

**Pwyllgor yr Economi,
Masnach a Materion Gwledig**

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**Economy, Trade and
Rural Affairs Committee**

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Vaughan Gething MS
Minister for Economy

08 October 2021

Dear Minister,

International agreement: Free Trade Agreement between the UK, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway

As part of our work on the scrutiny of international trade agreements, the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee considered the Free Trade Agreement between the UK, Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway on 30th September. Members would like some more information on the Agreement. Specifically would you be able to provide details of:

- Any Welsh Government assessment – including any macroeconomic assessment – of the Agreement and its potential impact on Wales both relative to the Agreement on Trade in Goods between the UK, Iceland and Norway and to the UK's trading relationship with Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein before the end of the transition period;
- Any specific representations made by Welsh Government to the UK Government during the negotiations including, if applicable, whether or not these representations were addressed in the final Agreement; and
- Any legislation that may be required to implement the Agreement, including legislation which relate to matters within the Senedd's competence?

Chapter 12 of the Agreement makes provisions in relation to the recognition of professional qualifications and the UK Government's Explanatory Memorandum specifically cites the Professional Qualifications Bill as a possible vehicle for this. As you will be aware the Committee recently scrutinised the Professional Qualifications Bill LCM and

laid its **report** on 28th September and will be keen to follow the interplay between this Agreement and that Bill if passed.

As the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee also reported on the LCM I have copied this letter to Huw Irranca-Davies MS in his capacity as Chair.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Davies". The ink is dark and the signature is centered on the page.

Paul Davies MS

Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg | We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.