

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Llyr Gruffydd MS Chair,
Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee
Senedd Cymru
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4 February 2022

Dear Llyr,

I am writing to inform the Committee of the intention to consent to the UK Government making and laying The Phytosanitary Conditions (Amendment) Regulations 2022 by 8 February 2022.

I have received a letter from Victoria Prentis MP, Minister for State for Farming, Fisheries and Food asking for consent to these Regulations. The Regulations intersect with devolved policy and will apply to Wales. The provisions could be made by Welsh Ministers in exercise of our own powers. The Regulation will extend to England, Scotland and Wales and a similar request for consent has been sent to Scottish Ministers.

The Regulations will be made in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 5(3), 30(1), 32(3), 37(5), 41(3), 42(3), 54(3), 72(3) and 105(6) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council on protective measures against pests of plants.

The amendments will include pest measures requiring urgent and non-urgent implementation, prevent the introduction of plant pests, update import and movement requirements of specific pests and deregulate pests which no longer pose a threat to Great Britain (GB) biosecurity. As a result these Regulations will protect biosecurity and protect trade between GB and relevant third countries and Russia by introducing further protective measures for at-risk plant goods. The Statutory Instrument (SI) is subject to the negative procedure and is due to be laid before Parliament on 8 February 2022 with a commencement date of 2 March 2022.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Although the Welsh Government's general principle is that the law relating to devolved matters should be made and amended in Wales, on this occasion, it is considered appropriate for the substance of the amendments to apply to Wales as there is no policy divergence between the Welsh and UK Government in this matter. This ensures a coherent and consistent statute book with the regulations being accessible in a single instrument. I consider that legislating separately for Wales would be neither the most appropriate way to give effect to the necessary changes nor a prudent use of Welsh Government resources given other important priorities.

I have written similarly to Huw Irranca-Davies MS, the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee (LJCC).

Yours sincerely



Julie James AS/MS

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