

# Y Pwyllgor Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd

## Environment and Sustainability Committee

Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales



Mr La Via MEP  
[giovanni.lavia@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:giovanni.lavia@europarl.europa.eu)

26 October 2012

Dear Giovanni

### **National Assembly for Wales response to the Draft Report on proposals for a regulation on financing, management and monitoring of the CAP.**

I am writing to you in your capacity as rapporteur on the Commission's proposal for a regulation on financing, management and monitoring of the CAP. The Environment and Sustainability Committee of the National Assembly for Wales established a rapporteur group in September 2011 to consider the CAP Reform proposals and to gather a wide range of views from stakeholders in Wales about their priorities for the reform.

Since then we have been engaging directly with the Agriculture Committee in the European Parliament and Welsh MEPs to put forward the needs and concerns of stakeholders in Wales. Unfortunately we were unable to meet you during our visit to Brussels in May but we were delighted to have engaged in a useful and stimulating debate with some of your Committee colleagues on these crucial proposals.

We therefore read with great interest your Draft Report on proposals for a regulation on financing, management and monitoring of the CAP and believe that a number of the amendments you put forward will improve the proposals set out by the Commission. In particular we strongly welcome:

- Amendments 58 and 62 in relation to control systems and on-the-spot checks;
- Amendments 85 and 94 on the application of cross-compliance requirements; and
- Amendment 87 of the electronic identification of ovine and bovine animals.

However, in line with the views of the majority of stakeholders that responded to us, we are unable to support Amendments 88 and 89 which would remove the requirements for farmers to comply with the Water Framework Directive and Sustainable Pesticides Directive. We will also be asking MEPs to support amendments that would ensure that cross-compliance measures continue to ensure that income support could be withheld in cases of poisoning of protected birds.

Whilst we recognise that tackling invasive alien species can be costly and complicated and we do not want the burden to fall solely on farmers we are unable to support Amendment 102 at this stage. The Committee has heard from stakeholders in the farming industry

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that while they believe that action to tackle invasive alien species should be completed at a local and not individual farm level they would support measures that would require all farmers to participate in any such schemes taking place. We will therefore be seeking clarity on the intentions and extent of the cross-compliance requirements in relation to invasive alien species to ensure that they allow for co-operation without creating an overly onerous obligation on farmers.

We thank you and the Agriculture Committee for the hard work that you have undertaken to date to develop and improve the proposals and wish you well for the hard work that lies ahead in reaching an agreement.

We recognise the crucial impact agreement on the multiannual financial framework will have on the reform proposals and with therefore continue our call for the CAP budget to be maintained at current levels.

Yours sincerely

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

**Vaughan Gething AM**  
Chair - Common Agricultural Policy Task and Finish Group