



Huw Irranca-Davies MS
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

Huw.Irranca-Davies@senedd.wales

28 January 2022

Dear Huw,

**The Ivory Prohibitions (Exemptions) (Process and Procedure) Regulations 2021
The Ivory Act (Commencement No.1) Regulations 2021**

I am writing to make you aware I am giving consent to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to lay The Ivory Prohibitions (Exemption) (Process and Procedure) Regulations on 3 February 2022. These regulations will come into force on 24 February 2022.

Agreement was sought by Victoria Prentis MP, Minister for Farming, Fisheries and Food to make these regulations, which will apply to the United Kingdom.

The Ivory Prohibitions (Exemptions) (Process and Procedure) Regulations 2021 makes detailed provision for the operation of the exemptions processes under the Ivory Act (2018). This will apply to the UK as a whole and will allow persons to register items containing ivory for exemption from the eventual prohibition of ivory sales, subject to specific criteria.

The Ivory Act (Commencement No.1) Regulations 2021 accompanies the Prohibitions Regulations. These regulations will bring into force the specified provisions of the Ivory Act (2018), which deal with registration and exemption on 1 February 2022 (for regulation making powers) and 24 February 2022 for all remaining purposes.

It is normally the policy of the Welsh Government to legislate for Wales in matters of devolved competence. However, as the Welsh Government's position on ivory trade aligns with that of DEFRA and the other UK administrations, I am giving my consent to the proposed legislation which I believe will bring consistency to the introduction of an ivory sales prohibition in the UK.

Without such consent, Wales would be left out of alignment with other UK administrations in its approach to ivory sale prohibition. This could reduce the positive impacts of banning ivory sales across the UK and maintain demand for products containing ivory, thus contributing to the persisting threat to global elephant populations, which are illegally poached for ivory.

The Prohibitions Regulations will not commence the prohibition of ivory sales in the UK. The prohibition of ivory sales in the UK is due to commence in spring 2022.

I am copying this letter to the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee, and the Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee for their information.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd