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**Sent:** 14 December 2020 08:50  
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**Subject:** RE: Correspondence Committee on Procedures - LCMs

The SDLP are of the firm opinion that the Northern Ireland Assembly should be charged with scrutinising and passing legislation that people here will be subjected to. This is particularly true when referencing matters that are devolved to our Institutions and Departments.

On that basis the SDLP believes Legislative Consent Motions should be avoided, when possible.

The SDLP however does recognise that a legislative overlap, may on occasions arise between devolved matters and issues that are legislated for in Westminster. We believe it is our duty to examine fully the possibility of dealing with such situations within the scrutiny role of the Northern Ireland Assembly before any consideration is given to the use of an LCM.

Only when it has been made abundantly clear that an LCM is the only suitable vehicle for delivery should it be allowable.

The SDLP would be interested in considering any proposals the Procedures Committee may have that could result in an improvement in the scrutiny of LCMs and their use.