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Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Our ref MA/LG/2635/20

Mike Hedges MS
Chair of Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee

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6 November 2020

Dear Mike

Following on from my letter of 13 October 2020 in relation to changes to the common frameworks which fall within my portfolio, I am clarifying the position on two framework areas.

My letter indicated the four UK Governments had agreed that a framework is not required for either Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) or GMO marketing and cultivation. However, in the UK Government's Revised Framework Analysis, SEA is listed as a potential non-legislative framework and GMO is listed as a potential legislative framework.

As I outlined in my earlier letter, officials across the Governments worked together to consider the reclassification of frameworks ahead of the publication of the Revised Frameworks Analysis. The agreement reached on these two areas was that a framework was not required. For frameworks that fall within the Defra portfolio, the outputs from the reclassification exercise, including the GMO Framework, were agreed by Ministers attending the IMG-EFRA.

Therefore, I confirm the position I indicated in my letter is correct and as a result the areas relating to both SEA and GMO are not being developed as frameworks.

I hope this clarifies the position on these two frameworks.

Regards

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.