

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r
Trefnydd
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Paul Davies MS
Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN
seneddeconomy@senedd.wales

09 February 2023

Dear Paul

Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee Review of the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021

In my response to Recommendation 4 of the Committee's review of the Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations (CoAPR), I undertook to provide a summary of the key points of the service level agreement (SLA), in respect of the resources for enforcement of the Regulations by Natural Resources Wales, once agreed.

Following discussions between NRW and Welsh Government, the SLA has now been agreed. The Welsh Government has committed £2.55m, over the next two financial years, to support NRW's enforcement of the Regulations. The funding will be split, with £1m committed in financial year 2023-2024 and £1.55 in 2024-25. The level of funding increases in year 2, following recruitment of staff during year 1.

The SLA covers:

- Compliance with and enforcement of CoAPR requirements across all agricultural sectors and relevant activities, such as landspreading activities in Wales.
- The Service Level Agreement with Welsh Government for Delivery of Cross Compliance.
- The provision of applied evidence, environmental planning, programme development, internal/external statutory advice, and guidance in relation to introduction and implementation of the Regulations, including in relation to the 4-year review.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Lesley.Griffiths@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Lesley.Griffiths@gov.wales

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.

The SLA will deliver against the areas referred to above through incremental improvements, in the following ways:

- Staff recruitment, training and development.
- Development & delivery of training and guidance (internal & external).
- Development and delivery of a planned CoAPR compliance inspection programme with associated enforcement.
- Follow up visits in relation to previous regulatory campaigns.
- Responding to Local Authority planning application consultations.
- Preconstruction notification assessment of relevant infrastructure and provide written response to requests for confirmation (where required for WG grants).
- Cross compliance provision of required data, training, specialist technical advice and inspection of complex CoAPR cases for RIW staff.
- Statutory 4-yearly review of effectiveness of CoAPR.

As part of the delivery of the SLA, NRW will submit reports to the Welsh Government to enable monitoring and review of the agreement.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Lesley Griffiths'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Lesley' and the last name 'Griffiths' clearly distinguishable.

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

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