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



Paul Davies MS Chair Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

SeneddEconomy@senedd.wales

18th July 2023

Dear Paul,

Thank you for your letter of 26 June following the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee meeting. As requested, I have outlined our position for mandating Informed Purchasing below.

Two aspects of Informed Purchasing were included in our consultation in November 2021:

- Publishing information regarding TB free herds on ibTB; and
- o Mandating the provision and display of TB information at the point of sale.

The consultation outcome helped inform our new <u>TB Delivery Plan</u>, launched in March.

Our aim is to collaborate with the UK Government to develop a mandatory Informed Purchasing system, enabling farmers to make informed decisions at point-of-sale with a consistent approach. A mandatory system will also enable veterinarians to learn more about the origin of bought in cattle should a breakdown occur.

Given the complexities involved in mandating the provision and display of information at point-of-sale, and to ensure consistency across Wales and England, further engagement with industry and the UK Government is necessary. This will include consideration of the potential implications for keepers who do not follow the principles of informed purchasing. Following this engagement a detailed plan and timetable will be shared.

My officials continue to look for ways to expand the capabilities of ibTB and its potential use in an Informed Purchasing scheme.

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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.

Officials will also utilise the new bovine TB Technical Advisory Group (TAG), once established, to seek their views and expertise.

Yours Sincerely,

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

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