

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 February 2018 18:07  
**To:** Parliamentary Unit <Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] Cc: Bell, Iain <Iain.Bell@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; Phelan, Lara <lara.phelan@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; Cameron, Douglas <douglas.cameron@ons.gov.uk>; Bell, Iain <Iain.Bell@ons.gov.uk>; Kay, Francesca <francesca.kay@ons.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Welsh Assembly Committee appearance - written evidence

Just to note for everyone's general info – I met Welsh Government the other day to talk about Welsh Language Standards and while it was very much an aside rather than a substantive discussion item, the officials in charge of Welsh language policy did mention that they would appreciate a question on Welsh language **use** as well as ability. We did not get drawn into that or comment either way, other than for [REDACTED] (who was there for Census) to offer that she would ask someone to get in touch after the meeting.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

**From:** Parliamentary Unit  
**Sent:** 19 February 2018 14:31  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Bell, Iain ; [REDACTED] ; Phelan, Lara ; [REDACTED] ; [REDACTED] ; Cameron, Douglas ; [REDACTED] ; Bell, Iain ; Kay, Francesca  
**Subject:** RE: Welsh Assembly Committee appearance - written evidence

Thanks [REDACTED],

When we commission briefings for the Lines To Take pack, I'll make sure these are included. We're in the fortunate position that we have a long lead time to prep, so will commission these once we've submitted the written evidence to the Committee, as below.

As always, will be in touch to confirm any areas Iain would like additional briefings on.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 February 2018 14:21  
**To:** Parliamentary Unit <[Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk](mailto:Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Bell, Iain <[Iain.Bell@ons.gov.uk](mailto:Iain.Bell@ons.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; Phelan, Lara <[lara.phelan@ons.gov.uk](mailto:lara.phelan@ons.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; Cameron, Douglas <[douglas.cameron@ons.gov.uk](mailto:douglas.cameron@ons.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; Bell, Iain <[Iain.Bell@ons.gov.uk](mailto:Iain.Bell@ons.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED] Kay, Francesca <[francesca.kay@ons.gov.uk](mailto:francesca.kay@ons.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** FW: Welsh Assembly Committee appearance - written evidence  
**Importance:** High

Thanks for the below.

For this session Iain will need briefing on the following:

- How the Welsh Assembly feed into a UK Government White Paper – what is the process for engagement.
- The Welsh Language question
- Information on how we have engaged with Welsh Communities. In addition to this we need to have firmed up the PPPF Round Table event for Wales in advance of this session. Iain wants to ensure the PPPF round table takes place before end of April.

Let me know if you need anything further from us at this stage.



**From:** Parliamentary Unit

**Sent:** 16 February 2018 13:59

**To:** Teague, Andy <[andy.teague@ons.gov.uk](mailto:andy.teague@ons.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>;

Deane, Jennifer <[Jennifer.Deane@ons.gov.uk](mailto:Jennifer.Deane@ons.gov.uk)>; Phelan, Lara <[lara.phelan@ons.gov.uk](mailto:lara.phelan@ons.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Bell, Iain <[Iain.Bell@ons.gov.uk](mailto:Iain.Bell@ons.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>;

Cameron, Douglas <[douglas.cameron@ons.gov.uk](mailto:douglas.cameron@ons.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Welsh Assembly Committee appearance - written evidence

**Importance:** High

Dear all,

We have been invited to give oral evidence to the [Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee](#) of the Welsh Assembly on the 2021 Census. This will be taking place on Wednesday 18 April. Iain Bell will be appearing to give evidence, and (subject to his thoughts when he returns from leave) joined by Andy Teague.

We are currently working with the Committee to try and shape the oral evidence session. Culture Committee staff have told us that they are keen to focus on:

- how the Assembly engages with ONS on the Census, and how their views will be taken into account; and
- to understand our intentions regarding a Welsh language question, and how this would be phrased

You will remember that following our earlier conversations, we also suggested to Committee staff that it might be good to explore equalities issues. Helpfully, the Culture Committee shares a lot of its membership with the [Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee](#), and staff think we could use the session on 18 April as an opportunity to explore the Equality Committee's areas of interest also. As such, the Committee would also like the session to explore:

- how gender equality and gender issues will be accounted for in the Census.

I have been informed by the Committee clerk that this is a one-off session as opposed to part of an ongoing inquiry, so this is a great opportunity for us to engage with the Assembly and let them know our plans for the Census.

To help steer things in a useful direction, we recommend submitting written evidence in the first instance. Our conversations with Committee staff suggest that they will not be seeking evidence from others, so we are in the unusual (and very helpful) position of being the only people briefing the Committee. Drawing from our earlier conversations (and the Committee's suggestions) I have

drawn up a draft structure for the written evidence which is attached to this email. How does this look? Are we missing anything important which we would want the Committee to focus on?

To note, for the recent appearance with the Women & Equalities Committee, the team provided some information on Gender and Sexual Identity (attached) so we may be able to reuse this.

We would like to get this written evidence into the Committee fairly early as this gives them plenty of time to consider their questioning ahead of the session, and well before the Easter recess. In terms of a target date for submission, **week commencing 5 March** would be a good date to aim to. Vanessa continues to speak with [REDACTED] regularly, and will touch base with him once we have a good idea of our plans, so we are not catching Welsh Government off guard.

Any questions, please do get in touch. As an aside, [REDACTED] and I will be in Titchfield on Tuesday (20<sup>th</sup>) so if time allows we'll be happy to discuss then.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]