

Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
Westminster
London
SW1A 2HQ

26 October 2017

Dear Chancellor,

Customs Bill White Paper: Implications for Wales

The National Assembly for Wales established the External Affairs Committee to consider the implications for Wales of leaving the European Union, to safeguard Welsh interests during the exit process and in any post-exit arrangements.

The Committee is currently considering the Customs Bill White Paper, particularly in light of recent work it conducted on the implications of Brexit for Welsh ports. The Committee notes that the UK Government commits in the White Paper to engaging closely with devolved administrations ahead of introducing the proposed Bill and working with the devolved administrations on any implications for them as a consequence of the proposed Bill.

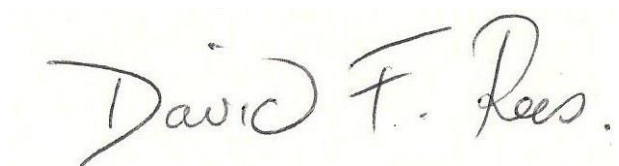
In terms of the policy implications of this legislative proposal, the Committee intends to contact its stakeholders in relation to the White Paper and will consider writing to you with a more substantive response once it has had an opportunity to assess any evidence it receives. In the meantime, I would be grateful if you could provide any assessment you have made of the implications for Wales of these proposals. For example, the impact on sectors of the Welsh economy and/or the impact on Welsh ports.



The Committee also has a role in scrutinising inter-governmental activity as it relates to Brexit and external affairs. I would be grateful if you could provide details of how you intend to engage with the Welsh Government and the Assembly in relation to these legislative proposals. It would also be of assistance to the Committee if you could indicate whether you anticipate seeking the Assembly's legislative consent for any aspect of the proposed legislative approach.

Thank you for considering the above requests. I would appreciate an early response to enable the Committee to make a useful contribution to the development of the Bill.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David F. Rees." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'D' and 'R'.

David Rees AM, Chair of the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

