



Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee
Senedd Cymru,
Cardiff Bay,
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

SeneddEconomy@senedd.wales

11 November 2025

Dear Andrew

I thank the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee for their interest in the recent signing of the UK-India Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). India is an important partner and market for Wales. This agreement has the potential to further increase the trade opportunities for Welsh businesses once it is fully implemented.

My officials are in the progress of drafting the Welsh Government's perspective and the implications of this agreement for Wales. It remains our intention to publish this report early next year to coincide with the UK Government's CRAG (Constitutional Reform and Governance Act) process prior to the UK's ratification of the agreement for entry into force. I will keep this committee updated on progress and publication of the report should it be delayed due to other trade related activities taking place, such as with the EU and US.

On the three questions you have raised on the CETA, more detailed responses will be contained within the final perspectives report. In the meantime, I can provide the Committee with an early initial response to these questions.

In relation to the assessment of the key impacts, as the CETA is not yet in force, a true assessment of the value of this agreement is difficult to provide, especially as it will depend on utilisation of the agreement by businesses. Although modelling results from the UK Government suggest that the agreement could increase GVA in Wales by approximately £80m (0.11%) in the long run, in real terms. Given the lack of granular trade data published for Wales, it will not be possible to conduct or commission our own economic modelling of the final deal. However, we do not believe the outputs would vary significantly from those produced by UK Government. Our full assessment of the impact of the agreement on Wales will be available in our upcoming report.

The final perspectives report will detail the compatibility of CETA with our own ambitions, as set out in our approach to trade policy paper. However, early findings have indicated that

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Correspondence.Rebecca.Evans@gov.wales
Gohebiaeth.Rebecca.Evans@llyw.cymru

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.

there are some alignments in this area, such as the inclusion of the environment and gender chapters, and animal welfare provisions, within CETA.

Although the UK-India CETA will have some implications on the trade of steel, much of this will depend on how the agreement will be utilised by businesses. The lowering of tariffs on certain steel products by India provides an opportunity for UK and Welsh steel producers to potentially access the, albeit a heavily saturated, India market. The UK market access for steel from India has not fundamentally changed as a result of CETA. However, other UK domestic policies, such as the expiry of the UK steel safeguards and the UK Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism may result in changes in the trade of steel between UK and India, but this is not as a result of the agreement itself.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to assure the Committee that a copy of the Welsh Government perspectives report will be provided once it has been finalised.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'R' being particularly large and stylized.

Rebecca Evans AS/MS

Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio