

The Rt Hon Simon Hart MP, Secretary of State for Wales

18 September 2020

Dear Simon

### **UK Internal Market Bill**

I am writing to seek the UK Government's understanding of the application of the Sewel Convention to the UK Internal Market Bill.

Paragraphs 87-89 and Annex A of the Explanatory Notes to the UK Internal Market Bill provide that legislative consent is required for every Part of the Bill and that it has been sought. As such, we would expect that the UK Government would not seek to pass the Bill without the consent of the Senedd.

To inform our consideration of the Bill and our wider inquiry on Wales' changing constitution, we would be grateful if you could confirm whether you share this assessment and confirm that, if the Bill remains with the same intention as introduced, this position will not change.

We raise the latter point because of the evidence you gave to us on **9 March** when you thought that, in the context of the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill, "in this particular instance, 'not normal' emerged as the theme as it became more obvious that the LCM wouldn't get through this place, and indeed through the Scottish Parliament."



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If you do not share our assessment, we would be grateful if you could tell us when and on what basis the UK Government will be able to advise whether the Bill, for the purpose of the Sewel convention, is “normal” or not.

Yours sincerely,



**Mick Antoniw MS**

Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

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

cc.

Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

David Rees MS, External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee, Senedd Cymru

Bruce Crawford MSP, Finance and Constitution Committee, Scottish Parliament

Colin McGrath MLA, Committee for the Executive Office, Northern Ireland Assembly

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, Welsh Affairs Committee, House of Commons

William Wragg MP, Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee, House of Commons

Rt Hon the Baroness Taylor of Bolton, Constitution Committee, House of Lords

