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Description automatically generated**Westminster Parliamentary Report**

***Annual Report 2020***

The Wales Team in the House of Lords has taken part in major Bills this year - dealing with devolution and other important issues in the Agriculture Bill, the Parliamentary Constituencies Bill and, latterly, in the Internal Market Bill. Along with our colleagues in the Lib Dem Peers Group we have made changes to these Bills and they leave our House in a much better state than when they arrived with us.

The Covid-19 pandemic has inevitably meant that we have had to make adjustments to the way we work and like the rest of the country, the Wales Team in the House of Lords has adapted to the virtual world and now holds its meetings via Zoom.

We have held meetings with the Chair of the Welsh Board and staff members and especially held a joint meeting to introduce new staff members to our Team in order to begin to build up an effective working relationship.

Mike German, in his role as Chair of the Senedd Election Campaign has kept us abreast of his campaign plans with regular updates.

Dick Newby, our Group Leader in the House of Lords, has been keen that each Team at our end of Parliament, forms a Cluster with our opposite number in the Commons so that engagement between us can be strengthened. To ensure this would happen, Wendy Chamberlain, the Wales spokesperson in the Commons, and I held a meeting to introduce ourselves to each other and agreed that she would lead our Wales Cluster and the group would be administered from her office.

We held a very successful meeting today, chaired by Wendy, and discussed campaigning issues around the Senedd elections and how we, as a group, can use our work in the Lords to help play an active role in the coming months. The Welsh Policy Officer and the Welsh Press Officer are already working with Wendy and they will become regular members of our Cluster, helping to ensure a co-ordinated approach.

Christine Humphreys

**Wales Spokesperson, House of Lords**