

Theodore Huckle QC/CF  
Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol/Counsel General



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref  
Claire Clancy  
Chief Executive and Clerk of  
the Assembly  
National Assembly for Wales  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff.  
CF99 1NA

11<sup>th</sup> December 2013

Dear Ms Clancy,

**Recovery of Medical Costs for Asbestos Diseases (Wales) Bill passed by the National Assembly for Wales on 20 November 2013**

Thank you for your letter of 21 November 2013 regarding the exercise of my power under section 112 of the Government of Wales Act 2006 to refer to the Supreme Court for decision the question of whether an Assembly Bill, or any provision of a Bill, would be within the Assembly's legislative competence.

I am aware that bodies representing the insurance industry have consistently disputed the Assembly's competence to pass this Bill. I am of the view that this Bill is within the competence of this Assembly. I consider, however, it is appropriate in all the circumstances of this case, and in the public interest, to have the issue of the competence of this Bill clearly resolved before the Bill comes into force. I have therefore decided to make a reference to the Supreme Court to ensure this matter is put beyond doubt.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'TH', written over a horizontal line.

Theodore Huckle QC  
Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol  
Counsel General

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