

Huw Irranca-Davies MS

Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

8 May 2024

Dear Huw,

The Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee (the Committee) is holding a short piece of work on waste later in the summer term 2024. The focus of this work will be on progress made by the Welsh Government towards delivery of its circular economy strategy, Beyond recycling (March 2021), specifically:

- the 2025 targets - 70% recycling for waste from households, commercial and industrial businesses, 26% overall reduction in waste, zero waste to landfill, 50% reduction in avoidable food waste, and
- actions undertaken to date aimed at: driving innovation in materials use; upscaling prevention and re-use; building on our recycling record; investing in infrastructure; enabling community and business action; and aligning Government levers.

The Committee is particularly interested in how the following are impacting/will impact on progress:

- Delays to the introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme and Extended Producer Responsibility Reforms.
- Roll out of the ban on single-use plastic products and business waste separation requirements.
- Preparedness of the waste sector and infrastructure investment requirements.
- UK Internal Market Act.

We are aware that you will already be appearing before the Committee twice during summer term 2024. As such, we do not intend on inviting you to give oral evidence in connection with our work on waste. However, it would be helpful if you could provide a written evidence paper addressing the matters outlined above. There will be an opportunity for the Committee to question you on your response when you appear before us on 26 June 2024 for general scrutiny.



The Committee is keen to use your response to inform our evidence sessions with stakeholders on 13 June. It would be helpful therefore to receive your response by **29 May**. Should you have any difficulty in meeting this deadline, please could your officials liaise with the Clerking team.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Llyr', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.