



Mike Hedges AM
Chair
Climate Change, Environment and
Rural Affairs Committee

17 October 2017

Dear Mike

I wish to update the Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee (CCERA) members in relation to recommendation 21 of your report on the 'Future of Land Management in Wales' dated March 24th 2017.

Recommendation 21 requested:-

The Welsh Government should aim to increase public procurement of Welsh produce and should report to this Committee within the next six months on current levels of procurement and its plans for the future.'

The National Procurement for Wales (NPS) has been working with the Welsh Public Sector to put in place a number of procurement agreements for the delivery of fresh food produce and packaged food produce.

The fresh food produce agreement targeted the following products.

- Fresh and frozen meats.
- Fresh fruit, vegetables and salads.
- Fresh milk, fresh dairy products and eggs.
- Bread, rolls, cakes and morning goods
- Chilled ready to eat foods.

The packed food produce agreement targeted the following products.

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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.

- Ambient and frozen products.
- Ambient groceries.
- Frozen products.
- Soft beverages, bottled water, confectionery and crisps.

The procurement model was designed to meet the varying needs of the Welsh Public Sector and also let on a zonal basis to encourage participation from Welsh based suppliers.

In addition, particular emphasis was placed on developing Welsh based sources of supply with appropriate key performance indicators included to allow monitoring of supplier performance.

Where distributors won contracts it was stressed the NPS would work with them to provide a route to market for local food and drink producers and promote Welsh produce.

Both procurements have been designed to deliver outputs that embrace all Well Being of Future Generation Act (2015) goals and fully embrace highly robust food safety controls delivered nationally through an external food safety accreditation agency.

Current status – Fresh Food Produce

The fresh food produce agreement was let in September 2017. Work is ongoing to mobilise the agreement with a number of major Welsh public sector bodies

80% of the suppliers appointed to the agreement are Welsh based organisations.

All bidders were evaluated against a number of key criteria including their capability to source and market local Welsh produce

Amongst a number of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) set out to monitor supplier performance the NPS will be measuring and working with suppliers to increase their performance in relation to

- Provenance of products
- Locally sourced seasonal produce

Current status – Packaged Food Produce

The packaged produce agreement procurement is on going. Submissions are currently under evaluation and the agreement will be awarded in November 2017.

Next Steps

The committee is invited to consider receiving performance updates on a six monthly basis.

Regards
Lesley

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs