

Membership CLAC

31 October 2016

Request for Information.

Thank you for your request received 20 October in which you asked:

Please provide the procedural mechanism by which Dafydd Elis-Thomas and Nathan Gill retain a seat on the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee when neither currently has a mandate, having resigned from their original parties who retain the mandate.

The relevant procedures are set out in the National Assembly's Standing Orders, which can be accessed via <http://www.assembly.wales/en/bus-home/Pages/bus-assembly-guidance.aspx>. Please note:

- Dafydd Elis-Thomas ceased to be a Member of the Constitutional & Legislative Affairs Committee when he left the Plaid Cymru political group in the National Assembly (as prescribed by Standing Order 17.12; the definition of a political group can be found at Standing Order 1.3).
- Nathan Gill was not a Member of the Constitutional & Legislative Affairs Committee at the time he left the UKIP political group in the National Assembly. Standing Orders 17.13 to 17.15 set out the procedure followed by the Business Committee which resulted in the Assembly (in Plenary) agreeing to appoint him as a Member of that Committee. (See also Standing Order 17.10 which specifies that every Member who does not belong to a political group must be offered a place on at least one committee.)

Your request has been considered according to the principles set out in the Code of Practice on Public Access to Information. The code is published on our website at http://www.assemblywales.org/abthome/about_us-commission_assembly_administration/abt-foi/abt-foi-cop-pub.htm

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If you have any questions regarding this response please contact me. If you feel you have cause for complaint, please follow the guidance at the end of this letter.

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Manager
National Assembly for Wales**

Cause for concern or complaint with your FOI response?

If you believe that I have not applied the Code correctly or have not followed the relevant laws, you may make a formal complaint to the Chief Executive and Clerk at the National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay. Details of the Assembly's complaints principles are set out in the Code of Practice on Complaints available on the Internet at <http://www.assembly.wales/en/help/contact-the-assembly/con-complaint/Pages/con-complaint-procedure.aspx>. Please advise me if you wish to receive a printed copy.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF