

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  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1SN

[SeneddLJC@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddLJC@senedd.wales)

25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Huw,

Thank you for your letter of 18 September regarding the regulations to implement the Windsor Framework. My response to your specific questions are set out below.

***Regulation 6 of the Windsor Framework (Enforcement etc.) Regulations 2023 amends the Welsh language text of the Official Controls (Plant Health and Genetically Modified Organisms) (Wales) Regulations 2020. To what extent was the Welsh Government involved in the drafting of this regulation??***

Welsh Government officials were involved in all stages of the process, including the clearance of the Welsh text.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
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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.

***You stated the following in your written statement in respect of the Windsor Framework (Retail Movement Scheme) Regulations 2023: “Functions are conferred on the Secretary of State and a programme of governance will enable Welsh Government officials to ensure these functions are exercised in a manner that reflects Welsh interests. In addition, a Memorandum of Understanding will set out an agreement process to operate for any future possible changes to the [Retail Movement] Scheme.” Could you provide to the Committee further information about the programme of governance and, when finalised, a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding to which you refer?***

The Windsor Framework Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) sets out the agreed ways of working between each of the Parties and their respective roles and responsibilities for the operation, delivery and enforcement of the Retail Movement Scheme (NIRMS) and NI Plant Health Label (NIPHL).

In terms of governance arrangements, the proposed signatories of the MoU are the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Welsh Government, the Scottish Government, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland (DAERA), The Food Standards Agency and Food Standards Scotland. The MoU establishes the responsibilities of the Parties and the general principles for their cooperation.

The representatives of the signatories to the document will meet at least twice a year to discuss the activities carried out under the MoU, the operation of the MoU and address any issues arising. They will also agree whether and how to incorporate policy areas yet to be agreed.

In order to meet the go live date 1st October, a draft of the MoU has been signed by officials which allows for data sharing. Work is ongoing to finalise version 1 of the MoU, with the aim to publish on the Welsh Government web page once jointly agreed by all governments. I will share this version with the committee once published.

***In its Command Paper on the Windsor Framework, the UK Government stated that legislation will be needed to further implement its arrangements, including reinstating provisions of the UK Internal Market Act 2020 which dropped during the Bill's original passage in 2020. Could you provide to the Committee further information on any plans or legislative proposals you are aware of to implement the Windsor Framework, and confirmation of what, if any, intergovernmental discussions have taken place in this regard?***

Officials are involved in plans developing the legislation for the pet travel scheme, which is a lifetime scheme, akin to the pet passport allowing pets to move freely between GB and NI. Pets must be microchipped and owners must declare at time of booking that they are not traveling onward to Ireland. No discussions have taken place on reinstating provisions of the UK Internal Market Act 2020.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

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