

Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS

First Minister of Wales

5 November 2021

Dear Mark

UK-EU Agreements: The Trade and Cooperation Agreement

At our meeting on Monday of this week, we considered the latest developments in relation to UK-EU Agreements. There were a number of matters on which we agreed to seek further information as a result of our discussions, in particular in relation to the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA). We would therefore be grateful if you could provide further detail with regard to the following points:

1. Has the Welsh Government had any response to its request to be provided with a more enhanced role than that of observer status in the Partnership Council established under the TCA?
2. What is the role of Welsh Government officials in the Working Groups and Committees established under the TCA and, in particular:
 - could you confirm if Welsh Government officials are being routinely invited to participate in all Working Group and Committee meetings or only specific meetings?
 - could you set out how the Welsh Government intends to keep the Senedd informed of its involvement in these meetings, the issues discussed within them and any agreements reached?
3. Has the Welsh Government made any representations to the UK Government on the role of Welsh representatives in the Civil Society Forum and Domestic Advisory Group established under the TCA?



4. Has the Welsh Government taken any actions to draw the attention of Welsh organisations, businesses and representatives to the Expression of Interest in membership of the Civil Society Forum and the Domestic Advisory Group ?

I would be grateful to receive a response from you at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely

Huw Irranca-Davies

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Chair