Julie James AS/MS Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd Minister for Climate Change

Llyr Gruffydd MS Chair Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee Welsh Parliament Cardiff Bay CF99 1SN



4 January 2022

Dear Llyr Gruffydd MS

Thank you for your letter of the 9 December requesting an update on our plans to ban single use plastic items.

I am pleased to confirm the consultation summary report, which includes the next steps, will be published in January. The intergovernmental discussions in relation to Single Use Plastic are continuing into the New Year.

I remain committed to delivering on our ambition of abolishing the use of the most commonly littered single use plastics in Wales. I am keen to drive forward, in the first instance, the proposals set out as phase one in our consultation, to legislate to remove these single use plastics from the consumer chain in Wales. We intend to introduce legislation for the bans as quickly as possible within this Senedd term.

In addition to this, my officials are already preparing for future phases of the work, including reviewing evidence for over 60 additional items identified in the consultation as candidates for potential future action. During this second phase, we will consider items such as wet wipes and equivalent moist towel products. It is well known many of these products enter the sewerage system, often creating problems with blockages and potentially even causing flood risks.

Yours sincerely

Julie James AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd Minister for Climate Change

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