Mark Drakeford AM/AC Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid Cabinet Secretary for Finance



David Rees AM Chair External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee National Assembly for Wales

27 March 2018

Dear David,

## **External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee on 5 March**

Thank you for the opportunity to give evidence to the Committee on 5 March. A number of actions were recorded at that meeting, to which response is made below.

The first action referring to the UK Government's Agriculture Command Paper relates to the Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs' portfolio who is writing to you separately on this matter.

In relation to the second action, I referred to the mapping exercise undertaken ahead of an early meeting of the European Advisory Group, in relation to EU programmes and networks. I agreed then to share a summary of this paper should it be helpful to the Committee. That exercise formed part of a paper produced ahead of the November 2016 meeting of the European Advisory Group. My officials are therefore in the process of updating this paper to ensure it is as accurate and up-to-date as possible. I will share this paper with you prior to my next appearance on 16 April, once revised. This will be an ongoing programme of work and I would be happy to share further updated versions with the Committee at the appropriate time.

As far as the third and final action point on sectoral analyses is concerned, this was covered in the First Minister's written response to the Committee's recent report on "How is the Welsh Government Preparing for Brexit?". As he set out, the work that we have been undertaking to understand the issues and areas of concern for companies and businesses in Wales is wider than the priority sectors, which comprised our approach to economic policy at the time. As indicated in our Economic Action Plan, we have moved towards a

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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.

thematic approach to sector definitions. Our initial internal work led us to commission wider research, which has overtaken the early analysis. An example can be found in the research into issues facing larger businesses in Wales which was subsequently carried out by the Cardiff Business School and published on 2 February 2018.

Best wishes,

Mark Drakeford AM/AC

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