Lesley Griffiths AS/MS Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Huw Irranca-Davies MS Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee Senedd Cymru <u>SeneddLJC@senedd.wales</u>

05 September 2023

Dear Huw,

The Windsor Framework (Plant Health) Regulations 2023

I refer to my letter to you of 9 August 2023. I wish to inform the Committee I have given my consent to the Minister of State to lay the Windsor Framework (Plant Health) Regulations 2023 in relation to Wales. I have laid a Written Statement which can be found <u>here</u>.

The Regulations intersect with devolved policy and will apply to Wales. The Regulations extend to England, Scotland and Wales and Northern Ireland. The Statutory Instrument (SI) is subject to the negative procedure and was laid before Parliament on 5 September 2023 with a commencement date of 1 October 2023.

Although the Welsh Government's general principle is that the law relating to devolved matters should be made and amended in Wales, on this occasion, it is considered appropriate for the substance of the amendments to apply to Wales. The SI relates to a devolved area, however, the SI operates GB-wide and has effect as to the acceptance of goods into Northern Ireland. It also places requirements on Northern Ireland operators. Given the application to Northern Ireland it would not be within competence of Welsh Ministers to make this SI wholly as Wales-only. Additionally, there is no policy divergence between the Welsh and UK Government in this matter.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

This ensures a coherent and consistent statute book with the regulations being accessible in a single instrument. Making the regulations GB-wide also ensures there will be no risk of legislative divergence in the UK which would likely jeopardise the implementation of the Windsor Framework.

I have written similarly to Llŷr Gruffyd MS, the Chair of the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure (CCEI) Committee.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd