

Rt Hon Elin Jones MS  
Llywydd  
Chair, Business Committee

25 November 2022

Annwyl Lywydd

## The Environmental Protection (Single-use Plastic Products) (Wales) Bill

Following our [report](#) on the above Bill, we received a [letter](#) from the Minister for Climate Change, Julie James MS (enclosed).

Recommendations in our report sought information from the Minister about her reasons for seeking to expedite scrutiny of the Bill given the impact this could have on the quality of the law made by the Senedd.

In particular, recommendation 5 sought information from the Minister about when the Welsh Government intended to commence all provisions of the Bill so that it is fully operational.

In our view, given that the Bill was subject to an expedited scrutiny process on grounds of urgency, we would have expected to have been provided with a more precise implementation timetable, rather than being advised that "the earliest provision can be commenced is autumn 2023" and that the intention is "for all commencement dates to be within this Senedd term i.e. by April 2026". In our view these comments do not suggest that the legislation is so urgent that it needed an expedited scrutiny process.

We have raised these and other concerns related to the effect of expedited scrutiny on this Bill with the Minister and enclose our letter for your information.

Our purpose in writing is to draw these matters to your attention. We also believe that, in future, there may be merit in requiring the Welsh Government to provide information about the intended commencement date of the Bill (or a breakdown by Part/provisions) if passed by the Senedd, in circumstances where it seeks to expedite scrutiny.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

Yours sincerely,

*Huw Irranca-Davies*

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Chair