

Theodore Huckle QC/CF
Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol/ Counsel General



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref

David Melding AM
Constitutional and Legislative
Affairs Committee
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

28 February 2012

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 16 February 2012 regarding the Welsh Government's guidelines on choice of affirmative or negative procedure in subordinate legislation.

I am pleased that the Committee has found the new guidelines to be useful and thank them for their comments. As you have acknowledged in your letter, the new guidelines are a step forward and the Welsh Government is committed to increasing transparency and understanding of the procedures involved.

Draft affirmative and negative procedures are the most commonly used procedures and are therefore set out in the guidelines. I feel it would be prudent to allow these guidelines to become fully established and their application (and consequently the understanding of their application) observed before proposing any amendments or additions.

The Committee raises a number of issues and I have asked officials to consider these specifically. Furthermore, I can confirm that the guidelines will generally be kept under review, and revised as appropriate.

I am copying this to the Presiding Officer.

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