



Darren Millar MS
Temporary Chair
Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee
SeneddEconomy@senedd.wales

21 April 2023

Dear Darren,

Thank you for your letter of 28 March asking for the Welsh Governments views and assessment of the impact on Wales of the UK-Ukraine Free Trade & Strategic Partnership Agreement following the exchange of letters on the 23 February.

While the Welsh Government is usually involved as trade negotiations develop, due to the nature of this agreement, which is a direct response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the UK governments commitment to provide economic support to Ukraine through the temporary liberalisation of all TRQs and tariffs, the involvement of the Welsh Government has been limited.

Welsh goods trade with Ukraine accounts for around 0.05% of Welsh exports and around 0.01% of imports. Our latest trade figures show a decrease in the value of goods trade, from £25.0m in 2021 to around £11.7m in 2022, of which imports and exports were worth £2.2m and £9.6m respectively. This decline can, arguably, be attributed to the current conflict.

While Welsh Government involvement in the agreement is limited, we are fully supportive of any measures to support Ukraine in the ongoing conflict and welcome the positive actions the UK government have taken. However, I have made it clear to the UK government that we would expect the Welsh Government to be involved in any review of the deal in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy

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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.