

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS  
Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet  
dros Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for  
Climate Change and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref ER  
Ein cyf/Our ref HIDCC/00820/25

Councillor Beca Roberts  
eirianroberts3@gwynedd.gov.wales

29 May 2025

Dear Councillor Roberts,

Thank you for your letter of 24 April to the Counsel General, sharing the news of Cyngor Gwynedd's support for the devolution of the justice system and the establishment of separate legal jurisdiction for Wales. As the minister responsible for devolution and constitutional matters, I have been asked to respond.

It has been Welsh Government policy for some time to seek to devolve the justice system, as a whole, to Wales. The establishment of a separate legal jurisdiction for Wales has also been a long-standing policy of ours. The Commission's recommendation on the Constitutional Future of Wales in January 2023 was that justice should be gradually devolved in order to minimise any disruption. They recommended that the process of devolution of justice should begin with youth justice, probation, and policing. The Welsh Government and the Senedd supported this recommendation, agreeing that a gradual approach is needed to achieve change of this scale.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb i ohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn yr un iaith ac ni fydd gohebu yn y Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The UK Government's manifesto included a commitment to consider the devolution of youth justice, and the devolution of the probation system as part of the strategic review of it. We are in discussions with the UK Government about these commitments and how we can develop them. Meanwhile, in Wales, we continue to carry out preparatory work, including working through a justice research programme and engaging continuously with academics, experts and those with lived experience of the justice system, including holding regular meetings with justice trade unions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized representation of the name Huw Irranca-Davies.

**Huw Irranca-Davies MP/MS**

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change  
and Rural Affairs