

Lesley Griffiths AM
Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Planning and Rural Affairs

5 October 2018

Dear Lesley,

Follow up from scrutiny session on 4 October

Thank you for attending our 4 October scrutiny session on the Committee's report, *Rethinking Food in Wales: Public Procurement of Food*, and on other matters within your portfolio.

At the meeting, you agreed to

- share with the Committee a copy of your recent correspondence with Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in relation to the provisions on the red meat levy within the UK Agriculture Bill;
- provide the Committee with further details of steps you have taken, and intend to take, to increase capacity and expertise within your department to prepare for the UK's departure from the European Union, including:
 - i. confirmation of the total number of staff recruited and the vacancies yet to be filled, and
 - ii. the total funding allocation from within your departmental budget to meet the cost of additional staff and the associated opportunity cost; and
- clarify the time period for which the disapplication of paragraph 6.2 of TAN 1 will be in place.



During our private discussion following the scrutiny session, the Committee agreed that it would also like to receive further details from you on the steps you intend to take to engage with the commercial food sector to address food waste.

I look forward to receiving a response from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Hedges". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

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

