

Mark Drakeford AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref LF/MD/1051/14
David Rees AM
Chair
Health and Social Care Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

24 October 2014

Factual briefing on the Public Health White Paper

Thank you for your letter of 9th October following the factual briefing on the Public Health White Paper provided by officials on 8th October.

The Committee has asked for my view on whether the National Assembly has legislative competence to implement a minimum unit price for alcohol in Wales and whether discussions have been held on this issue with the UK Government.

In my view, the National Assembly for Wales has the competence to legislate on a wide range of public health measures, including the proposals for minimum unit pricing of alcohol, pursuant to Schedule 7 to the Government of Wales Act 2006. Given this position, I confirm that neither I nor my officials have held any discussions with the UK Government other than to confirm the Welsh Government's intention to introduce minimum unit pricing for alcohol contained in the Public Health White Paper, '*Listening to you; your health matters*'.

We are, of course, also continuing to closely monitor the progress and associated implications of the Scottish Government's minimum unit pricing legislation currently being considered by the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Best wishes,

Mark.

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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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