



Huw Irranca-Davies MS
Chair of Legislation Justice and Constitution Committee
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Paul Davies MS
Chair of Economy Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee
SeneddEconomy@senedd.wales

8 August 2022

Dear Huw, Paul,

I am writing further to my letter of 4 July and in accordance with the inter-institutional relations agreement, to inform you that I attended the Ministerial Forum for Trade on the 5 July.

The meeting was attended by Penny Mordaunt, Minister of State for Trade Policy; Ivan McKee, Scottish Minister for Business, Trade, Tourism and Enterprise; and Gordon Lyons, Northern Ireland Executive Minister for the Economy.

During the meeting, we discussed and agreed the revised terms of reference for the group. There were also updates on the Memorandum of Understanding that the Department for International Trade have concluded with some US states as well as an update on the UK-India free trade negotiations.

I reiterated that the Welsh Government is supportive of international trade and that here in Wales we have a great deal of expertise that can be drawn on to support negotiations, particularly in relation to the United States which is an important market for Wales.

I also emphasised our concerns in relation to animal welfare and standards with regards to India and that the UK government must not create an unlevel playing field.

Please note, following the agreement of the revised terms of reference, the group will now transition into the Inter-ministerial Group (Trade) but continue to serve the same function. A joint communique will be published on the UK government webpage.

I will write to you again to inform you of the date of the next meeting.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent dot over the 'i' in "Gething".

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy