

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM  
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig  
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref LG/0859/18

Mr David Rees AM  
Chair of External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
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8 January 2019

Dear David,

### **UK Fisheries Bill – Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum**

As the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee is scrutinising the Legislative Consent Memorandum for the Fisheries Bill, I would like to draw your attention to a Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum which has been laid today. I have attached a copy for your reference.

We have secured an amendment during the House of Commons Committee stage which makes provision to extend the National Assembly's legislative competence in relation to fishing, fisheries and fish health matters in relation to the Welsh Zone. This is a significant constitutional step forward and will enable the National Assembly for Wales to bring forward an Assembly Fisheries Bill in relation to Wales and the Welsh zone. The Welsh Government is of the view the National Assembly for Wales can already (and will continue to be able to) legislate in relation to Welsh fishing boats beyond Wales on the basis such legislation would be "in relation to Wales" for the purposes of section 108A(2)(b) of the 2006 Act.

The new clause 39 amends section 108A (legislative competence) of the Government of Wales Act 2006 ("2006 Act") and makes a number of further consequential changes to the 2006 Act.

The latest version of Bill is here:

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0278/18278.pdf>

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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.

The Supplementary Memorandum also sets out an updated position on Clause 18, following concerns we raised in the Legislative Consent Memorandum laid on 15 November, and notes Welsh Government continues to work with UK Government to ensure we have the most appropriate and widest toolkit for the management of our Welsh fisheries as we exit the European Union.

I expect to lay a further Supplementary Memorandum at a later stage in the Bill process, following discussions with the UK Government about further amendments and prior to tabling a debate for the Assembly to consider consent to the LCM.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**Lesley Griffiths AC/AM**

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