

Julie James MS,
Minister for Climate Change

25 May 2023

Dear Minister,

The Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee considered the First Minister's letter to the Llywydd concerning the Environmental Protection (Single-use Plastic Products) (Wales) Bill in its meeting on 29 March. The Committee agreed that I should write to you on this matter.

The First Minister's letter suggests that there should be a "reasonable interval" of "usually six months" between the passing and publication of legislation which impacts on trade and its coming into force. When you appeared before the Committee on 29 September 2022, you referred to this as a "standstill period" and confirmed it would apply to the Single-use Plastic Products Bill.

You told the Committee there would not be a "grace period for businesses" because the Welsh Government had engaged extensively. You added that the six-month "standstill period" would be used to support the transition.

In response to the issues raised by stakeholders about the need to raise awareness amongst suppliers and retailers, you said the Welsh Government would use the six-month standstill period to "continue to work with business manufacturers, all the public sector groups and communities, protected characteristic groups, to develop comprehensive guidance...to support the Bill."

I would be grateful if you would provide the Committee with a detailed update on any work the Welsh Government has undertaken on developing this detailed guidance. I would also like an update on any work undertaken since the Bill was passed to raise awareness amongst businesses and any work due before the end of the sixth-month period. I would also like you to confirm that you still



intend to make regulations introducing a ban on certain single-use plastics as soon as the six-month "standstill period" is over.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Llyr', is centered within a light yellow rectangular box.

Llyr Gruffydd MS,
Chair, Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.