



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Rt. Hon Michael Gove MP,
Secretary of State and Minister for
Intergovernmental Relations

The Scottish Parliament
EDINBURGH
EH99 1SP

By email

CEEAC.Committee@parliament.scot

7th November 2023

Dear Secretary of State,

Common Frameworks Reporting

The Interparliamentary Forum held its fourth meeting in the Scottish Parliament on 27th October and we agreed the statement published here: [aaa.pdf \(parliament.scot\)](#)

We discussed on-going challenges of intergovernmental relations including operation of the UK Internal Market Act, and the scrutiny of intergovernmental working. We noted the increased need for effective intergovernmental working in managing the regulatory environment across the UK outside of the EU continues to raise substantial challenges in reaching agreement between the governments of the UK

We further note that while there has been some progress in addressing these challenges through increased transparency in the reporting of intergovernmental activity, there remain a number of scrutiny gaps. Across each of our legislatures, concerns have been raised in relation to the transparency and future scrutiny of Common Frameworks.

We recognise there is an existing intergovernmental agreement to provide an annual report for each Framework once these have been fully implemented. However, only one Framework has been fully agreed and there has been no reporting on the operation of the other Frameworks.

We agreed to write to you (cc'd to the Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture and the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution) requesting that annual reports be provided on provisional Frameworks in addition to those fully agreed.

We would welcome a response by 1 February 2024 which we will consider at the next meeting of the Forum.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clare Adamson". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'C' being particularly large and stylized.

Clare Adamson MSP, Convener of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee