

Vaughan Gething AM

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services

20 December 2017

Dear Vaughan

Thank you for your letter of 19 December in relation to the planned publication date of the full report by the University of Sheffield on the impacts of minimum unit pricing in Wales.

While I acknowledge there has been a delay in receipt of information from the UK Ministry of Defence which the revised modelling work should take account of, I would like to express my dismay that this will lead to the University of Sheffield's full report being published either extremely close to our reporting deadline, or even potentially after the Committee is required to complete its Stage 1 scrutiny work.

In your letter you outline that the full report is expected to include new information regarding the modelled impacts of different minimum unit prices, an analysis of the wider impacts of introducing minimum unit pricing, and a comparison of the proportional increase in alcohol duty required to achieve the same reduction in alcohol consumption and alcohol-attributable deaths. The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee has heard extensive evidence on these matters, particularly the importance of the actual minimum unit price in effecting health outcomes, and will wish to comment on these issues in the Stage 1 report.

I'm aware that the Chair of the Finance Committee has also written to you (letter of 12 December) to highlight the importance of the University of Sheffield's updated work being available in time to be considered and reflected upon by both our committees in our respective reports.



I'd be grateful if you would confirm the exact planned publication date of the University of Sheffield's full report. I would also urge you to investigate whether the publication date can be brought forward. For your awareness, and in light of your recent correspondence, I am investigating the option of writing to the Business Committee to seek an extension to our required reporting deadline of 16 February.

I look forward to receiving your response at the earliest opportunity.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Lloyd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Dr Dai Lloyd AM
Chair, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee