Dear Lord Kinnoull

UK-EU PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP ASSEMBLY

At its meeting on 24 February 2021, the Committee for the Executive Office considered correspondence regarding representation of the UK-EU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly from the Welsh Parliament’s External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee.

As the Parliamentary Partnership Assembly provides political oversight of the Trade and Co-operation Agreement (TCA), the Committee agreed that I write to you to ensure that the Northern Ireland Executive is represented within the institutional structure of the Assembly.

It is vital that the devolved governments are represented within the governance structures of the TCA to ensure that areas of devolved policy have the opportunity to be scrutinised by devolved legislatures. As the UK-EU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly has several governing tasks within the TCA, it is essential all views of devolved administrations are taken into account to ensure the UK voice is heard collectively within the Parliamentary Partnership Assembly.

The Committee are aware that both the Scottish Parliament’s Culture, Tourism, European and External Affairs Committee and the Welsh Parliament’s External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee have made a similar request in terms of representation.
I will also be writing to Sir William Cash MP, Chair of the European Scrutiny Committee. I have also copied this letter to the Scottish Parliament’s Culture, Tourism, European and External Affairs Committee and the Welsh Parliament’s External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee.

Yours sincerely

Colin McGrath MLA Chairperson,
Committee for the Executive Office

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