



Welsh Affairs Committee

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Rt Hon Damian Green MP
First Secretary of State and Minister for the Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London SW1A 2AS

6 November 2017

Dear Damian

As you will be aware, the Welsh Affairs Committee is currently conducting an inquiry into the impact of Brexit on the Welsh devolution settlement, its agricultural sector and its trading arrangements. The Committee has twice taken evidence from a panel of experts. We now wish to request some further clarification from the Government to inform our future work. There are three areas in which we would be grateful for information:

1. On the 24 October, the Secretary of State for Scotland, David Mundell, told colleagues on the Scottish Affairs Committee that the UK Government had completed analysis of the impact of exiting the European Union on Scotland, and that it had agreed to share this analysis with the Scottish Government. On 1 November, the House decided that Ministers should provide the Select Committee on Exiting the EU with the impact assessments referred to in the answer of 26 June 2017 to Question 239. The list of impact assessments did not, however, include an assessment of the impact on Wales. Could you reassure the Committee that the UK Government has indeed completed an impact assessment analysis of Brexit on Wales? If so, I would be grateful if this could be shared with my Committee.
2. I welcome the agreement on the general principles of common frameworks following the latest Joint Ministerial Committee (European Negotiations) between the UK and devolved governments. You have stated that there are 64 areas where powers returning from the EU intersect with the Welsh devolution settlement. Of these 64, which do you envisage being transferred immediately to the National Assembly for Wales? Which would need UK-wide agreement, by way of common frameworks?
3. The Committee would appreciate it if you could you provide further detail on the preparatory work being undertaken to establish a governance model for common frameworks. It would also be helpful to know the frequency with which you are planning to host subsequent JMC (EN) meetings to facilitate agreement on such frameworks.

As I'm sure you'll agree, it is important that the specific impact on, and opportunities for, Wales in exiting the European Union are fully understood, so that we can all make the appropriate preparation to ensure that Brexit is a success.

I would be grateful for a response by 22 November. We will publish this letter on the Committee's website, and the Committee may also wish to publish your response. I am copying this letter to the Secretaries of State for Wales and Exiting the EU.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D.T.C. Davies', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David T.C. Davies MP

Chair