

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MA/JJ/2279/21

Llyr Gruffydd MS
Chair
Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
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SeneddClimate@senedd.wales

31 August 2021

Dear Llyr

The Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee provided recommendations in respect of the Draft Hazardous Substances (Planning) Common Framework in its letter of 21 January. I have considered the Committee's recommendations, alongside those of Parliament and the other legislatures, with my colleagues in the UK Government (UKG) and other devolved administrations. We have amended the text of the agreement to accommodate most of the comments made. I am therefore pleased to enclose the final agreement.

Stakeholder Engagement

It was agreed that more clarity was needed in the framework regarding stakeholder engagement during the initial review of the framework. This has been clarified in Section 12 of the framework text, noting that proportionate stakeholder engagement will be carried out to inform the review including with competent authorities, local authorities, industry and environmental groups.

Review timing

It was agreed that the initial review of the framework should be carried out after one year, opposed to two years as initially suggested. This change has been reflected in Section 12 of the framework.

Parliamentary Scrutiny

It was agreed that there is a need to involve the legislatures during framework review and this should be reflected in the framework. Text has been added to Section 12 of the framework to reflect this, being mindful that there is potential for variation in how each legislature is involved in the review process.

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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.

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.

Dispute Resolution

The UKG and devolved administrations have agreed that the detail provided on dispute resolution is sufficient at the stage.

International Obligations

International obligations are discussed in Section 2 of the framework. This section is comprehensive with regard to international obligations which are applicable to the UK.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.**Julie James AS/MS**

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