

Huw Irranca-Davies MS  
Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change  
and Rural Affairs  
Welsh Government

9 August 2024

Dear Huw,

### **Sustainable Farming Scheme – feedback from stakeholders at the Royal Welsh Show**

During the Committee's visit to the Royal Welsh Show stakeholders raised concerns regarding the outputs of the Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) Stakeholder Working Groups. For example, we heard concerns around the new entrants working group that initially minutes were circulated following meetings however this trailed off and no final recommendations or report were agreed or published. Feedback was that members of the group were understandably disappointed.

Building on the assurances sought in recommendations one and two in the Committee's [July report](#) on the SFS, I would also like to urge you to publish a note from each Stakeholder Working Group meeting and an overall report covering the findings from each group. I am sure stakeholders would welcome this output and it would certainly aid in transparency and help those following the development of the SFS to understand the process.

We also heard concerns regarding the operation of the Carbon Sequestration Evidence Review Panel. Stakeholders suggested there were some issues regarding agreeing which experts could be brought in and we also heard the timeline for producing evidence was causing some stakeholders issues. Please can you share your views on the progress of this group, and any actions you may take to rectify the issues we understand it is facing.

I look forward to hearing from you on these important matters.



I have copied this letter to Llyr Gruffydd MS in his capacity as Chair of the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a long, sweeping tail on the 's'.

**Paul Davies MS**

Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English