The Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Bill

Dear Colleague,

Due to an administrative oversight, the General Principles debate on the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Bill was not added to the Business Statement for debate on 12 September 2023.

The Business Committee have agreed Stage 2 proceedings should be completed by the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee before 20 October 2023, subject to the General Principles of the Bill being agreed by the Senedd, and the Committee have provisionally scheduled Stage 2 proceedings accordingly. A delay to the debate would have a significant impact on the Committee’s forward workplan and the Government will, therefore, table a motion to suspend Standing Orders to enable the debate to take place as planned and I am asking Business Managers to support the proposal.

The debate on the financial resolution motion will take place on 19 September. Although no proceedings may be taken on the Bill after Stage 1 unless the Senedd has agreed a financial resolution, if the Senedd agrees the General Principles of the Bill, the window for tabling Stage 2 amendments will open, allowing the Bill to follow the current timetable.

I hope by bringing this to your attention now it will allow sufficient time to discuss with colleagues before we next meet and I apologise for the administrative oversight.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee and Chair of the Finance Committee.

Kind Regards,

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

13 July 2023