

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE Report by the Commission on Devolution in Wales

DATE 19 November 2012

BY The First Minister

The Commission on Devolution in Wales, established by the UK Government and Chaired by Paul Silk, has today published its first report.

It is of course too soon to provide a full response to this very comprehensive document and we will be giving detailed consideration to the Commission's proposals over the coming months. However, I am very grateful for the work that the members of the Commission have undertaken over the past year. I am particularly pleased that the report is unanimous, and that the representatives of all four political Parties on the Commission have been able to agree a common position.

It is clear that this report - coupled with the statement on funding reform that was published jointly with the UK Government last month - provides a solid basis for establishing a new, cross-party consensus on the future path of financial reform in Wales. The Welsh Government is committed to working with other Parties in Wales and with the UK Government to implement reforms which are built on consensus, provide a better deal for Wales and enhance the devolution settlement within a strengthened United Kingdom.

The Welsh Government will provide a more substantive response in an Oral Statement to the Assembly on 27 November.