

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

Llŷr Gruffydd MS
Chair,
Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee
Senedd Cymru

SeneddClimate@senedd.wales

5 March 2024

Dear Llŷr,

The Plant Health (Fees) (England) and Official Controls (Frequency of Checks) (Amendment) Regulations 2024.

I refer to my letter to you of 20 February 2024. I wish to inform the Committee I have given my consent to the Minister of State to lay the Plant Health (Fees) (England) and Official Controls (Frequency of Checks) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 in relation to Wales. I have issued a Written Statement which can be found [here](#).

The Regulations intersect with devolved policy and provisions within them will apply to Wales. These provisions extend to England, Scotland and Wales. The Statutory Instrument (SI) is subject to the affirmative procedure and was laid before the UK Parliament on 4 March 2024 with a commencement date of 30 April 2024.

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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.

Although the Welsh Government's general principle is that the law relating to devolved matters should be made and amended in Wales, on this occasion, it is considered appropriate for the Regulations to be laid by UK Government. The Regulations relate to a devolved area, however, they impact on imports of plant and plant products are GB-wide. Many of the changes in the Regulations relate to the importation of plants and plant products. Most of these goods which enter Wales come through English ports and would be subject to their importation legislation. Introducing separate regulations in Wales and England may cause additional burden on the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), business, traders and growers. Regulating on a GB-wide basis ensures a coherent and consistent statute book with the regulations being accessible in a single instrument with no risk of legislative divergence in Great Britain. Additionally, doing Wales-only Regulations for some provisions within this SI would likely have implications on delivery of the wider Borders Target Operating Model.

I have written similarly to Huw Irranca-Davies MS, the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee (LJCC).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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