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15th December 2013

Dear Ms Clancy,

Recovery of Medical Costs for Asbestos Diseases (Wales) Bill

Thank you for your letter of 21st November 2013 and the emails received from your office on 13th December 2013.

In accordance with section 112(3) of the Government of Wales Act 2006, I write to notify you that I do not intend to make a reference to the Supreme Court in relation to the legislative competence of the Assembly in respect of the Medical Costs for Asbestos Diseases (Wales) Bill.

The Counsel General has, of course, chosen to make a reference. He and I had the benefit of a constructive conversation and exchange of letters about the Bill earlier this year and the Counsel General is aware of my views on it. I support his decision to make a reference in the interests of ensuring that the competence of the Bill can be determined at the earliest possible stage. Once the Counsel General has filed his reference with the Supreme Court, I will decide whether to participate in the proceedings.

I am copying this letter to the Counsel General.

Yours sincerely

**RT HON DOMINIC GRIEVE QC MP
ATTORNEY GENERAL**