

Welsh jurisdiction

10/07/2012

Request for Information.

Thank you for your request received on 28 June. I will answer each part of your request in turn below.

Q1. Please disclose the meetings undertaken to date for the consideration of a separate Welsh Jurisdiction?

Details of the meetings of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee at which it considered, as part of its inquiry into the subject, a separate Welsh jurisdiction are provided in the agendas and transcripts of Committee meetings, all of which are available on the Assembly's website at the following link: [Inquiry Internet Page](http://www.senedd.assemblywales.org/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=2594&Opt=0)

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Q2. Please disclose the Terms of Reference of this inquiry?

The Terms of Reference for the Inquiry are contained in the Committee's call for written evidence, which is available on the Assembly's website at the link above.

Q3. Please disclose the number of witnesses and summary of evidence adduced?

The names of witnesses the Committee has taken evidence from, and any evidence they have submitted, are available through the agendas and transcripts of the Committee's meetings, all of which are available on the Assembly's website at the following link: [Inquiry Internet Page - Meetings](http://www.senedd.assemblywales.org/ielIssueDetails.aspx?Ild=2594&Opt=3)

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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg/We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh

In addition, Committee Members carried out a study visit to Belfast on 20 and 21 June 2012. During the visit they held meetings with the following organisations and people, which will help inform the content of the Committee's report of the Inquiry when it is published in due course:

- Queen's University of Belfast
 - Dr Gordon Anthony and Professor Rick Wilford
- Institute of Professional Legal Studies
 - Mrs Anne Fenton - Director,
- Northern Ireland Law Commission
 - Mr Justice McCloskey - Chairman
- Administrative Court Service
 - Mr David A Lavery CB - Chief Executive
 - Ms Jaqui Durkin - Head of Business
 - Ms Geraldine Fee - Head of Criminal and Coroners Policy
- Members of the Northern Ireland Assembly
 - Mr Danny Kinahan - Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee of the Office of the First Minister
 - Mr Raymond McCartney - Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee for Justice
- Officials of the Northern Ireland Assembly
 - Mr Gordon Nabney - Examiner of Statutory Rules
 - Mr Hugh Widdis - Director of Legal Services
 - Mr Alan Esdale - Second Legislative Counsel

Q4. Please state the reasons why the committee met in private session?

Committees of the Assembly can meet in private under the Assembly's Standing Orders. The specific criteria are set out in Standing Order 17.42. The Standing Orders are published on our website and can be found at the following link: [Standing Orders](#).

[<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-assembly-guidance.htm>]

Resolutions by the Committee to meet in private, including the reason for meeting in private, are set out in the transcripts of the Committee's meetings, which are published on the Assembly's website and can be found at the links above.

Q5. Please provide any links or work undertaken by the National Assembly preparatory to this Inquiry?

The basis for the Inquiry is set out in a scoping paper produced by the Assembly's Research Service, which was published as part of the Committee's call for written evidence and which is available on the Assembly's website at the link given in the answer to Question 1.

Your request has been considered according to the principles set out in the Code of Practice on Public Access to Information. The code is published on our website at http://www.assemblywales.org/abthome/about_us-commission_assembly_administration/abt-foi/abt-foi-cop-pub.htm

If you have any questions regarding this response please contact me. If you feel you have cause for complaint, please follow the guidance at the end of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Alison Rutherford
Access to Information Coordinator
National Assembly for Wales

Cause for concern or complaint with your FOI response?

If you believe that I have not applied the Code correctly or have not followed the relevant laws, you may make a formal complaint to the Chief Executive and Clerk at the National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay. Details of the Assembly's complaints principles are set out in the Code of Practice on Complaints available on the Internet at <http://www.assemblywales.org/conhome/con-complaint.htm>. Please advise me if you wish to receive a printed copy.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
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