

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd  
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Huw Irranca-Davies MS  
Chair,  
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee  
Senedd Cymru

huw.Irranca-Davies@senedd.wales

21 October 2022

Dear Huw,

I refer to my letter to you of 10 October 2022. I am writing to inform the Committee I have given my consent to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to lay the Control of Mercury (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2022 in relation to Wales. I have laid a Written Statement which can be found at <https://senedd.wales/media/feebwpil/ws-ld15407-e.pdf>

The Regulations were made by the Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018. They intersect with devolved policy and will apply to Wales. The provisions could have been made by Welsh Ministers in exercise of our powers conferred by the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018. The Regulations extend to England, Scotland and Wales.

The Statutory Instrument (SI) is subject to the negative procedure and was laid before Parliament on 19 October 2022.

The Welsh Government's general principle is the law relating to devolved matters should be made and amended in Wales. On this occasion, it is considered appropriate for the substance of the amendments to apply to Wales as there is no policy divergence between the Welsh and UK Government in this matter.

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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.

This ensures a coherent and consistent statute book with the regulations being accessible in a single instrument. I consider legislating separately for Wales would be neither the most appropriate way to give effect to the necessary changes, nor a prudent use of Welsh Government resources given other important priorities.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

**Lesley Griffiths AS/MS**  
**Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd**  
**Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd**

