

**Pwyllgor yr Economi,
Masnach a Materion Gwledig**

**Economy, Trade and
Rural Affairs Committee**

Senedd Cymru

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Lesley Griffiths MS
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and
Trefnydd

6 October 2022

Dear Lesley,

On 27th September 2022, I wrote to you in relation to the Welsh Government's response to the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee's report 'Review of The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021'. Thank you for providing a response to the Committee's report. However, I'm disappointed that the response was not accompanied by an explanation why it was submitted three weeks late, as requested in my original letter.

I appreciate that this is a complex policy area which requires deep and detailed consideration. Nevertheless, as the government was delayed in responding to the report, I'd have expected some communication from the Government, explaining its position in breaching the standard response deadline. I had hoped that this communication would have included outlining an estimated length of the delay and setting out a reason for the breach.

Receiving the government response this late is severely detrimental to scrutiny and is disrespectful to the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee. As a result, the Committee will be very restricted in its capacity to discuss the response ahead of the debate next week. In addition, the delayed government response restricts the ability of Senedd Members to consider the response and discuss it with their constituents and stakeholders.

Therefore, I do hope that you will reflect on the circumstances and ensure that government responses to Committee reports are produced within the standard response



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deadline and, if there is a delay in the future, there is an explanation to the Committee to explain the circumstances around it.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Paul Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a long, sweeping underline.

Paul Davies MS

Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg | We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.



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