



Huw Irranca-Davies MS  
Chair  
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1SN  
[SeneddLJC@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddLJC@senedd.wales)

10 January 2024

Dear Huw

### **The Official Controls (Extension of Transitional Periods) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2024**

I am writing to inform the Committee that I have given my consent to the Minister of State for Biosecurity, Animal Health and Welfare to lay the Official Controls (Extension of Transitional Periods) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2024

I have laid a Written Statement which can be found at:  
<https://senedd.wales/media/oemk4plv/ws-ld16248-e.pdf>

These Regulations have been made using powers in the

1. paragraph 11A of Schedule 2 to the Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011;
2. Articles 144(6) of, and paragraphs 2 and 3 of Annex 6 to the Official Controls Regulations (EU) 2017/625 and

Consent has been given for the UK Government to make these Regulations following the publication of the Border Target Operating Model (TOM). This statutory instrument will be the first piece of legislation to implement the first milestone of the TOM from 31 January 2024. The purpose of the SI is to introduce health certification on imports of medium risk animal products, plants, plant products, and high-risk food and feed of non-animal origin from the European Union. This change includes an amendment to the Trade in Animals and Related Products (Wales) Regulations 2011. It will also remove the pre-notification exemption for goods from the island of Ireland for medium risk animal products, plants, and plant products. Additionally, it will amend the Transitional Staging Period (TSP) end date, from 31 January 2024 to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024 so the second stage of the TOM can begin from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

We have not yet agreed a date for physical checks to begin on imports from Ireland, so I anticipate that a further TSP extension will be required from the end of April until a date to be agreed.

The Statutory Instrument is subject to the negative procedure and was laid before Parliament on 9 January 2024 and will come into force on 30 January 2024.

I would like to reassure this Committee that while it is normally the policy of the Welsh Government to legislate for Wales in matters of devolved competence, in certain circumstances there are benefits in working collaboratively with the UK Government where there is a clear rationale for doing so. The change to the Trade in Animals and Related Products (Wales) Regulations 2011 mirrors that made by the Secretary of State to the equivalent Scottish and English Regulations, to create a single, accessible and bilingual amendment. On this occasion, therefore, I have given my consent to these Regulations for reasons of efficiency and expediency, and cross-UK coordination and consistency.

I regret it was not possible to give the Committee advance notice as the statutory instrument was received during recess.

I am writing in similar terms to Paul Davies MS, Chair of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

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