

**Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd,
yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith**

**Climate Change, Environment,
and Infrastructure Committee**

The Rt Hon Greg Hands MP
Minister of State
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Dear Minister of State

On 20 October, the Welsh Parliament's Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee held a scrutiny session with the Welsh Government's Minister for Climate Change, Julie James MS.

During that session, Members questioned the Minister about the publication of the UK Government's Net Zero strategy, published on 19 October.

In response to a question about the extent to which Welsh Ministers were aware of, or had been consulted on, the UK Government's strategy, the Minister told the Committee that:

- She had been notified in a 15-minute meeting with you on Monday 18 October that publication of the Net Zero strategy was imminent;
- She had been assured that an advance copy of the strategy would be provided to the Welsh Government. A copy was provided at 12.01 am on the day of publication.

The Committee agreed that I should write to you to express our deep concern at this apparent lack of cooperation.

You will appreciate that the next ten years will prove to be vital in meeting net-zero targets. This challenge will not be met unless the UK Government works with the other governments of the United Kingdom. This is particularly the case because of the intersection of devolved and reserved policy areas and the question of how interventions that will move us towards net-zero commitments are funded. As a Committee, we hope that the commitments to engage with devolved governments as set out in the strategy will prove to be fact and not fiction.

Finally. I would like to offer an invitation to you to attend remotely a meeting of the Committee in future to discuss UK Government policies in this area and how they impact Wales.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Llyr', is centered on a light yellow rectangular background.

Llyr Gruffydd MS,
Chair, Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.