



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-LG-22734-22

Huw Irranca-Davies MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

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3rd October 2022

Dear Huw

The Common Organisation of the Markets in Agricultural Products (Amendment) Regulations 2022

I wish to inform the Committee I am giving consent to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to lay The Common Organisation of the Markets in Agricultural Products (Amendment) Regulations 2022 on 8 November 2022.

The Regulations make various technical amendments to retained EU and EU derived domestic legislation relating to marketing standards for agricultural products.

The relevant amendments are summarised below:

Part 2 Chapter 1 (Regulations 2-4)

Regulations 2 to 4 make operability amendments to address deficiencies in retained direct EU legislation relating to marketing standards:

- Regulation 2 amends Annex 14 of Council Regulation (EC) 1234/2007 concerning marketing standards for hatching eggs and chicks and poultrymeat by inserting definitions of “relevant authority” and “third country” and replacing references to the European Community and Member States.
- Regulation 3 amends Commission Regulation (EC) 543/2008 on poultrymeat marketing standards to substitute a reference to a directive with corresponding domestic legislation, and to remove a reference to a provision which has been omitted; it also updates a reference to a European Norm standard which has been replaced.
- Regulation 4 updates the same European Norm reference in Annex 7 of the CMO regulation.

Part 3, Chapter 1 (Regulation 14)

Regulation 14 makes an operability amendment to the Hops Certification Regulations 1979. Regulation 3(1)(f) of the Hops Certification Regulations 1979 is now surplus to requirement due to provisions made by the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020 which guarantee that hops and hop products can continue to be moved from Northern Ireland to Great Britain providing that they meet with requirements for sale in Northern Ireland. As such, this instrument operates to omit Regulation 3(1)(f) from the 1979 Regulations to ensure clarity.

It is normally the policy of the Welsh Government to legislate for Wales in matters of devolved competence. However, in certain circumstances there are benefits in working collaboratively with the UK Government where there is a clear rationale for doing so. On this occasion, I am giving my consent to these Regulations, which make corrections in relation to, and on behalf of, Wales for reasons of efficiency and expediency, and to ensure consistency and coherence of the statute book. The amendments have been considered fully and there is currently no divergence in policy.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

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