

to correct errors in statutory instruments that have been previously identified by the Committee in its reports to the Senedd.

17. Our predecessor Committee suggested that the Sixth Senedd may provide an opportunity for this Committee to review the approach to the scrutiny of subordinate legislation within the Senedd.²² Given the remit and workload of this Committee, that has not proved possible. However, we share our predecessor Committee's views that there would be merit in such a review. Our scrutiny of the Welsh Government's Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Bill covered issues related to the scrutiny of subordinate legislation and we believe any review should take account of our report on that Bill.²³

Conclusion 4. There would be merit in a successor committee with responsibility for Standing Order 21 undertaking a review of the approach to, and process for, the scrutiny of subordinate legislation within the Senedd.

Scrutiny of Bills

18. We have considered a total of 30 Bills, comprising of:

- 24 Government-introduced Public Bills;
- 3 Government-introduced Consolidation Bills; and
- 3 Member Bills.

19. We were the responsible committee for the consideration of Consolidation Bills²⁴, and considered the general principles of one Government-introduced Public Bill²⁵. Our approach in respect of other Bills was to consider matters relating to: the legislative competence of the Senedd; the need for legislation; the extent of the delegation of powers within the Bill and the Senedd procedure applied to the exercise of those powers; and other matters in relation to the quality of the Bill as a piece of legislation.

20. A feature of several of the Public Bills introduced by the Welsh Government during this Senedd – beginning with the Welsh Tax Acts etc. (Power to Modify)

²² LJC Committee, [Fifth Senedd Legacy Report](#), March 2021, paragraphs 103 and 104

²³ LJC Committee, [Report on the Legislation \(Procedure, Publication and Repeals\) \(Wales\) Bill](#), February 2025

²⁴ Standing Order 26C.12 requires the Business Committee, when proposing the remits of committees, to ensure that there is a committee with responsibility for the functions set out in Standing Order 26C.

²⁵ The Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Bill

Bill²⁶ – has been their framework nature. Such Bills take power away from the Senedd and give it to the Welsh Ministers, and their use does not constitute good legislative practice. Our scrutiny of the Welsh Tax Acts etc. (Power to Modify) Bill expressed concern that it included an extensive Henry VIII power to amend existing Senedd Acts on matters of taxation by regulations and led to the inclusion of review and sunset provisions related to the exercise of that regulation-making power.²⁷ The Welsh Ministers' review of the now Act concluded in February 2026²⁸. Subsequently, the Welsh Ministers made regulations on 18 March 2026²⁹, following the Senedd's approval of draft regulations on 17 March 2026³⁰, to amend the sunset provision to provide that the regulation-making power may continue in force for a further period up to the maximum date permitted, namely 30 April 2031.

Conclusion 5. We remain of the view that primary legislation should be used to amend the Welsh Tax Acts.

21. Professor Richard Whitaker, of the University of Leicester, conducted academic research on our behalf on the use of framework legislation in the Senedd and the other legislatures in the UK. His findings were stark: by May 2024, when he presented his findings to us, there had been a significantly higher proportion of framework legislation introduced in the Sixth Senedd (43 per cent of all Bills) compared to the Scottish Parliament (10 per cent) and the UK Parliament (9 per cent) during a similar period.³¹

22. Nevertheless, over the course of the Sixth Senedd we have seen a reduction of framework Bills introduced by the Welsh Government, and this is to be welcomed.

23. As a Committee, we have also expressed concern at Bills being rushed through the Senedd with limited justification for doing so. At the request of the Welsh Government, the Environmental Protection (Single-use Plastic Products) (Wales) Bill³² was not referred to a committee for scrutiny of its general principles,

²⁶ Senedd Cymru, [Welsh Tax Acts etc. \(Power to Modify\) Bill](#)

²⁷ LJC Committee, [Report on the Welsh Tax Acts etc. \(Power to Modify\) Bill](#), April 2022, recommendations 1 and 2; [Welsh Tax Acts etc. \(Power to Modify\) Act 2022](#) (asc 2), sections 6 and 7

²⁸ Welsh Government, [Welsh Ministers' Review of the Welsh Tax Acts etc. \(Power to Modify\) Act 2022](#), 13 February 2026

²⁹ [The Welsh Tax Acts etc. \(Power to Modify\) Act 2022 \(Extension of Expiry Date\) Regulations 2026](#)

³⁰ Plenary, [17 March 2026](#), RoP [192 to 213]

³¹ LJC Committee, 13 May 2024, [Paper 16 – Professor Richard Whitaker research paper](#)

³² [Environmental Protection \(Single-use Plastic Products\) \(Wales\) Act 2023](#), (asc 2)

on the basis that there was an urgent need to implement a ban on single-use plastic products in Wales, and because – at the time – the Welsh Government’s intention was to use the Bill as a test case in relation to its legal challenge to the *United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020*.³³

24. Curtailed scrutiny such as this can lead to unintended consequences and potentially to legislation that is not fully effective in delivering its full and intended policy objectives. In response to our concerns and those raised by other Committees, in April 2024 the Business Committee agreed decision-making criteria to guide future decisions on timetables for Bills when an expedited scrutiny period is requested.³⁴ The criteria were put to use by the Business Committee when it considered a timetable for the Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Bill, resulting in it rejecting the Welsh Government’s request for curtailed scrutiny, in favour of our request for a full scrutiny period for consideration of the Bill’s general principles.³⁵ We hope that the Business Committee of the next Senedd adopts similar criteria.

Conclusion 6. We support the Sixth Senedd’s Business Committee’s use of decision-making criteria when considering requests from the Welsh Government for Bills to be subject to expedited scrutiny, and believe there would be merit in such an approach being adopted by the Business Committee of the Seventh Senedd.

25. In May 2025, we provided a submission to the Business Committee’s review of the Public Bill and Member Bill processes.³⁶ In particular, we highlighted our belief that the Senedd’s Standing Orders should include a minimum period of 12 sitting weeks for Stage 1 scrutiny of all Bills, with a resolution of the Senedd required to reduce that period.

Conclusion 7. The Senedd’s Standing Orders should provide that a minimum period of 12 sitting weeks is afforded to a Committee to consider the general principles of a Bill at Stage 1.

26. The final Bills we considered in this Senedd were two Consolidation Bills – the Planning (Wales) Bill³⁷ and the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales)

³³ Business Committee, [Timetable for consideration: The Environmental Protection \(Single-use Plastic Products\) \(Wales\) Bill](#), October 2022

³⁴ Business Committee, [23 April 2024](#), Minutes, item 5.1

³⁵ Business Committee, [8 October 2024](#), Minutes, item 4.1

³⁶ Business Committee, Review of the Public Bill and Member Bill processes, [PBMB16 Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee](#)

³⁷ Senedd Cymru, [Planning \(Wales\) Bill](#)

Bill³⁸ – introduced in tandem in October 2025. This scrutiny followed on from our consideration of the first ever Consolidation Bill introduced into the Senedd, the Bill³⁹ which became the *Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023*.⁴⁰ Following our consideration of that Bill, we called for a full review of the Standing Orders underpinning the scrutiny of Consolidation Bills, but only after a second Consolidation Bill had been considered by the Senedd.⁴¹ We hope that the Business Committee of the next Senedd conducts such a review at the earliest available opportunity. This is particularly important as the Law Commission has, in February 2026, initially proposed a prospective code of agricultural law for Wales comprising of four Acts of the Senedd which would either consolidate or substantially reform primary legislation in this area.⁴²

Conclusion 8. In the Seventh Senedd, there would be merit in the Business Committee or a committee with responsibility for Senedd procedures reviewing the procedures for Consolidation Bills at the earliest available opportunity.

27. Our scrutiny has, in our view, led to improvements being made to Bills during their passage through the Senedd.

28. For example, we made a number of recommendations in relation to the Disused Mine and Quarry Tips (Wales) Bill⁴³, of which a significant number were accepted by the Welsh Government⁴⁴. The acceptance of these recommendations led to improvements to the Bill, including by placing a duty on the Disused Tips Authority for Wales to produce management plans for Category 1 and 2 disused tips.⁴⁵

29. By way of another example, our consideration of the Building Safety (Wales) Bill⁴⁶ similarly resulted in a Bill being improved significantly during its amending stages. The Welsh Government accepted, either in full or in part, all of the recommendations we made in relation to the Bill⁴⁷, which led to amendments being agreed by the Senedd to reflect the importance of consultation and

³⁸ Senedd Cymru, [Planning \(Consequential Provisions\) \(Wales\) Bill](#)

³⁹ Senedd Cymru, [Historic Environment Wales Bill](#)

⁴⁰ [Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act 2023](#) (asc 3)

⁴¹ At our request, the Business Committee conducted a limited review of the Consolidation Bill procedures in autumn 2023. It [reported](#) on its review in January 2024.

⁴² Law Commission, [Agricultural law in Wales: Scoping report](#), February 2026

⁴³ LJC Committee, [Report on the Disused Mine and Quarry Tips \(Wales\) Bill](#), April 2025

⁴⁴ [Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs](#), 24 April 2025

⁴⁵ [Disused Mine and Quarry Tips \(Wales\) Act 2025](#) (asc 4), section 57

⁴⁶ LJC Committee, [Report on the Building Safety \(Wales\) Bill](#), November 2025

⁴⁷ [Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government](#), 19 December 2025

engagement with residents, to limit the scope of the regulation-making powers delegated to the Welsh Ministers within the Bill, and to include a definition of when a mezzanine floor is to be regarded as a “storey” in respect of regulated buildings.⁴⁸

30. We note that in May 2025, the House of Lords Constitution Committee set out a summary of legislative standards which that Committee had noted in its scrutiny of legislation.⁴⁹ Among these standards is the importance of pre-legislative scrutiny, dissatisfaction with primary legislation which contains broad delegated powers, and the need for legislation that is free from ambiguity and uncertainty.⁵⁰ We believe there is merit in a successor committee taking the opportunity to set out the standards it wishes primary legislation to adhere to, to facilitate effective scrutiny.

Conclusion 9. A successor committee may wish to consider adopting a set of legislative standards it believes Bills introduced into the Senedd should normally adhere to.

Scrutiny of legislative consent memoranda

31. Our predecessor Committee’s legacy report noted that it had considered 48 legislative consent memoranda and supplementary legislative consent memoranda relating to 32 UK Bills, a significant increase compared to those considered by its predecessor Committee in the Fourth Assembly.⁵¹ The report expressed concern at the extent to which law that had regard to devolved areas was being made in the UK Parliament and concluded that the relevant Committee in the Sixth Senedd should monitor the situation and hold the Welsh Government to account for its actions.⁵²

⁴⁸ Senedd Cymru, [Building Safety \(Wales\) Bill, as passed](#), sections 119, 15, 17, and 6(5)

⁴⁹ House of Lords, [Legislative standards of the Constitution Committee: 2017-2024](#), 6 May 2025

⁵⁰ House of Lords, [Legislative standards of the Constitution Committee: 2017-2024](#), 6 May 2025, paragraphs 10, 29 and 79

⁵¹ Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Fifth Senedd Legacy Report, March 2021, paragraph 117

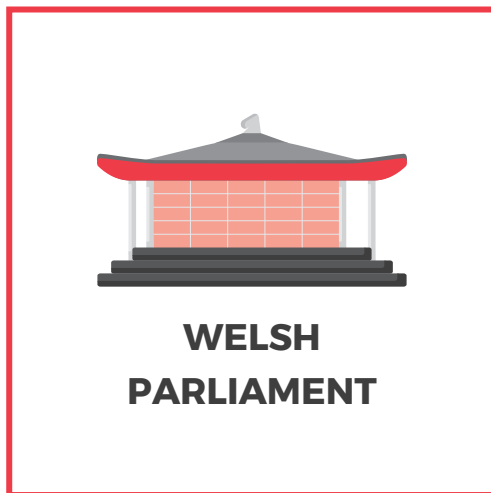
⁵² LJC Committee, Fifth Senedd Legacy Report, March 2021, paragraph 29 and conclusion 7. See also [Letter to Lesley Griffiths MS, then Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs](#), 23 March 2021

Legislative consent in the Sixth Senedd



76

BILLS MAKING PROVISION RELATING TO DEVOLVED MATTERS



LEGISLATIVE CONSENT MOTIONS

48

AGREED



12

REFUSED



3

PARTIALLY AGREED



1718

CONSENT SOUGHT FOR 1718 CLAUSES



127

COMMITTEE REPORTS ON LEGISLATIVE CONSENT MEMORANDA

32. Early in the Sixth Senedd, the Committee considered a legislative consent memorandum on the Environment Bill. The memorandum stated that “there are circumstances where it is sensible and advantageous to seek provisions in UK Parliament Bills which would be within the Senedd’s legislative competence, with the consent of the Senedd”⁵³. In a subsequent evidence session on the Bill, the then Minister for Climate Change, Julie James MS, told us:

“... if we only use Senedd legislation, we just wouldn't get everything done; it's just as simple as that, really.”⁵⁴

33. The first six months of the Committee’s work programme in the Sixth Senedd was dominated by the scrutiny of, and reporting on, legislative consent memoranda and supplementary memoranda in relation to UK Bills containing provision that has regard to devolved matters. This led a member of the Committee to hold a debate on these issues in December 2021.⁵⁵

34. As a result, throughout the Sixth Senedd, we have maintained a very close interest in the use of Bills introduced to the UK Parliament that have sought to make provision that have regard to devolved matters.

35. We have continued to report on a significant volume of these memoranda: of the 202 memoranda laid by the Welsh Government at the time of laying this report, we have reported on 167 of these, within 127 reports. These memoranda have been laid in respect of 76 Bills introduced to the UK Parliament.⁵⁶ **Figure 3** compares the number of UK Parliament Bills subject to the legislative consent process by Assembly/Senedd.⁵⁷

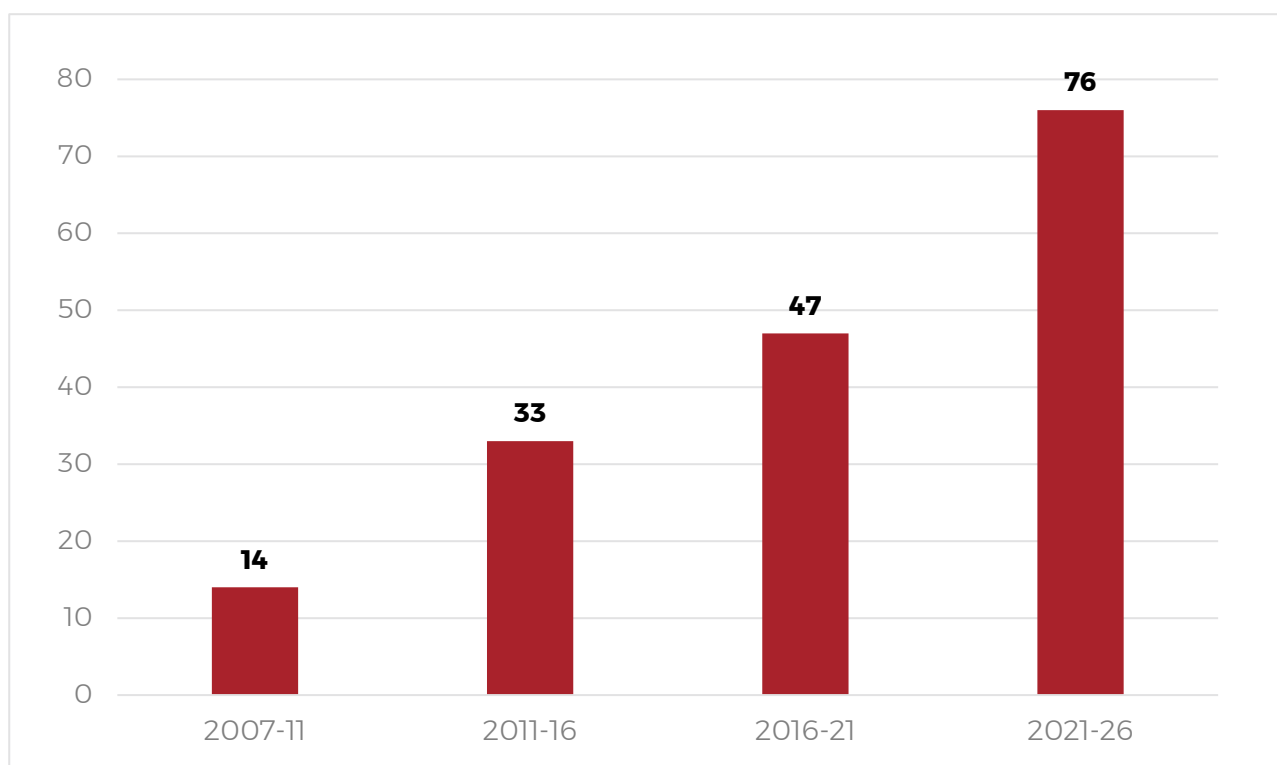
⁵³ Welsh Government, [Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Environment Bill](#), June 2021, paragraph 86

⁵⁴ LJC Committee, [12 July 2021](#), RoP [52]. See also LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government’s Legislative Consent Memoranda on the Environment Bill](#), September 2021, paragraphs 11 and 19

⁵⁵ Plenary, [Member Debate under Standing Order 11.21\(iv\): The legislative consent process. 15 December 2021](#), RoP [177 to 248]

⁵⁶ The Committee did not have time to report on the Welsh Government’s Legislative Consent Memorandum for the Representation of the People Bill, [laid](#) on 13 March 2026.

⁵⁷ Our predecessor Committees did not consider all legislative consent memoranda and supplementary legislative consent memoranda laid in the relevant Assembly/Senedd.

Figure 3: Number of UK Parliament Bills subject to the legislative consent process.

36. We have concluded that a democratic deficit has emerged in Wales in the Sixth Senedd as a result of the use of so many Bills introduced to the UK Parliament that have regard to devolved matters. Some of the reasons for reaching that view are as follows:

- Consultation may not have taken place with Welsh stakeholders either through a White Paper or a more general policy consultation. This is particularly the case where provisions having regard to a devolved matter piggyback or are bolted on to a Bill initially designed for England.
- When the Welsh Government prepares a Bill to be introduced to the Senedd, the Explanatory Memorandum will include information about a range of impact assessments undertaken during policy development (such as health, children’s rights, equality and the Welsh language), as well as a full costs and benefits analysis. This information aids scrutiny but is not provided in legislative consent memoranda in relation to Bills introduced to the UK Parliament that propose to legislate having regard to a devolved matter, sometimes quite extensively.
- Members of the Senedd do not have the opportunity to engage with stakeholders as they would during Stage 1 Bill scrutiny, to participate in a general principles debate, or to probe, challenge or seek to change

provisions by tabling amendments at Stage 2 and Stage 3 proceedings. The opportunities to influence law applying in Wales in a devolved area is therefore diminished.

- From our perspective, the time available to give detailed consideration to matters where we have a specific interest is limited; for example, as regards the regulation-making powers being delegated to the Welsh Ministers in a UK Government Bill for future use (their extent, how the Welsh Ministers intend to use them and how they could be used by future governments, and whether the level of detail on the face of the Bills is appropriate). While we could have made – and sometimes have made – recommendations for amendments to address these matters, this relies on the Welsh Government advocating for our recommendations with the UK Government.⁵⁸
- The Welsh Government in using a Bill introduced to the UK Parliament to legislate having regard to a devolved matter relinquishes the executive control it would expect to have for a Bill it introduces to the Senedd.⁵⁹
- A binary decision – yes or no – to the inclusion of potentially significant provisions in a UK Bill that have regard to devolved matters is not a substitute for the Senedd scrutiny we highlight above.

Conclusion 10. While there are some circumstances where using a UK Government Bill to make provision that has regard to devolved matters makes sense, the extensive use of such Bills has created a democratic deficit and denied Members of the Senedd, stakeholders and the public a voice in seeking to shape and influence law that impacts the daily lives of Welsh citizens.

Conclusion 11. We consider that, as a general principle, the way to achieve outcomes that are in the best interest of Wales is to legislate by means of a Bill introduced to the Senedd.

37. Our annual reports summarise our key concerns in respect of the use of specific Bills introduced to the UK Parliament; this included, but is not limited to,

⁵⁸ For a discussion of this point, see: LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memoranda on the Water \(Special Measures\) Bill](#), January 2025, paragraphs 103 to 106

⁵⁹ See, for example, LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government's Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum \(Memorandum No. 4\) on the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill](#), March 2026, paragraphs 29 to 30

UK Government Bills being used to make provision having regard to the devolved matters of renters' rights⁶⁰, mental health⁶¹ and water⁶².

38. We have also identified some practical concerns relating to the legislative consent process. These have included:

- transparency around intergovernmental relations⁶³;
- delays to the laying of legislative consent memoranda and supplementary memoranda⁶⁴, although we welcome Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers providing advance notice of delays and the reasons for them.⁶⁵

39. We have also expressed concerns⁶⁶ with the *Welsh Government's principles for UK Bills*⁶⁷ and their subsequent revision.⁶⁸ Our Annual Report 2024/25 provides a commentary of some of our most recent concerns, including the use of concurrent powers (regulation making powers that be exercised by both the Welsh Ministers and UK Ministers).⁶⁹ It concluded:

"It appears to the Committee, based on the evidence we have heard over this reporting period, that there do not appear to be any 'red lines' that would prevent the Welsh Government from using a UK Government Bill, excluding Members of the Senedd

⁶⁰ LJC Committee, [Reports on Legislative Consent Memoranda in respect of the Renters' Rights Bill](#), January and March 2025

⁶¹ LJC Committee, [Reports on Legislative Consent Memoranda in respect of the Mental Health Bill](#), April to October 2025

⁶² LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memoranda on the Water \(Special Measures\) Bill](#), January 2025

⁶³ See, for example, LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Absent Voting \(Elections in Scotland and Wales\) Bill](#), July 2025 and the debate on the legislative consent motion related to the Crime and Policy Bill, Plenary, [10 March 2026](#), RoP [263 to 270]

⁶⁴ For example, LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memoranda on the Energy Bill](#), September 2023 and LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Renters \(Reform\) Bill](#), May 2024

⁶⁵ For example, [Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning](#), 30 October 2024

⁶⁶ See commentary in our [Annual Reports](#)

⁶⁷ [Letter from Mick Antoniw MS, the then Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution](#), 22 October 2021

⁶⁸ [Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery](#), 4 December 2024; Welsh Government, Written Statement: [The Welsh Government's Principles on UK Legislation in devolved areas](#), 13 December 2024

⁶⁹ LJC Committee, Annual Report 2024/25, November 2025, paragraphs 37 to 39 and 88 to 94

from being able to perform their scrutiny duties as legislators, a role for which they are elected.

As a consequence of not being able to ascertain a situation in which the refreshed principles would prevent a UK Bill being used, it also therefore appears that the principles the Welsh Government has adopted are more of a tool to enable it to justify the use of a UK Government Bill to legislate in a devolved area.”⁷⁰

40. We have also questioned whether the reason for the Welsh Government’s use of so many Bills introduced to the UK Parliament to legislate, rather than its own Bills introduced to the Senedd, has been as a result of capacity issues within the Welsh Government civil service. We posed these questions to the then Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution, Mick Antoniw MS, and the Permanent Secretary to the Welsh Government, Dr Andrew Goodall CBE, on 10 October 2022⁷¹ and exchanged further correspondence after this evidence session.⁷²

41. Subsequently, in our report on the legislative consent memorandum on the Renters (Reform) Bill in May 2024, the Committee recommended that the Welsh Government undertake a comprehensive review of how it uses its resources, with a view to ensuring that it has the capacity to legislate fully by introducing Bills to the Senedd and to reduce its reliance on UK Bills.⁷³ In response to this recommendation, the then Cabinet Secretary for Housing, Local Government and Planning, Julie James MS, said that she does “not agree with the premise that Welsh Government have a reliance on UK Bills”.⁷⁴

42. In November 2024, the Welsh Government published its Consolidated Accounts for 2023-24 and referred to a review of the Welsh Government’s approach to developing legislation.⁷⁵ The review was discussed in Ministerial

⁷⁰ LJC Committee, Annual Report 2024/25, November 2025, paragraphs 93 to 94

⁷¹ LJC Committee, [10 October 2022](#), RoP [3 to 123]

⁷² [Letter to the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution, and the Permanent Secretary to the Welsh Government](#), 20 October 2022; [Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution, and the Permanent Secretary to the Welsh Government](#), 9 November 2022. See also LJC Committee, Annual Report 2022/23, November 2023, paragraphs 44 to 55.

⁷³ LJC Committee, The Welsh Government’s Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Renters (Reform) Bill, May 2024, recommendation 10

⁷⁴ [Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Housing, Local Government and Planning](#), 21 June 2024

⁷⁵ [Welsh Government Consolidated Accounts 2023-24](#)

evidence sessions on 9 December 2024⁷⁶ and 9 June 2025⁷⁷. Subsequently, the Chair of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee, Mark Isherwood MS, wrote to us highlighting a letter sent to that Committee by the Permanent Secretary, which provided information about the plans to improve the way the development and delivery of legislation is supported in the Welsh Government.⁷⁸

43. We have continued to raise concerns in reports⁷⁹ and Ministerial evidence sessions⁸⁰ about Welsh Government capacity being a factor in the use of Bills introduced to the UK Parliament to legislate having regard to a devolved matter. We have also challenged assertions about a Bill being introduced to the Senedd not being able to be delivered within the same timescales as if using a UK Government Bill introduced to the UK Parliament.⁸¹ We also note that issues of capacity have been raised with the First Minister by Chairs of Senedd committees.⁸² The Welsh Government's response to these concerns has been mixed; some responses appear to acknowledge matters of capacity, while some seem to suggest that capacity is not an issue, rather it is a matter of pragmatism.⁸³

44. During our scrutiny of legislative consent memoranda we have called on the Business Committee to review Standing Order 29.1 and more generally to undertake a full procedural review of Standing Order 29 to ensure it is fit for purpose.⁸⁴ This is because, in our view, consent is being sought for provisions having regard to devolved matters on a scale that may not have been envisaged when the Standing Order was originally drafted. While Standing Order 29.1 has been amended⁸⁵, it has not proved possible for there to be a full review of Standing Order 29.

⁷⁶ LJC Committee, [9 December 2024](#), RoP [27]

⁷⁷ LJC Committee, [9 June 2025](#), RoP [181 to 182]

⁷⁸ [Letter from Chair of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee](#), 12 March 2026

⁷⁹ For example, see our report on [The Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Renters' Rights Bill](#), January 2025

⁸⁰ LJC Committee, 9 December 2024, RoP [3 to 184]; LJC Committee, 9 June 2025, RoP [177 to 188]

⁸¹ See paragraphs 78 to 79 in LJC committee, Annual Report 2024/25, November 2024 about renters rights legislation and also, LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memoranda on the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill](#), September 2025, paragraphs 62 to 63 and recommendation 1

⁸² Scrutiny of the First Minister Committee, [28 March 2025](#), RoP [72 to 82]

⁸³ LJC Committee [21 October 2024](#), RoP [16]; LJC Committee, [4 November 2024](#), RoP [172]; LJC Committee, 9 December 2024, RoP [54]; Scrutiny of the First Minister Committee, 28 March 2025, RoP [82]; LJC Committee, 9 June 2025, RoP [183].

⁸⁴ [Letter to the Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee](#), 5 June 2024

⁸⁵ See discussion at paragraphs 62 to 64 in LJC Committee, Annual Report 2023/24, November 2024

Conclusion 12. In the Seventh Senedd, we believe that there would be merit in the Business Committee or a committee with responsibility for Senedd procedures undertaking a full review of Standing Order 29 to ensure it is fit for purpose.

45. Another issue of concern we have identified is the passing of Bills without consent during the wash-up period prior to dissolution of the UK Parliament.⁸⁶

46. At the end of this Senedd, we have also questioned the timing of legislative consent motion debates, because of concern that the Senedd could be asked to make a decision on consent without clarity on exactly which clauses Members are being asked to consent to.⁸⁷ On 10 March 2026, a legislative consent motion for the Crime and Policing Bill was not agreed.⁸⁸ It remains unclear how the Senedd's decision will be taken account of by the UK Government⁸⁹ and UK Parliament, particularly as the Welsh Government and UK Government disagreed over which clauses in the Bill required consent.⁹⁰

47. Our scrutiny of legislative consent memoranda has also highlighted a number of important and related constitutional issues.

48. For example, in May 2019 the Welsh Government announced⁹¹ its intention to implement a “package” of building safety reforms for Wales (a devolved matter) to be delivered through the UK Government’s Building Safety Bill to address the first workstream (the design and construction phase) followed subsequently by a Welsh Government Bill⁹² to address the second workstream (the occupation phase). The Welsh Government argued that “using UK legislation to achieve the Welsh Government’s objectives” was the most “effective” way to respond as quickly as possible to the 2017 Grenfell disaster.⁹³ However, Royal Assent on the Building Safety Bill was not granted until 28 April 2022, almost three years after the Welsh Government’s building safety reforms announcement. For the purposes of comparison, a Welsh Government Bill typically takes around 8 months from

⁸⁶ LJC Committee, Annual Report 2023/24, November 2024, paragraph 51

⁸⁷ LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government’s Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum \(Memorandum No. 3\) on the Terminally Ill Adults \(End of Life\) Bill](#), January 2026; [Letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip](#), 9 March 2026

⁸⁸ Plenary, [10 March 2026](#), RoP [342]

⁸⁹ Plenary, [18 March 2026](#), RoP [154 to 159]

⁹⁰ LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government’s Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Crime and Policing Bill](#), June 2025; LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government’s Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum \(Memorandum No. 2\) on the Crime and Policing Bill](#), November 2025

⁹¹ Plenary, [21 May 2019](#), RoP [330]

⁹² Senedd Cymru, [Building Safety \(Wales\) Bill](#)

⁹³ Local Government and Housing Committee, [17 November 2021](#), RoP [10]

introduction to receiving Royal Assent. We concluded that the Welsh Government's approach had adversely impacted on the accessibility of Welsh law by adding to the complexity of building safety legislation and constrained the scrutiny role of the Senedd, without offering any benefits in relation to the expediency of the Welsh Government's response to the 2017 Grenfell fire.⁹⁴

49. By way of another example, a member of this Committee, Adam Price MS, also raised concerns about the architecture of the devolution settlement in a debate on a legislative consent motion related to the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill.⁹⁵

50. We are also aware of a recent report by Glasgow University analysing two Supreme Court judgements which it is argued could potentially impact on devolved law-making in Scotland, and by inference in Wales.⁹⁶

51. Our predecessor Committee's legacy report highlighted the importance of seeking a shared understanding on the application of the Sewel Convention to which all executive and legislative arms of the UK can agree.⁹⁷ We note that the Welsh Government is working on a Memorandum of Understanding with the UK Government about the Convention. It sees the Memorandum of Understanding as "an important opportunity to help safeguard the effective operation of the Convention and to establish a stronger, enduring precedent for respect for devolved legislatures", and "remain keen to see an MoU agreed and published as soon as possible".⁹⁸

52. These issues highlight the complexity of the current devolution settlement and its impact on law-making. We believe there would be merit in undertaking a review of the impact of the devolution settlement on the ability of the Senedd to make law for Wales, which could also cover the application of the Sewel Convention.

Conclusion 13. There would be merit in a successor committee with responsibility for the constitution undertaking a review of the impact of the

⁹⁴ See: LJC Committee, [Reports on Legislative Consent Memoranda in respect of the Building Safety Bill](#), December 2021 and March 2025 and LJC Committee, [Report on the Building Safety \(Wales\) Bill](#), November 2025

⁹⁵ Plenary, [24 February 2026](#), RoP [600 to 606]

⁹⁶ University of Glasgow, Centre for Public Policy, [Conditioning Power: Devolved Law-Making after the Supreme Court's s.28\(7\) Rulings](#), 5 February 2026

⁹⁷ LJC Committee, Fifth Senedd Legacy Report, March 2021, paragraphs 30 to 34 and conclusion 8

⁹⁸ [Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs and the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery](#), 16 March 2026

devolution settlement on the ability of the Senedd to make law for Wales. Alternatively, this could be a task assigned by the Senedd to a special purpose Committee given its potential scale.

Accessibility and complexity of Welsh law

53. As required by the *Legislation (Wales) Act 2019*, at the beginning of this Senedd the Welsh Government set out for the first time its programme to improve the accessibility of Welsh law⁹⁹; a programme which was later revised in January 2024¹⁰⁰. We have considered the Welsh Government's annual reports on its programme as they are laid, and raised relevant matters arising from these reports with the Counsel General.

54. Our scrutiny of the Consolidation Bills on planning law highlighted the fact that, during the final year of the Senedd, the Welsh Government would review and revise the existing draft taxonomy of subjects (also described as a draft taxonomy for codes of Welsh law) so as to establish which enactments in devolved areas of law should belong to each tier of the taxonomy. We also highlighted that the Welsh Government would be working with The National Archives to provide additional functionality on legislation.gov.uk so that users may access Welsh law by subject.¹⁰¹

55. In response to our request for an update on the draft taxonomy of subjects in October 2025, the Counsel General said that updates on the Government's programme to improve the accessibility of Welsh law would be made in the next annual report – which we were told was due later in 2025.¹⁰² At the time of the Committee agreeing this report, we are not aware that the annual report has been published.

56. The Welsh Government has indicated it would like the Senedd's Standing Orders to be amended so that future changes to the law that form part of a code of Welsh law are made by amending or replacing the enactments rather than making different, 'stand-alone', provisions.¹⁰³ Our report on the Welsh

⁹⁹ Welsh Government, [The future of Welsh law: accessibility programme 2021 to 2026](#), September 2021

¹⁰⁰ Welsh Government, [The future of Welsh law: revised accessibility programme 2021 to 2026](#), January 2024

¹⁰¹ LJC Committee, [Report on the Planning \(Wales\) Bill and the Planning \(Consequential Provisions\) \(Wales\) Bill](#), November 2025, paragraph 260

¹⁰² [Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery](#), 10 October 2025

¹⁰³ As stated at paragraph 35 of the [Explanatory Memorandum to the Planning \(Wales\) Bill and the Planning \(Consequential Provisions\) \(Wales\) Bill](#) and at paragraph 3.13 of the [Explanatory](#)

Government's planning Consolidation Bills noted that the Business Committee had identified this matter as one for the Seventh Senedd to consider, because, at the time of its report in July 2025, no codes of Welsh law had been established.¹⁰⁴

57. The *Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023* however forms part of a code of law relating to the historic environment of Wales, and – if enacted – the Planning (Wales) Bill will form part of a code of Welsh law relating to planning. In addition, it is anticipated the Development of Tourism and Regulation of Visitor Accommodation (Wales) Bill, if enacted, will also form part of a code of Welsh law on tourism, alongside the *Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025*.

58. As we stated in our report on the Consolidation Bills on planning law¹⁰⁵, we believe that there is an increasingly urgent need for appropriate structures to be in place to support codes of Welsh law. In the absence of such structures, the status of codes of Welsh law may be diminished, and, as a result, we believe that there could be a regression in the broader accessibility of Welsh law. We also reiterated the view expressed in our report on the first Consolidation Bill¹⁰⁶ that Members of the Senedd, Senedd committees and the Senedd Commission should be consulted as part of any review of the Senedd's Standing Orders in respect of codes of Welsh law.¹⁰⁷

59. Given our view that further consideration is therefore needed on this issue, we believe there would be merit in any review of the Senedd's Standing Orders in respect of codes of Welsh law being informed by a full committee inquiry that can help provide clarity and transparency for all users of Welsh law about what codes are, how they will operate and be managed, and ultimately how they will fit into the future architecture of Welsh law.

Conclusion 14. Any changes to the Senedd's Standing Orders in respect of codes of Welsh law should be subject to widespread consultation and for that reason,

Memorandum to the Development of Tourism and Regulation of Visitor Accommodation (Wales) Bill.

¹⁰⁴ LJC Committee, Report on the Planning (Wales) Bill and the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill, November 2025, paragraph 257

¹⁰⁵ LJC Committee, Report on the Planning (Wales) Bill and the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill, November 2025, paragraph 279

¹⁰⁶ LJC Committee, Report on the Historic Environment (Wales) Bill, December 2022, Recommendation 13

¹⁰⁷ LJC Committee, Report on the Planning (Wales) Bill and the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill, November 2025, paragraph 280

we believe there would be merit in such changes being informed by a Senedd Committee inquiry.

60. We also took the opportunity in this Senedd to seek to address a long-standing issue which has also been faced by our predecessor committees: the fact that some statutory instruments are laid in the Senedd in English only.

61. During this Senedd, we have considered 32 statutory instruments which have been laid in the Senedd in English only¹⁰⁸, compared to 24 in the fifth Senedd, and 26 in the fourth Assembly. In light of this increasing number of instruments, we sought to ascertain which barriers prevent the laying of all statutory instruments before the Senedd in both Welsh and English. As noted in our annual report for 2023/24, the Welsh Government's explanation for laying certain statutory instruments in English only – namely, instruments that are made on a joint or composite basis with Ministers from other governments in the UK¹⁰⁹ – is that they are subject to UK Parliamentary scrutiny, and that no routine parliamentary procedures exist in Westminster for the laying of bilingual statutory instruments. As a result, the Welsh Government says the relevant instruments must be laid in the Senedd in English only.¹¹⁰

62. We corresponded widely on this matter, including with the House of Commons Procedure Committee, the House of Lords Procedure and Privileges Committee, the Welsh Government, and the Secretary of State for Wales, Jo Stevens MP. The outcome of this work was that we received clarity that the UK Parliament's procedures provide that bilingual statutory instruments may only be laid in the UK Parliament if the relevant enabling legislation requires it.¹¹¹ However, we are not aware of any statutory requirements that prescribe the language in which a statutory instrument must be laid, be that in English or in any other language; as a consequence this issue will return in the seventh Senedd.

63. As we were told by the Secretary of State in October 2024, it would be open – subject to agreement between the UK Government and the Welsh Government – for any new powers of this nature to specify that relevant statutory instruments

¹⁰⁸ Senedd Cymru, [Subordinate legislation made by the Welsh Ministers and UK Ministers acting together](#)

¹⁰⁹ During this Senedd, the majority of these instruments have made provision in respect of student loan repayments, using powers in the *Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998*, and in respect of greenhouse gas emissions, using powers in the *Climate Change Act 2008*.

¹¹⁰ LJC Committee, Annual Report 2023/24, paragraphs 79 to 83

¹¹¹ For copies of the relevant correspondence, see: LJC Committee, Annual Report 2023/24, November 2024, paragraphs 81 and 82 and LJC Committee, Annual Report 2024/25, November 2025, paragraphs 59 and 60.

made in exercise of those powers should be made bilingually.¹¹² We believe that this should be an important consideration for the successor committee during its scrutiny of any legislative consent memoranda laid for Bills introduced in the UK Parliament which enable the making of statutory instruments which must be laid for scrutiny in both the UK Parliament and the devolved legislatures.

¹¹² [Letter from the Secretary of State for Wales](#), 15 October 2024

3. Constitutional issues

Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement

64. The Inter-Institutional Agreement (IIRA) sets out the information that the Welsh Government will provide to the Senedd with regard to its participation in formal, ministerial-level inter-governmental meetings, agreements, concordats, and memoranda of understanding.¹¹³ On behalf of the Senedd, this Committee agreed the current IIRA with the Welsh Government on 1 November 2021.

65. In terms of formal intergovernmental relations, it sets out that the Welsh Government should, where possible, provide one month's notice of meetings. Notice should set out a proposed agenda and a broad outline of key issues to be discussed. This is to enable Senedd committees to express views on topics and, if appropriate, invite relevant Ministers to attend the committee in advance of the meeting.

66. For example, after receiving details of the items for discussion at the meeting of the Finance: Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee on 26 June 2025, we wrote to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language, Mark Drakeford MS to request information on discussions to be held at the meeting in respect of the financial assistance powers contained in the *United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020*.¹¹⁴ Following the meeting, the Cabinet Secretary informed us that he raised the matter and confirmed that the Chief Secretary to the Treasury was aware of the concerns of devolved nations on the issue.¹¹⁵

67. However, during the Sixth Senedd the Welsh Government has not provided one month's notice for the vast majority of formal meetings.

68. The IIRA also sets out that the Welsh Government should provide this Committee and other relevant committees with a written summary of the issues discussed at the meeting as soon as practicable and, as far as possible, within two weeks. Summaries should include:

- information confirming when the meeting took place;

¹¹³ LJC Committee, [Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement between Senedd Cymru and the Welsh Government](#), November 2021

¹¹⁴ [Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language](#), 5 June 2025; [Letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language](#), 13 June 2025

¹¹⁵ [Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language](#), 8 July 2025

- a list of meeting attendees;
- an indication of the key issues and of the content of discussions;
- an outline of the positions advanced by the Welsh Government; and
- any joint statement released after the meeting.

69. The Welsh Government has not provided a summary within two weeks for the majority of formal meetings during the Sixth Senedd. We have also commented on the significant variation in the length and quality of summaries provided.¹¹⁶ This has created challenges for the Committee in terms of maintaining oversight of intergovernmental relations and decision-making.

Conclusion 15. A successor committee may wish to continue with the existing Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement at the start of the Seventh Senedd on an interim basis before undertaking an inquiry into the Welsh Government's adherence to the IIRA in the Sixth Senedd.

Conclusion 16. The constitutional landscape in the UK has changed significantly since the Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement was last agreed. A successor committee may also wish to consider whether the IIRA's scope should be widened to reflect these changes and to include reporting requirements for:

- discussions within Common Frameworks, including discussions on exclusions from the *United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020* market access principles;
- key international milestones, such as new international agreements concluded by the Welsh Government.

Conclusion 17. Following the work suggested in conclusions 15 and 16, we believe that there would be merit in a new Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement between the Senedd and the Welsh Government being established.

Intergovernmental relations

70. The Committee's regular monitoring reports (see **Annex 1**) highlight specific activity that has taken place in relation to intergovernmental relations (IGR). Our

¹¹⁶ For example, LJC Committee, Annual Report 2024/25, November 2025, paragraph 103

reports on legislative consent memoranda have also addressed intergovernmental relations (see paragraph 38).

71. There have been significant developments relating to IGR during the Sixth Senedd but the relationship between the UK Government and the Welsh Government has remained mixed. In January 2022, the Intergovernmental Review established a three-tier system of IGR, including an independent secretariat and new dispute resolution process. Meetings have occurred at all levels of the Review tiers.¹¹⁷

72. In September 2024, the UK Government established a new intergovernmental forum, the Council of the Nations and Regions. Chaired by the Prime Minister, the Council brings together the heads of the devolved governments in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, and mayors from English regions. The Council was intended to meet biannually; however, it has only met on two occasions since its establishment: in October 2024 and May 2025.¹¹⁸ The highest tier of the structures established by the Review (the Prime Minister and Heads of Devolved Governments Council) meets on the same day as the new Council.

Conclusion 18. We would urge a successor committee to continue to monitor the state of relations between the Welsh and UK governments, as well as the use of formal intergovernmental structures.

Common frameworks

73. Common Frameworks are agreements between the UK and devolved governments on how to manage divergence in certain policy areas previously coordinated at EU level. The governments of the UK identified 32 policy areas where Frameworks are required, 26 of which involve the Welsh Government.

74. Senedd committees made over 100 recommendations in total on the Common Framework's agreements and the wider programme.¹¹⁹ Policy committees were responsible for scrutinising specific Frameworks within their remits, with this Committee taking on responsibility for overarching scrutiny of the Frameworks as a whole and their constitutional implications.

¹¹⁷ UK Government, [Review of intergovernmental relations](#), 2022

¹¹⁸ UK Government, [Council of the Nations and Regions: Terms of Reference](#), 17 October 2024

¹¹⁹ Senedd Cymru, [Common frameworks – Sixth Senedd](#)

- 75.** In May 2023, this Committee published a report on Common Frameworks with 21 recommendations.¹²⁰ Many of the recommendations focused on the need for transparency within the operation of Frameworks.
- 76.** The four governments of the UK have said that they would not be responding individually to recommendations made by the legislatures. Instead, they will review all recommendations made once all four legislatures have completed scrutiny. The governments will then negotiate, agree any changes, and respond to committees.
- 77.** At the time we agreed our report, only one Common Framework that relates to Wales had been finalised.¹²¹ Others operate on a provisional basis only. The Welsh Government confirmed that it expects seven Frameworks related to Wales (out of 26) to be finalised before dissolution.¹²² This means at the time we agreed our report, Committees who reported on Frameworks in 2022 and 2023 were yet to receive responses to their recommendations (*but see footnote¹²³*).
- 78.** It is not clear whether Common Frameworks provisionally in operation have been amended to reflect recommendations made or whether these have been ignored.
- 79.** There are examples of Common Frameworks being used to make key decisions between governments, such as decisions on exclusions to the *United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020* (see below), and yet there is little transparency to parliaments about their operation and the decisions taken within them. The four governments of the UK have committed to jointly report on the operation of the Frameworks but only once the Frameworks have been finalised and agreed. This creates a serious scrutiny gap for legislatures in the UK.
- 80.** It is critical that a successor committee continues to scrutinise progress made to finalise Common Frameworks and ensure the four governments improve the transparency about the operation of the Frameworks.

¹²⁰ LJC Committee, [Common Frameworks](#), May 2023

¹²¹ UK Government, [UK Common Frameworks](#).

¹²² LJC Committee, [2 March 2026](#), RoP [165]

¹²³ After the Committee agreed its report, on 24 March 2026, the Welsh Government published a [Written Statement: Publication of Common Frameworks](#) and wrote to the Committee with an [update](#) of the position, which included a response to the recommendations we made (text agreed with the Committee Chair).

Conclusion 19. A successor committee should continue to monitor progress on the delivery of the Common Frameworks programme including the transparency of decisions taken within them.

Operation of the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020

81. The *United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020*¹²⁴ (the 2020 Act) was introduced by the previous UK Government to regulate the UK’s ‘internal market’ after Brexit. Both the Senedd and the Scottish Parliament refused consent for the (then) Bill, but it was passed by the UK Parliament. Parts 1 to 3 of the 2020 Act establish ‘market access principles’ that provide the presumption that (in general) goods, services and professional qualifications that can be sold or recognised in one part of the UK should be able to be sold or recognised in any other part, regardless of what the law in that other part of the UK says.

82. The 2020 Act has been a key focus for our Committee during the Sixth Senedd. We worked closely with Professor Thomas Horsley of the University of Liverpool to improve understanding amongst Welsh stakeholders of the impact that the 2020 Act is having on devolved law-making.¹²⁵

83. Whilst the impact of the market access principles established by the 2020 Act have yet to be fully tested – mostly due to the granting of exclusions to the principles – we have identified concerns in relation to several pieces of Senedd and UK legislation.

84. We remain of the view that the 2020 Act is unnecessary and that Common Frameworks should act as the vehicle to manage policy divergence between the nations of the UK. However, we are pleased that the UK Government’s response to the review¹²⁶ of the 2020 Act in 2025 notes that Frameworks will be established as the “principal place” for intergovernmental policy discussion, moving the 2020 Act into the background.¹²⁷

85. Following the review of the 2020 Act, we welcome the Welsh Government’s improved transparency and engagement on the potential effects of the 2020

¹²⁴ [United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020](#) (c. 27)

¹²⁵ The Committee held a private session with Professor Horsley on [8 July 2024 \(Item 11\)](#)

¹²⁶ LJC Committee, [UK Internal Market Act 2020: review and consultation – Committee submission](#), 2 April 2025

¹²⁷ Department for Business & Trade, [UK Internal Market Act 2020 UK Government response to the Review of the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020 and Public Consultation](#) 15 July 2025

Act¹²⁸, including its consideration of the need for exclusions to the market access principles for both the deposit return scheme and the second phase of bans on single-use plastic products. This will help to ensure legal certainty for businesses and consumers. The Welsh Government's unwillingness to engage on the practical effect of the 2020 Act throughout most of this Senedd term was frustrating and limited the ability of stakeholders and citizens to understand the full impact of legislative proposals.

86. The UK Government's response to the review also includes commitments to improve the process for securing exclusions, such as implementing all exclusions agreed through a Common Framework and considering effects beyond economic impacts, including environmental protection and public health. These developments are welcome, but a successor committee will need to monitor how well they work in practice.

Conclusion 20. We would encourage a successor committee to monitor the implementation of the commitments made in the UK Government's response to the review of the *United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020*.

87. Throughout most of this Senedd term, the information provided by the Welsh Government on the potential impact of the 2020 Act on Senedd legislation has too often been inadequate. At the end of 2023, we recommended revisions to Standing Orders to ensure better information is provided to support the Senedd's scrutiny.¹²⁹ We are disappointed that these changes have yet to be made, and we believe this should be prioritised as part of the new Business Committee's work programme.

Conclusion 21. In the Seventh Senedd, we would encourage the Business Committee or a committee with responsibility for Senedd procedures to consider revisions to Standing Orders to improve the information provided to the Senedd to support its scrutiny of the impact of the *United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020* on Welsh legislation.

88. We also reiterate our concern regarding the financial assistance powers in Part 6 of the 2020 Act¹³⁰, which enable UK Government Ministers to fund activity in devolved areas without involvement from the Welsh Ministers or the Senedd.

¹²⁸ [Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery](#), 5 January 2026 (enclosing Review of the UK Internal Market Act 2020: the Welsh Government's response, April 2025)

¹²⁹ [Letter to the Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee](#), 22 December 2023

¹³⁰ See: LJC Committee, [UK Internal Market Act 2020: review and consultation - Committee submission](#), 2 April 2025

We believe these powers risk financial assistance being provided in a way that does not align with the priorities set by the Senedd and the Welsh Government.

89. We agree with our predecessor Committee in the Fifth Senedd that these powers represent an unnecessary and confusing intrusion on the ability of the Senedd and the Welsh Government to act on behalf of Wales's citizens. Committees in the Seventh Senedd should continue to push for the repeal of this Part of the 2020 Act, putting pressure on both the UK Government to act and the new Welsh Government to put a strong case forward in intergovernmental forums for why these powers should be removed from the statute book.

Conclusion 22. We would encourage committees in the Seventh Senedd to continue to push for the repeal of the financial assistance powers in Part 6 of the *United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020*.

Interparliamentary working

90. Throughout the Sixth Senedd the Committee has sought to strengthen existing relationships with other parliaments and parliamentarians in the UK. In particular, this has been with the aim of sharing knowledge on common policy matters within our remits, considering how best to hold the governments of the UK to account on the operation of intergovernmental relations and considering the impact of UK Government policy on the UK's constitution and relations with the EU.

91. The Committee has therefore:

- participated in meetings of the interparliamentary forum¹³¹, hosting a meeting in Cardiff on 28 October 2022;
- contributed to parliamentary inquiries in other jurisdictions¹³²;
- engaged with parliamentarians informally as part of engagement on EU related work, such as the UK-EU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly (PPA).

¹³¹ LJC Committee, [Interparliamentary forum](#)

¹³² For example, Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, Scottish Parliament, [Framework legislation and Henry VIII powers submission](#) and [oral evidence](#); House of Lords Constitution Committee, [The Governance of the Union: Consultation, Co-operation and Legislative Consent submission](#); House of Commons, Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee, [Devolution Capability in Whitehall submission](#)

92. A UK Government Bill is expected this year related to EU alignment (see paragraphs 101 to 103).¹³³ Once it receives its first reading in the UK Parliament, we believe this important piece of legislation should act as a catalyst to building even closer co-operation with parliamentary committees across the UK and developing productive relationships for mutual benefit, both in relation to the scrutiny of the Bill and more widely.

Conclusion 23. Interparliamentary working plays a small but invaluable part of the work of a committee with constitutional matters and external affairs as part of its remit. We would encourage any Committee with either subject in its remit, to play an active role in interparliamentary working and to participate in any future Interparliamentary Forum.

¹³³ [Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning](#), 18 February 2026; [Letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning](#), 6 February 2026

4. External affairs

International obligations

93. Throughout the Sixth Senedd, the Committee has been required to consider new aspects of the devolution settlement as it relates to international obligations. The most significant constitutional question arose during our consideration of the legislative consent memorandum on the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill, whereby the Senedd was asked to consent to the Bill which the UK Government acknowledged would breach international law.¹³⁴

94. The *Government of Wales Act 2006* is silent on this situation. As such, we developed a new position that we subsequently relied on in similar circumstances. This was that:

*“A decision by the Senedd to consent to the Bill could contribute to a breach of international law and would mean the Senedd acting incompatibly with international obligations, which would be in contrast to the spirit of the devolution settlement.”*¹³⁵

Conclusion 24. We urge the continued reliance on this position by successor committees, should the need arise in future.

International agreements

95. The Senedd remains the only devolved legislature in the UK to have a dedicated treaty scrutiny process in place. We have considered 100 non-trade international agreements, taking further action in respect of 33 and noting the others for information only.¹³⁶ As a result, we have developed a substantial body of experience and expertise in this area.

96. Alongside one of our predecessor committees, the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee, we have submitted a Senedd response to the

¹³⁴ Plenary, [22 November 2022](#), RoP [121 to 179]. See also our report on the Memorandum: LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government’s Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill](#), November 2022

¹³⁵ LJC Committee, [The Welsh Government’s Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill](#), November 2022, conclusion 7

¹³⁶ LJC Committee, [Lessons from 100 treaties](#), March 2026

last four consecutive treaty scrutiny inquiries at the UK Parliament, providing both oral and written evidence.¹³⁷

97. The devolved legislatures still do not have a formal role in the UK Parliament's treaty scrutiny process set out in the *Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010*¹³⁸. We remain of the view that improvements to treaty scrutiny in the UK are essential and long overdue. Our position, as regularly expressed in our reports and inquiry submissions, still stands.¹³⁹

98. We believe UK parliamentary scrutiny could only benefit from the devolved legislatures having a formal role, where our view is recognised and accommodated. This would also provide members of the UK Parliament with greater opportunity to incorporate important conclusions from a devolved perspective. Our report, *Lessons from 100 treaties*¹⁴⁰, considers these matters in greater detail.

Conclusion 25. We urge a successor committee to continue treaty scrutiny in the Seventh Senedd and to take forward the recommendations set out in our report, *Lessons from 100 treaties*, including calling for a formal role in the UK Parliament's treaty scrutiny.

UK-EU matters

99. This Committee has closely monitored developments related to UK-EU matters in this Senedd. We published a report on UK-EU governance in November 2023.¹⁴¹

100. In November 2025, the Committee participated in a cross-committee inquiry on the implementation review of the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement.¹⁴² We contributed important recommendations to the report, including on Wales having a greater say in UK-EU relations. We suggested improvements to how the UK's relationship to the EU is managed domestically, including calling for a new intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding on the role of devolved

¹³⁷ House of Lords European Union Committee, [Treaty scrutiny: working practices](#), 2020; House of Lords International Agreements Committee, [Working practices \(one year on\)](#), 2021; House of Commons Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee, [Scrutiny of International Treaties and other international agreements in the 21st century](#), 2024; House of Lords International Agreements Committee, [Treaty scrutiny in Westminster: Addressing the accountability gap](#), 2025

¹³⁸ [Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010](#), (c. 25)

¹³⁹ LJC Committee, *Lessons from 100 treaties*, March 2026

¹⁴⁰ LJC Committee, *Lessons from 100 treaties*, March 2026

¹⁴¹ LJC Committee, [Inquiry into UK-EU governance](#), November 2023

¹⁴² Senedd Cymru, [UK-EU implementation review of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement](#)

governments in UK-EU relations and stakeholder involvement. We also urged the UK and EU to make every effort to avoid compounding the complexity of post-Brexit arrangements and asked the Welsh Government what work it is undertaking to simplify its own advice and guidance.

Conclusion 26. A successor committee should keep recommendations from our report, Inquiry into UK-EU governance, under review in the Seventh Senedd to ensure Welsh interests are represented and have a seat at the table.

101. In February 2026, the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning, Rebecca Evans MS, notified the Committee of two important upcoming developments that we believe will require the urgent attention of a successor committee.¹⁴³ These are that:

- New UK-EU agreements are anticipated in the first half of 2026, including in devolved areas. Current negotiations are expected to result in agreements on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS), the linkage of UK and EU emissions trading systems and UK access to the EU’s single electricity market. These were key commitments in the UK-EU’s 2025 Common Understanding agreement.¹⁴⁴
- The UK Government plans to introduce a Bill which is intended to align the UK to the EU as per the commitments made in the Common Understanding agreement. No timetable has been confirmed but the Welsh Government believes the UK Government intends its passage to be completed by the end of 2026. No draft has been provided to the Welsh Government and discussions on the Bill’s powers “have only just begun”.¹⁴⁵

102. The Cabinet Secretary advised that the Welsh Government has “repeatedly” made the UK Government aware of the upcoming elections and “the challenges that dissolution of the Senedd will pose to the negotiations, and implementation, of the EU reset agreements”.¹⁴⁶

103. The Bill will likely have significant implications for Wales, and could require amendments to the *Government of Wales Act 2006*.

¹⁴³ [Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning](#), 18 February 2026

¹⁴⁴ European Commission, [A renewed agenda for European Union – United Kingdom cooperation Common Understanding](#), 19 May 2025

¹⁴⁵ Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning, 18 February 2026

¹⁴⁶ Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning, 18 February 2026

Conclusion 27. A successor committee should prioritise reviewing developments in the area of UK-EU obligations as soon as possible after its establishment.

104. Our UK-EU work has been enriched by engagement with stakeholders in the UK and the EU. Engaging directly with EU institutions and organisations in Brussels has proven invaluable to this work as it has allowed us to build an understanding of our common priorities and shared interests.

Conclusion 28. A successor committee should build on the relationships developed with EU institutions and organisations in the Sixth Senedd to ensure that its UK-EU work continues to be robust and influential.

5. Justice in Wales

105. As we have noted in our annual reports¹⁴⁷, the breadth of our Committee's remit and the requirements placed on us to consider other matters have been a significant barrier to considering matters relating to justice in Wales. Nevertheless, we have continued to conduct annual scrutiny of the Welsh Government's draft budget and held regular evidence sessions with key actors in this field, in particular, welcoming the Lady Chief Justice of England and Wales, the Rt Hon the Baroness Carr of Walton-on-the-Hill (the Lady Chief Justice) to give evidence to the Senedd for the first time.¹⁴⁸

106. Whilst we have been able to conduct some limited work on justice matters, we are of the view that in order for it to be given the full consideration it deserves, as we indicate in conclusion 1, the Seventh Senedd Business Committee should consider the breadth of the remit that this Committee has before deciding how to organise committees in the next Senedd.

Implementation of the Thomas Commission

107. A key theme we have returned to throughout our work on justice matters in the Sixth Senedd is the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission on Justice in Wales, chaired by former Lord Chief Justice Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd (the Thomas Commission), which published its final report in 2019.¹⁴⁹ Whilst many of the Commission's recommendations would require further devolution or engagement from the UK Government, there remain a significant number that are the responsibility of the Welsh Government within the current settlement.

108. Whilst this Committee has taken evidence from the Welsh and UK governments about the progress they are making on delivering the Thomas Commission's recommendations, there remains a lot of uncertainty about whether they have been achieved or not.

109. To inform the Committee's legacy work, Senedd Research commissioned Dr Robert Jones of Cardiff University to undertake a research project to assess the progress that has been made against each of the recommendations made by the

¹⁴⁷ See, for example, LJC Committee, Annual Report 2023/24, November 2024, paragraph 245

¹⁴⁸ LJC Committee, [2 February 2026](#), RoP [4 to 114]

¹⁴⁹ [The Commission on Justice in Wales report, Justice in Wales for the people of Wales](#), October 2019

Thomas Commission. In his report, Dr Jones found that only three of the 78 recommendations have been fully achieved, with a further 21 ‘partially achieved’. This leaves 54 of the 78 recommendations that have not been achieved in the six years since the Commission’s report was published.¹⁵⁰

110. In terms of the Welsh Government’s response, Dr Jones’s report notes that the Welsh Government has been active in the Welsh justice policy space since the publication of the Thomas Commission’s report, but it has not fully implemented any of the Commission’s recommendations that it is responsible for. Whilst recognising the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic and civil service capacity, Dr Jones states that the most compelling explanation for the lack of progress made by the Welsh Government is that its approach “lacked the necessary focus” from the outset of the Sixth Senedd.

111. We hope that Dr Jones’s report will provide the groundwork for a successor committee to undertake further work on the implementation of the Thomas Commission’s recommendations. Whilst Dr Jones’s conclusion that the many problems and challenges that informed the Commission’s recommendations are still relevant today is concerning, it does demonstrate that the solutions proposed by the Commission are still relevant to the ongoing debate about the justice system in Wales. However, a successor committee may wish to take further evidence about any additional challenges facing the justice system in Wales.

Conclusion 29. We would encourage a successor committee with responsibility for justice matters in the Seventh Senedd to consider Dr Robert Jones’s report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission on Justice in Wales. They may wish to consider conducting an inquiry to learn more about the current state of the justice system in Wales and how the new Welsh Government intends to respond to the Commission’s recommendations.

Scrutiny of Draft Budgets

112. Throughout this Senedd term, we have conducted annual scrutiny of the Welsh Government’s Draft Budgets in relation to planned expenditure in justice matters, as well as other areas within our Committee’s remit. This has included taking oral and written evidence from the Welsh Government and considering stakeholder input to the consultation held by the Finance Committee.

¹⁵⁰ Dr. Robert Jones, [Thomas Commission Research](#), February 2026

113. In our report and letter, respectively, on the Draft Budgets for 2025-26¹⁵¹ and 2026-27¹⁵², we outlined our disappointment that the information we received from the Welsh Government about its proposed spending on justice-related activity was less comprehensive than received in previous years. Whilst we recognise the difficulties in disaggregating this information, we noted the Welsh Government's long-term commitment to explore ways in which it can improve the level of information it provides to our Committee.

Conclusion 30. We would encourage a successor committee in the Seventh Senedd to continue to conduct this scrutiny, particularly if there is further devolution of powers in this area, and urge them to press the Welsh Government to improve the level of detail it provides on proposed expenditure on justice.

Devolution of justice

114. Throughout the Sixth Senedd, the full devolution of justice has been consistently advocated by the Welsh Government. It featured in the Co-operation Agreement with Plaid Cymru in 2021¹⁵³ and the Programme for Government 2021-26¹⁵⁴.

115. However, during this Senedd term we have not seen significant progress made by the Welsh Government towards achieving its aim. This is despite commitments made in the UK Labour manifesto for the 2024 general election to explore the devolution of probation and youth justice.

116. At our evidence session with Huw Irranca-Davies MS, the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, and the Counsel General, on 2 March 2026, we were told that a statement would be made on progress towards the devolution of probation and youth justice before the end of this Senedd term. At the time we agreed our report, that statement had not been made.

Conclusion 31. A successor committee with responsibility for justice matters in the Seventh Senedd may wish to hear from the new Welsh Government about whether it intends to continue the work towards the devolution of justice and to consider key milestones towards that objective to aid its scrutiny of progress.

¹⁵¹ LJC Committee, [Scrutiny of the Welsh Government's draft budget for 2025-26](#), February 2025

¹⁵² [Letter to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs and the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery](#), 12 December 2025

¹⁵³ [Welsh Government. The Co-operation Agreement: full policy programme](#), December 2021

¹⁵⁴ [Welsh Government. Programme for government 2021 to 2026: update](#), December 2021

The Welsh Tribunals

117. Whilst the majority of justice matters remain reserved to the UK Parliament, the Welsh Tribunals are devolved, covering areas such as mental health reviews, agricultural land and education. The Tribunals are overseen by the President of Welsh Tribunals, who is responsible for providing training and guidance to the members of the Welsh Tribunals, representing the views of members to the Welsh Ministers and the Senedd, and issuing directions of practice to the tribunals.

118. During this Senedd term, we have held an evidence session to scrutinise each of the President’s annual reports.¹⁵⁵ We are thankful to the former President Sir Wyn Williams and current President Sir Gary Hickinbottom for their constructive engagement with our Committee and for raising important issues with us as part of our scrutiny sessions.

119. In particular, we have noted the challenges that the members of the Welsh Tribunals face in accessing training support through the Judicial College and raised this issue with the Lady Chief Justice when she gave evidence to our Committee on 2 February 2026.¹⁵⁶

120. Following a report of the Law Commission in 2021¹⁵⁷, the Welsh Government has been proposing to bring forward legislation to reform the Welsh Tribunals. This would include creating the First-Tier Tribunal for Wales with chambers based on each jurisdiction and establishing an Appeal Tribunal for Wales. The Welsh Government published a white paper on its proposals¹⁵⁸ and committed to bring forward legislation in the Sixth Senedd.¹⁵⁹

121. We share the disappointment of the President of Welsh Tribunals that this legislation has not been introduced in this Senedd term. In his view, the reforms are “vital to the progress of an efficient and effective justice system in Wales”.¹⁶⁰ In correspondence on 16 March 2026, the Welsh Government has instead said it the intention is to produce a draft Bill ready for the next government to consider in the first year of the Seventh Senedd.¹⁶¹ In our view, one of the first actions for our

¹⁵⁵ LJC Committee, [1 November 2021](#), RoP; [13 March 2023](#), RoP; [14 October 2024](#), RoP; [8 December 2025](#), RoP

¹⁵⁶ LJC Committee, [2 February 2026](#), RoP [104]

¹⁵⁷ Law Commission, [Devolved tribunals in Wales](#)

¹⁵⁸ Welsh Government, [A new tribunal system for Wales: white paper](#), June 2023

¹⁵⁹ Plenary, [27 June 2023](#), RoP [122]

¹⁶⁰ [President of Welsh Tribunals Sixth Annual Report 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025](#), August 2025

¹⁶¹ Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs and the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, 16 March 2026

successor committee should be to ask the new Welsh Government for a timeline for the introduction and implementation of this much needed reform to the Welsh Tribunals.

Conclusion 32. We would encourage the committee with responsibility for justice matters in the Seventh Senedd to seek an update on the timeline for introducing a Bill to reform the Welsh Tribunals as a matter of urgency.

Scrutiny of specific justice matters

122. Whilst the majority of our work has been on cross-cutting structural and constitutional issues in relation to justice, there are a number of operational matters that we have taken a particular interest in.

Women’s Residential Centre

123. The Committee has long been interested in progress related to the proposed Women’s Residential Centre in Swansea. In May 2020, the previous UK Government announced that the first Residential Women’s Centre would be in Wales.¹⁶²

124. The purpose of the Centre is to provide an alternative destination for women handed a prison sentence of 12 months or less, with services such as one-to-one mental health support, counselling and support to overcome addiction. This approach is intended to address the underlying factors that drive women to commit low-level crimes.

125. It was announced in 2022 that the Centre would be opened in 2024, in Swansea, at a cost of £10m.¹⁶³ Planning permission for the site was secured in August 2023.¹⁶⁴

126. However, despite these announcements and the support of the Welsh Government for the Centre, there has still not been any progress made towards establishing the Centre. We wrote to the Counsel General in January 2026¹⁶⁵ to

¹⁶² Welsh Government, [Female offenders to get Residential Centre in Wales](#), 5 May 2020

¹⁶³ UK Government, [Location of first ground-breaking Residential Women’s Centre revealed](#), 20 May 2022

¹⁶⁴ House of Commons, [Written question for Ministry of Justice](#), 20 March 2024

¹⁶⁵ [Letter to the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery](#), 14 January 2026

seek a progress update on the Centre and raised it again in correspondence with the Welsh Government in March 2026.¹⁶⁶

127. In correspondence on 16 March 2026, the Welsh Government told us that although final decisions have not been taken by the UK Government to support the Centre, “officials continue to work closely with the UK Government to ensure the Centre remains a priority and is progressed as soon as possible”. The letter notes that the UK Government’s Prisons Minister, Lord Timpson, is “supportive of the Centre” and was “personally seeking to take this forward”.¹⁶⁷

Conclusion 33. If a decision has not yet been made, we would urge a successor committee in the Seventh Senedd with responsibility for justice matters to pursue this matter urgently with the new Welsh Government.

Cardiff Civil Justice Centre and the court estate

128. We have also raised concerns about the quality of the court estate in Wales, particularly in relation to the Cardiff Civil Justice Centre, which the Thomas Commission described as being “unfit for purpose” in 2019.¹⁶⁸

129. In June 2022, the then Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution, Mick Antoniw MS, described the “failure of the Ministry of Justice to improve court facilities in Wales, certainly the Cardiff Civil Justice Centre” as a “scandal” and that if it was a devolved matter, the Welsh Government would not be able to “get away with allowing that to happen”.¹⁶⁹

130. In December 2025, the Counsel General told the Senedd that she has been “working for some time with judges in Wales to improve the civil justice centre” and that it is “really not up to scratch at all”.¹⁷⁰ When discussing this matter with the Committee, the Counsel General also referred to a meeting she had had with the Lady Chief Justice.¹⁷¹

131. As previously noted, the Committee heard evidence from the Lady Chief Justice on 2 February 2026. During her opening remarks, she reiterated her

¹⁶⁶ [Letter to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs and the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery](#), 3 March 2026

¹⁶⁷ Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs and the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, 16 March 2026

¹⁶⁸ The Commission on Justice in Wales report, *Justice in Wales for the people of Wales*, October 2019, paragraph 8.14

¹⁶⁹ LJC Committee, [20 June 2022](#), RoP [168]

¹⁷⁰ Plenary, [9 December 2025](#), RoP [115]

¹⁷¹ LJC Committee, [9 June 2025](#), RoP [72]

commitment to pursuing a new Civil Justice Centre for Cardiff, describing the need for a replacement as “overwhelming”. She described a need for a “fit-for-purpose building bringing together civil, family, public law and tribunal work”.¹⁷² She added that “things have not changed” since the Thomas Commission’s comments in 2019 and that delivery of a new centre would require collaboration between the judiciary, His Majesty’s Courts and Tribunals Service, the Welsh Government, local authorities and the professions.¹⁷³

132. Subsequently, the Committee wrote to the Ministry of Justice¹⁷⁴ to highlight our concerns. We asked for further information on how the Ministry of Justice is engaging with the Welsh Government, His Majesty’s Courts and Tribunals Service, the Lady Chief Justice, the legal profession and other stakeholders to progress the urgent work required to resolve the issues facing Cardiff Civil Justice Centre.

133. The UK Government’s Minister for Courts and Legal Services, Sarah Sackman MP, responded on 17 March 2026 and acknowledged the strength of feeling and frustration amongst the legal profession about the pace of progress. She noted that His Majesty’s Courts and Tribunals Service was continuing to engage with the Welsh Government and Cardiff City Council to identify relocation options.¹⁷⁵

134. We also raised the issue with the Welsh Government¹⁷⁶ who told us that while it is not party to all discussions relating to the future of the Centre, it understands that “detailed work is underway to assess the financial and infrastructure feasibility of potential options”¹⁷⁷.

Conclusion 34. We would encourage a successor committee in the Seventh Senedd with responsibility for justice matters to visit the Cardiff Civil Justice Centre and to continue to push for investment to improve court facilities across Wales.

HMP Parc

135. In May 2024, we considered concerns raised by a member of our Committee, Adam Price MS¹⁷⁸, about an increase in the number of deaths at HMP Parc in

¹⁷² LJC Committee, 2 February 2026, RoP [10]

¹⁷³ LJC Committee, 2 February 2026, RoP [12]

¹⁷⁴ [Letter to the UK Government’s Minister for Courts and Legal Services](#), 9 February 2026

¹⁷⁵ [Letter from the UK Government’s Minister for Courts and Legal Services](#), 17 March 2026

¹⁷⁶ Letter to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs and the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, 3 March 2026

¹⁷⁷ Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs and the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, 16 March 2026

¹⁷⁸ [Letter from Adam Price MS](#), 8 May 2024

Bridgend. We agreed to closely monitor the situation at the prison and subsequently wrote to the then Chair of the House of Commons Welsh Affairs Committee, the Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, to express our deep concerns at the situation.

136. We visited the prison on two occasions, in December 2024 and June 2025, to explore the facilities and residential areas in the prison, and to hold detailed discussions with the prison management about the incidents in early 2024 and the actions that were taking place to address our concerns.

137. In April 2025, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons published the report of an unannounced inspection of HMP Parc in January 2025. The report noted a "serious deterioration in standards" since the last inspection in 2022, with a drop in all four healthy prison outcomes and all three priority concerns from the 2022 inspection remaining unaddressed.¹⁷⁹

138. We note the report published by the Inspectorate on 16 February 2026, which reviewed the progress made at HMP Parc since its inspection in January 2025.¹⁸⁰ Whilst it is welcome that some progress has been made towards reducing the ingress of illegal drugs into the prison, we remain concerned that there is "insufficient progress" in over half the concerns reviewed. In particular, we are concerned about the continued high rates of violence and self-harm in the prison, the limited progress made on access to work, education and training, and continuing issues with reducing reoffending and public protection.

139. A successor committee in the Seventh Senedd with responsibility for justice matters may wish to explore the situation at HMP Parc in further detail. We would suggest that the Committee work closely with the Welsh Affairs Select Committee in the House of Commons, particularly in light of that Committee's on-going inquiry into Prisons, Probation and Rehabilitation in Wales.¹⁸¹

Conclusion 35. We would encourage a successor committee in the Seventh Senedd with responsibility for justice matters to continue to monitor the situation at HMP Parc and to consider the work undertaken by the Welsh Affairs Select Committee in its inquiry into Prisons, Probation and Rehabilitation in Wales.

¹⁷⁹ HM Inspectorate of Prisons, [Report on an unannounced inspection of HMP Parc](#), 23 April 2025

¹⁸⁰ HM Inspectorate of Prisons, [Report on an independent review of progress at HMP Parc](#), 16 February 2026

¹⁸¹ House of Commons, [Welsh Affairs Committee: Prisons, Probation and Rehabilitation in Wales](#)

Annex 1: Monitoring Reports

At the start of the Sixth Senedd, the Committee agreed to monitor key policy developments related to its remit. The Committee considers these issues routinely and agrees actions that it wishes to take in response. Monitoring reports are published at regular intervals to keep stakeholders informed.

Monitoring Reports published in the Sixth Senedd

Monitoring Report - September 2021

Monitoring Report - November 2021

Monitoring Report - January 2022

Monitoring Report - May 2022

Monitoring Report - July 2022

Monitoring Report - September 2022

Monitoring Report - November 2022

Monitoring Report - January 2023

Monitoring Report - March 2023

Monitoring Report - June 2023

Monitoring Report - July 2023

Monitoring Report - January 2024

Monitoring Report - April 2024

Monitoring Report - September 2024

Monitoring Report - January 2025

Monitoring Report - May 2025

Monitoring Report - September 2025

Monitoring Report - January 2026

Annex 2: Subordinate legislation requiring correcting instruments as of March 2026

SL number	Laid	Title	Relevant reporting points and Welsh Government response	Responsible Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary/Minister
795	06/03/26	<u>The School Funding, Budget Statements and Outturn Statements (Wales) Regulations 2026</u>	<p>The Committee's report contains 3 technical scrutiny reporting points: one relating to an erroneous reference to enabling powers, a singular/plural drafting error, and an inconsistency between the meeting meaning of the Welsh and English texts.</p> <p>The Welsh Government has committed to consider amendments to address these issues prior to 1 February 2027, when the Regulations come into force.</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Education
790	05/03/26	<u>The Building etc. (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2026</u>	<p>The Committee's second reporting point notes that the term "(or sole designer)" appears twice in regulation 17A(2), but the defined term "sole or lead designer" should be used.</p> <p>The Welsh Government acknowledges the need for correction, and will do so "at the next available opportunity".</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

SL number	Laid	Title	Relevant reporting points and Welsh Government response	Responsible Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary/Minister
781	24/02/26	<u>The Representation of the People (Absent Voting and Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2026</u>	<p>The Committee's report contained 10 reporting points relating to unclear form/meaning, defective drafting, and inconsistencies between the English and Welsh text.</p> <p>The Welsh Government committed to making amendments to address the Committee's reporting points 1-6 and 8-19 as part of the "ongoing maintenance of the 2025 Order".</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government
778	19/02/26	<u>The National Health Service (General Dental Services Contracts and Patient Charges) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2026</u>	<p>The Committee's report contained 13 technical scrutiny points, relating to defective drafting, meaning or form that requires further explanation, and inconsistencies between the Welsh and English texts.</p> <p>The Welsh Government's response commits to considering the following points for amendment "when an appropriate opportunity arises": 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12.</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care
774	12/02/26	<u>The Deposit Scheme for Drinks Containers</u>	<p>The Committee's report contained 15 reporting points relating to unclear form/meaning, defective drafting, and inconsistencies between the English and Welsh text.</p>	Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate

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		<u>(Wales) Regulations 2026</u>	The Welsh Government committed to address the issues raised in reporting points 4, 7, 8, 14 and 15 “at the next available opportunity”.	Change and Rural Affairs
772	11/02/26	<u>The National Health Service (General Dental Services Contracts and Patient Charges) (Wales) Regulations 2026</u>	<p>The Committee’s report contained 73 technical reporting points, noting numerous typographical, grammatical, formatting and cross-referencing errors; defective drafting; undefined terms; and differences between the English and Welsh text.</p> <p>In its response, the Welsh Government committed to correcting the following scrutiny points at a future date: 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 42, 43, 46, 47, 48, 52, 53, 54, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, and 73.</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care
769	10/02/26	<u>The Welsh Language Standards (No. 10) Regulations 2026</u>	<p>The Committee’s second merits reporting point queried why the disapplication of the Welsh-language standards regime was extended to documents made available under the Freedom of Information Act, but not to documents obtained via the Environmental Information Regulations.</p> <p>In its response, the Welsh Government stated that it will consider whether there is a need “to bring forward</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language

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			legislation to amend all sets of Standards Regulations to determine that documents made available to the public as a result of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 should be exempted from the standards regime.”	
753	06/02/26	<u>The Infrastructure Consent (Correcting Errors and Applications to Change or Revoke Infrastructure Consent Orders) (Procedure) (Wales) Regulations 2026</u>	<p>The Committee’s technical scrutiny points 4 and 15 highlight inconsistencies in the meaning of the English and Welsh texts.</p> <p>The Welsh Government acknowledged the errors and have committed to considering amendments when the Regulations are next amended.</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning
742	02/02/26	<u>The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2026</u>	<p>The Committee’s technical scrutiny point 3 queries the definition of the term “the patient’s personal health record”. Technical scrutiny point 5 queries whether the “must” should be used rather than “will” to place a legal duty on the Local Health Board.</p> <p>The Welsh Government acknowledged these technical scrutiny points, and stated that amendments will be</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

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			considered for inclusion when the Regulations are next amended, which is anticipated to occur later in 2026.	
708	18/12/25	<u>The Building etc. (Amendment) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2025</u>	<p>The Committee’s report contained 23 technical and 1 merits scrutiny reporting points about a range of issues.</p> <p>The Welsh Government has committed to address technical scrutiny points 2, 4 and 7 when the 2010 Regulations are next amended.</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government
707	17/12/25	<u>The Building (Higher-Risk Buildings Procedures) (Wales) Regulations 2025</u>	<p>The Committee’s third technical reporting point highlighted an inconsistency in the Welsh text of the Regulations.</p> <p>The Welsh Government will consider the error highlighted in technical reporting point 3 when the Regulations are next amended.</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government
704	17/12/25	<u>The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme (Amendment) Order 2026</u>	<p>Technical reporting point 1 states that the Order aims to insert text in the first sentence of paragraph 5, after the phrase “for the relevant period”. However, this phrase does not appear in the first sentence of paragraph 5.</p> <p>The Welsh Government accepted the point, and is “working alongside the other Governments who form the UK Emissions Trading Scheme Authority to</p>	Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

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			determine the best option for addressing this issue, and aim to remedy the error at the earliest opportunity.”	
700	15/12/25	<u>Non-Party Campaigner Campaign Expenditure (Senedd Elections) Code of Practice 2025</u>	<p>The Committee identified a series of errors and inconsistencies in the Welsh text.</p> <p>The Welsh Government has acknowledged the reporting points, and accepts that there are some “minor inconsistencies”. These will be noted and address “at the next appropriate opportunity”.</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government
698	15/12/25	<u>The Individual Candidate Election Expenses (Senedd Elections) Code of Practice 2025</u>	<p>The Committee identified a series of errors and inconsistencies in the Welsh text.</p> <p>The Welsh Government has acknowledged the reporting points, and accepts that there are some “minor inconsistencies”. These will be noted and address “at the next appropriate opportunity”.</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government
681	21/11/25	<u>The Local Government (Standards Committees and Member Conduct)</u>	The Committee’s report highlights that the existing definition of “registered society” is missing from the Welsh text of paragraph 1(1) of the Schedule to the 2008 Order and also from paragraph 10(2)(a)(ix)(bb).	Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

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		<u>(Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2025</u>	The Welsh Government committed to review the definitions in the schedule as part of the ongoing work by Welsh Government in relation to the Local Government Ethical Standards Framework in Wales.	
674	06/11/25	<u>The Official Controls (Import of High-Risk Food and Feed of Non-Animal Origin) (Amendment of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793) (Wales) Regulations 2025</u>	<p>Technical reporting points 1, 2 & 3 relate to inconsistencies between the meaning of the English and Welsh texts.</p> <p>The Welsh Government acknowledged the error but considered it minor. It made enquiries with the SI Registrar as to the use of a correction slip to correct the error. If it cannot correct the error via this method, it will be considered for further amendment as part of the ongoing duty to review the lists set on a regular basis, not exceeding a period of 6 months.</p>	Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing
672	04/11/25	<u>The Basic Payment Scheme (Tapering, Payment Entitlements and Closure) (Wales) Regulations 2025</u>	<p>Technical reporting point 1 highlights that the Regulations reference an EU Regulation Article that has been repealed.</p> <p>The Welsh Government stated that it would not amend it at this stage but will do so when a suitable opportunity arises.</p>	Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

SL number	Laid	Title	Relevant reporting points and Welsh Government response	Responsible Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary/Minister
667	23/10/25	<u>The National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Amendment) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2025</u>	<p>Reporting point 2 notes that “In the new Schedule 1 to the 1997 Regulations, reference is made on two occasions to “the 2006 Act”. This term is not defined in either the Regulations or the 1997 Regulations.”</p> <p>In their response, the Welsh Government stated that “Schedule 1 to the 1997 Regulations is subject to annual amendments. Considering that opportunity we will look to make an amendment in this respect at that next opportunity.”</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care
609	31/03/25	<u>The Development Procedure (Consultees) (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2025</u>	<p>Reporting point 1 relates to defective drafting.</p> <p>In response, the Welsh Government stated that “This will be addressed in the next suitable legislative vehicle before the end of the year.”</p>	Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning
600	11/03/25	<u>The Agricultural Wages (Wales) Order 2025</u>	Reporting point 2 relates to the meaning of key terms in the Order.	Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate

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			The Welsh Government's response states "... we note your comments and will take them into account for the 2026 Order."	Change and Rural Affairs
457	20/02/24	<u>The Special Schools Residential Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2024</u>	Reporting point 3 relates to defective drafting. In response, the Welsh Government stated that "A small alteration to the wording may assist the reader, but this is not an urgent amendment required to the regulations and will be reviewed at the earliest opportunity to amend."	Minister for Children and Social Care ¹⁸²

¹⁸² Originally laid by the Deputy Minister for Social Services, but now falls under the remit of the Minister for Children and Social Care at the time of writing.