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



Julie James AS/MS
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Minister for Climate Change

Llywodraeth Cymru
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Paul Davies MS
Chair
Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff CF99 1SN

Paul.Davies@senedd.wales

2nd February 2023

Dear Paul

Re: Provisional Common Framework Recommendations for Plant Health, Plant Varieties and Seeds, Agriculture Support, Fertilisers and Organic Production

Thank you for the ETRA committee's report, received by officials on 9 December 2022 detailing the committee's recommendations for the provisional framework agreements on Plant Health, Plant Varieties and Seeds, Agriculture Support, Fertilisers and Organic Production.

As you will be aware, the UK Parliament, Scottish Parliament and the Northern Ireland Assembly are also undertaking scrutiny of the frameworks, and we will need to wait for their Committees to complete scrutiny before we can provide a response to your recommendations. This approach to responding to Committee recommendations has been agreed on a four-nation basis and is in line with the spirit of four-nation working and consensus which embodies the Common Framework programme.

The only exception to this is where a recommendation relates to a factual error which poses a reputational risk to one or more of the Governments.

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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.

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We will, therefore, write to you again once the recommendations have been received from all UK legislatures and the four Governments have reached agreement on the changes to be made to the frameworks in response to these.

We commit to providing a full response as soon as practicable, however, please accept this letter in the interim. In the meantime, if there are pressing matters related to policy about which you would like information or clarification, please write to us and we will be happy to address these outside the scrutiny process.

We note some of your other recommendations refer to the frameworks programme in general. We will bring these to the attention of the Counsel General, who is the Minister responsible for frameworks policy.

Regards,

Lesley Griffiths
Minister for Rural Affairs, North Wales & Trefnydd and

Julie James
Minister for Climate Change

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