

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

Our ref: MA/HIDCC/1009/25

Mike Hedges MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Mike.Hedges@senedd.wales

4 July 2025

Dear Mike,

Poultry Catching and Handling

I am writing further to my letter of 23 June where I informed you of my intention to consent to the UK Government making regulations to provide the poultry industry, and their associated catching companies, with clarity on the legal requirements that apply to the catching of poultry during transport operations.

I have now given my consent to the UK Government to make The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 (“the Regulations”). I have issued a Written Statement which can be found at: <https://laiddocuments.senedd.wales/ws-ld17280-en.pdf>

The Regulations amend assimilated Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations to exempt chickens, and turkeys weighing 5 kg and less, from the prohibition on the lifting of animals by their legs. When chickens, and turkeys weighing 5 kg and less, are caught by the legs, they must be caught, lifted and carried by two legs (not by one leg). For turkeys weighing more than 5 kg it is prohibited to lift or carry them in an inverted position, whether by holding the legs or otherwise. The Regulations were laid before the UK Parliament, using the negative procedure, on 1 July and are scheduled to come into force on 22 July 2025.

I am copying this letter to Andrew RT Davies MS, Chair of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

Yours sincerely

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

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Huw.Irranca-Davies@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Huw.Irranca-Davies@gov.wales

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.