



Ein cyf/Our ref:3654/22

Huw Irranca-Davies
Chair, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

14 December 2022

Dear Huw,

Thank you for you for providing me with a copy of the of Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee report on the Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memorandum in relation to the Trade (Australia and New Zealand) Bill.

I have considered the recommendations in the report and have outlined my responses below:

Recommendation 1. The Senedd's consent should also be sought for clause 4 and paragraph 4 of Schedule 2, and any future memoranda in respect of the Bill should identify them accordingly.

I accept that paragraph 4 of Schedule 2 requires consent, and I wrote to the Committee on the 25 August to confirm this. With regards to clause 4, clause 4 is a technical provision which is concerned with how the law is brought into force rather than the substance of the rules set down in the law, as a matter of practice we do not generally include these technical clauses within Legislative Consent Memoranda.

Recommendation 2. The Minister should keep the Committee up to date with the timing of the Bill's passage through the UK Parliament.

I accept this recommendation and have instructed my officials to ensure that the Committee is regularly informed of the Bill's passage through the UK Parliament.

Recommendation 3. The Minister should provide an update regarding his engagement with the UK Government within three weeks of the date of this report being laid.

I accept this recommendation. I understand the committee are disappointed that there had been no reply to the letter which I had written in May. There were several changes in Ministerial positions at the Department for International Trade during this period, but I am pleased to confirm that I recently met with the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for International Trade), Nigel Huddleston MP, to discuss the Bill.

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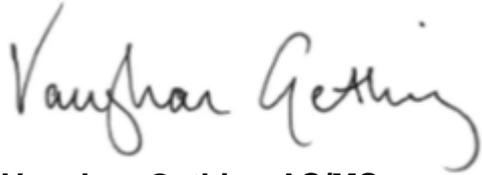
Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

It was a constructive meeting, and I raised the concerns we have with the Bill. There was agreement that more frequent meetings would be held to ensure that we can continue the dialogue on this Bill.

I trust the responses are helpful to the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

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

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy