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## UK Nepali community organisations delegation welcomed at the National Assembly of Wales

The Welsh Assembly was host to a UK Nepali community organisations delegation visit, of the Chair, General Secretary Mr Chhatra Rai and Mr Gajbir Thapa of the British Gurkha Welfare Society (BGWS), lead by Major Tikendra Dal Dewan JP, and of Sahara UK represented by Lt Kusang Gurung.

Organised by the UK Nepal Friendship Society (UKNFS) the educational event marked the concluding part of the broader UK parliamentary democratic systems learning initiative proposed last autumn by Mr Ekendra Gurung, Advisor at Tamu Dhee UK.



With the historic evolution in the political and democratic structures of Nepal itself, a Federal democratic republic, the learning from the Welsh Assembly visit was particularly valuable and will be conveyed in a report that will be provided to the Speakers of the democratic Institutions involved and the wider community.

Having the opportunity to observe First Ministers Questions and other business in the Senedd, gave valuable insights into the functions, scope, and dynamics of the assembly, which showcases how devolution and the federal aspect of democracy can give a practical immediacy on a range of subjects of direct importance in the day-to-day life.

The delegation was most appreciative of Mr Al Davies for his care and facilitation with the Assembly International Relations & Communications Team on making the visit so effective and particularly in the learning it provided, that included responses to a set of questions the UK Nepali community organisations provided.

The visit marks a landmark in initiating valuable links between Wales and Nepal through the UK Nepali community organisations to share experiences at the democracy level and build on these to create a shared experience. Great enthusiasm on both sides was expressed for this.

### NOTES TO EDITORS

- **UK Nepal Friendship Society (UKNFS)** is a not for profit organisation whose official patron is His Excellency the Ambassador of Nepal to the UK that exists to support the UK Nepali community working directly with key UK Nepali representation organisations on practical initiatives. In Nepal-UK relations UKNFS facilitates a range of projects including employment generation utilising business links between the two countries that are linked directly to social return at grass roots community level by UKNFS.
- **The British Gurkha Welfare Society (BGWS):** [www.bgws.org](http://www.bgws.org)
- **Sahara UK Association:** [www.saharauk.com](http://www.saharauk.com)