



Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster,
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Clare Adamson MSP
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By email: CEEAC.committee@parliament.scot

13 October 2022

Dear Clare,

Thank you for your letter of 22 September, alerting me to publication of the Committee's report on EU Exit and devolution.

EU Exit has meant significant powers returning to the UK, enabling us to deliver on a range of priorities that matter for people across the UK. These returning powers have also had an impact on both reserved and devolved responsibilities and how they operate together to deliver those priorities. That is why we created mechanisms like the Common Frameworks programme, designed to help the UK and devolved governments to manage divergence across the UK by agreeing common approaches that support an effective UK internal market.

We also continue to engage on many issues supported by our jointly agreed intergovernmental ways of working, which you mention in your report. These new structures and processes show the extensive engagement between Ministers and officials in UKG and devolved governments delivering tangible outcomes for citizens across the UK. Close collaboration between the governments has allowed for successful design and delivery of flagship policies like the vaccine rollout which I have first-hand experience of, and the Homes for Ukraine scheme, working collaboratively to respond to the Russian aggression in Ukraine. These new intergovernmental ways of working are designed to be comprehensive and would also enable cross-government collaboration on issues related to regulatory alignment, legislation and the devolution settlements themselves.

I will of course be happy to submit a written response to you on the findings of your report, including on the Sewel Convention and delegated powers. Could I also suggest that we consider a possible oral evidence session once the Committee has received and considered the written submission. I remain grateful for your consideration of these issues.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Zahawi'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop under the 'Z' and a small dot at the end.

**Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster,
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