

Mick Antoniw AS/MS

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol a Gweinidog y Cyfansoddiad
Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Affairs
and Minister for Women and Equalities
Government Equalities Office
Sanctuary Buildings
16-20 Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

01 November 2021

Dear Elizabeth

Recently I answered an oral question in plenary in Senedd Cymru relating to the legal recognition of humanist weddings. In light of my response, I am writing to you to express the Welsh Government's support of law reform and to urge you to introduce law allowing for non-religious weddings in England and Wales as soon as possible.

Secular weddings, such as those conducted by humanist celebrants have been recognised in Scotland since 2005 and in Northern Ireland since 2018, but in England and Wales the subject has remained under review by the UK Government since 2013.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The lack of a framework in England and Wales poses significant Convention rights issues, as recent court judgments have confirmed, and demonstrates the need for devolution of this area to Senedd Cymru to enable them to make appropriate law for Wales, should the UK Government not be willing to expedite law reform.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mick Antoniw". The signature is written in a cursive style. Below the signature, there is a short horizontal blue line.

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