



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-LG-4511-20

Elin Jones, AS/MS
Llywydd
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
CARDIFF
CF99 1SN

5 January 2021

Dear Llywydd,

The Meat Preparations (Amendment and Transitory Modification) (Wales) (EU Exit) Regulations 2021

In accordance with section 11A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 I am notifying you that this statutory instrument comes into force on 6 January, less than 21 days from the date of laying. The Explanatory Memorandum for these Regulations is attached for your information.

The purpose of this instrument is to temporarily suspend the requirement for meat preparations imported into Wales from establishments situated in EEA member States, the Faroe Islands, Greenland or Switzerland, to be deep frozen.

The enabling power for the disapplication of prohibitions and restrictions (P&Rs) on meat preparations only became available after implementation period completion day with the coming into force of the Official Controls (Animals, Feed and Food, Plant Health Fees etc.) (Wales) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020. An 'air gap' will exist until the Meat Preparations (Amendment and Transitory Modification) (Wales) (EU Exit) Regulations 2021 are made and come into force.

If this instrument does not come into force as soon as possible, this 'air gap' would mean that during this interim period imports of chilled meat preparations would be technically illegal into Wales, which would have negative implications for the food supply chain.

England and Scotland are making equivalent instruments to remove this import condition. Were we not to have alignment with each other, importers would be faced with a confusing

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Correspondence.Rebecca.Evans@gov.wales
Gohebiaeth.Rebecca.Evans@lyw.cymru

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.

situation. To ensure continued enforceability with the rest of the UK and to minimise the length of the 'air gap' it has become necessary not to adhere to the 21 day convention.

Given that the objective of the SI is to retain the current freedom of importing chilled meat preparations, it was considered there is no need to carry out a consultation or a Regulatory Impact Assessment. However, an Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared and is attached for your information. This has been laid, together with the Regulations, in Table Office.

A copy of this letter goes to Mick Antoniw MS, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Sian Wilkins, Head of Chamber and Committee Services and Julian Luke, Head of Policy and Legislation Committee Service.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Evans". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rebecca Evans AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd