



Rt Hon Oliver Dowden CBE MP
Paymaster General and Minister for the Cabinet Office
Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall London SW1A 2AS

David Rees AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff, CF99 1NA

Our reference: MCO/00392

29th October 2019

Dear David,

My colleague, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, has informed me of your recent discussion on the review of intergovernmental relations (IGR) at the External Affairs Additional Legislation Committee on 24 October. I am pleased to share the following timelines with you.

As you are aware, officials from all administrations had been instructed to work towards a set of interim milestones by the end of September, which included:

- developing a joint delivery plan setting out the timelines for the review;
- outlining the areas of disagreement between the administrations on options for reform of the existing dispute avoidance and resolution mechanisms, and to explore an independent element,
- clarifying the role of devolved administrations in future negotiations, and
- establishing a clear view of existing inter-governmental machinery and proposals for reform.

Substantive progress has since been made at official level on all workstreams and towards these milestones. We will therefore continue to work towards our shared ambition to present a package of potential reforms in the near future.

The review of intergovernmental relations remains a joint endeavour and all recommendations pursued are agreed by consensus between all administrations. I would therefore encourage you to ask my counterpart in the Welsh Government, Jeremy Miles AM, for additional details on progress and timelines.

I welcome your continued interest in intergovernmental relations.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Oliver Dowden CBE MP