

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

SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

21st February 2024

The Official Controls (Fees and Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 2024

Dear Huw

I am writing to inform the Committee of my intention to consent to the UK Government making and laying the Official Controls (Fees and Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 2024.

I have received a letter from the Minister of State for Biosecurity, Animal Health and Welfare, Lord Douglas-Miller, asking for consent to these Regulations. The Regulations intersect with devolved policy and will apply to Wales. The Regulations will extend to England, Scotland, and Wales and a similar request for consent has been sent to Scottish Ministers.

The Regulations will be made in exercise of the powers conferred under section 14(2) and (3) of the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023. The Regulations relate to the implementation of changes to the SPS border official controls regime, which were published in the BTOM in August 2023. They facilitate amendments needed to enable charges and fees for official controls on SPS goods in a way which reflects the new regime.

The Regulations will implement the milestones of the BTOM. The Regulations facilitate amendments needed to enable charges and fees for official controls on SPS goods in a way which reflects the new regime.

The Regulations do not commit Welsh Ministers to adopting any future UK Government position on biosecurity. The Regulations do not diminish or undermine the powers of Welsh Ministers in any way.

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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.

Although the Welsh Government's general principle is that the law relating to devolved matters should be made and amended in Wales, on this occasion, it is considered appropriate for this instrument to apply to Wales as there is no policy divergence between the Welsh and UK Government in this matter. This ensures a coherent and consistent statute book with the regulations being accessible in a single instrument. I consider that 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.

I have written similarly to Paul Davies MS, the Chair of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned centrally below the text "Yours sincerely,".

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