

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

Ein cyf/Our ref: LG/PO327/2023

Paul Davies MS  
Chair  
Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee  
Senedd Cymru

SeneddEconomy@senedd.wales

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

Dear Paul

Further to my letter of 5 July responding to ETRAC's recommendations should the Food (Wales) Bill fall, I thought it would be helpful to update you on work undertaken over the summer and the next steps.

Following the First Minister chairing a Welsh Government cross portfolio forum on 13 June, my officials have led a cross Government exercise in preparation to publish a short document in the autumn regarding food related policies. Work is now moving into the design and writing of the document. It will be succinct, published on-line with hyperlinks to the policies and activities within it, and illustrated with case studies. Collectively it will present the Welsh Government's strategic agenda for food matters. I am confident it will help stakeholders understand how the Welsh Government is tackling the complex, inter-connected challenges and opportunities which food presents. I intend to publish the document before the end of the year.

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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.

My officials have also made progress with development of the Community Food Strategy. An important stakeholder engagement exercise has been completed and [published](#). The engagement exercise has provided valuable feedback on issues identified in policy work to date and has contributed to the Welsh Government's assessment of issues and policy options. The cross Government exercise I referred to has also identified some potential policy opportunities. During this autumn term, my officials will continue to develop the work and I will discuss further with Cefin Campbell AS, the Designated Member for this part of the Co-operation Agreement. Pending the outcome of those discussions, further policy development and engagement work ahead, I intend to publish the Community Food Strategy in 2024.

The Welsh Government accepted, in principle, Recommendation 8 of your Report which included establishing an internal food policy board or to work with the Future Generations Commissioner. My Director of Rural Affairs now chairs a cross portfolio forum of senior officials about food matters, an arrangement which will continue as a means to assist policy development for the foreseeable future.

I am copying this letter to Cefin Campbell MS.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

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

Cc:  
Cefin Campbell MS