

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros
Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate
Change and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA/HIDCC/10617/24

Mike Hedges MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

6 January 2025

Dear Mike,

The Common Organisation of the Markets in Agricultural Products (Marketing Standards and Organic Products) (Transitional Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 are required to amend assimilated EU and domestic legislation to further extend grace periods for Marketing Standards and Organic Products which are due to expire 1 February 2025.

The regulations apply to extend grace periods that currently apply to import requirements for hops and hop products exported by the EU and certain third countries to Great Britain, poultrymeat with optional indications exported from the EU to Great Britain and organic products exported from the EU, European Economic Area ("EEA") states and Switzerland to Great Britain. The proposed SI will extend the grace periods for these products until February 2027.

Though Welsh Ministers have the ability to make regulations in this area itself, it is important to avoid unnecessary discrepancies between Wales, Scotland and England in technical regulations due to the interconnected nature of our agricultural markets. The proposed SI intends to extend the expiry date of regulations that are already in place, rather than creating any new policy, and as such there will be no practical change to the status quo. The SI is an extension of previous regulations concerning grace periods, which were made using the same powers at a Great-Britain level. The Agricultural Support Framework provides a governance structure through which the Welsh Government has worked with the UK Government on the development of regulations in this area.

The SI will be subject to the made affirmative procedure and it is proposed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) that it is laid before Parliament on 9 January 2025. Welsh Government officials were involved in the creation of

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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.

these regulations and were consulted regularly by colleagues DEFRA throughout and will continue to work closely with their counterparts to oversee the delivery of the SI.

I am writing to let you know that as these amendments are temporary emergency easements, I give my consent, pursuant to Article 38a(3) of the retained Regulation (EU) 834/2007, to the Secretary of State to make this statutory instrument in relation to Wales.

I am copying this letter to Julie James MS, Counsel General and Minister for Delivery and Jane Hutt MS, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized representation of the name 'Huw Irranca-Davies'.

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