



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA/HIDCC/05086.24

Llŷr Gruffydd MS
Chair
Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

10 May 2024

Dear Llŷr,

Further to my letter to you of 24 April. I wish to inform the Committee I have given my consent to the Minister of State to lay the Phytosanitary Conditions (Amendment) Regulations 2024 in relation to Wales. I have laid a Written Statement which can be found [here](#).

The Regulations intersect with devolved policy and will apply to Wales. The Regulations extend to England, Scotland and Wales. The Statutory Instrument (SI) is subject to the negative procedure and was laid before Parliament on 9 May 2023 with a commencement date of 31 May 2024 for urgent measures and 9 November 2024 for non-urgent measures.

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 was 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 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 for notifying the World Trade Organisation (WTO) of the changes.

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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.

I have written similarly to Sarah Murphy MS, the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee (LJCC).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized representation of the name 'Huw Irranca Davies'.

Huw Irranca Davies AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs