

Rt Hon Kemi Badenoch MP, Secretary of State for the Department for Business and Trade The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

By e-mail

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8 June 2023

Dear Secretary of State,

Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill

The Committee has today published our report on the Scottish Government's supplementary legislative consent memorandum: <u>Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum for the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) | Scottish Parliament</u>

At paragraph 26 of the report we note that the UK Government does not appear to have consulted with the Scottish Government on the amendments it tabled on 10 May 2023 to the extent that they impact on devolved competence. We agreed to write to you seeking clarification as to why this appears to be the case, and in particular, in relation to the instruments in Schedule 1 which fall, at least in part, within devolved competence.

At paragraph 36 of the report we note that in relation to the concurrent powers to amend retained EU law in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, the then UK Government gave a non-statutory commitment that it would not normally use those powers in areas of devolved competence without the agreement of the relevant devolved administration. We agreed to write to you seeking clarification as to why a similar commitment has not been given in relation to this Bill.

At paragraph 37 of the report we note that there is a real lack of clarity in how common frameworks are operating both generally and in relation to REUL and reiterated our previous view of the need for much greater transparency and accountability with regards to the operation of common frameworks. We agreed to write to you seeking a detailed response on the effectiveness of Common Frameworks including how they are being used in relation to REUL.

Yours sincerely,

Clane Adamson

Clare Adamson MSP, Convener of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee