

**Y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol
Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee**

Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM
First Minister
Welsh Government
5th Floor
Tŷ Hywel
Cardiff Bay

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



17 July 2014

Draft driftnets regulation COM(2014)265

I attach for your information a copy of a letter that I sent yesterday to the European Commission regarding the draft driftnets regulation COM(2014)265.

We are surprised that the Welsh Government seemed unaware of this proposal, particularly in view of the impact it will have on Welsh fishing communities.

As you will be aware in our March report *Wales' role in the EU decision-making process* we made the following recommendation:

Recommendation 8: We recommend that the Welsh Government, for all relevant UK Government Explanatory Memoranda on EU policy proposals, issues a statement (or other document) setting out its observations on the policy matters covered.

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In your response, you rejected this recommendation. In our view, the issues raised by this proposal highlight why we believe there is a need for systematic and proactive statements by the Welsh Government on key EU legislation relevant to Wales.

In the circumstances, we would be grateful if you could confirm what action you are taking to review the arrangements you have in place to monitor EU proposals as they emerge from the Commission and as part of this, if you will reconsider your response to recommendation 8 of our report.

Yours sincerely

David Melding AM
Chair