

**Y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol
Health and Social Care Committee**

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru
National
Assembly for
Wales



Lesley Griffiths AM
Minister for Health and Social Services
Welsh Government

31 May 2012

Dear Lesley,

Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Bill

At its meeting on 30 May 2012, the Health and Social Care Committee considered and agreed its scope and approach to its Stage 1 consideration of the Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Bill.

The Committee considered provisions contained in the Bill to make subordinate legislation and specifically referred to powers provided to Welsh Ministers to prescribe (by way of regulations) that certain categories of establishment may be excluded from the requirement to be rated (Section 2 (6) (a)) and the proper location and manner for displaying food hygiene rating stickers (Section 7 (3)).

The Committee acknowledges that the Explanatory Memorandum states that, regulations relating to exemption would be consulted upon subject to the Bill completing Stage 1 of the Assembly's consideration. The Committee further notes that you stated in your Statement to Plenary on the 29 May 2012 your intention for these, and other regulations provided by the Bill, to be fully consulted upon subject to the Bill completing Stage 2 of the Assembly's consideration.

However, in order to inform its work at Stage 1 the Committee asks that you give consideration to publishing the draft regulations earlier. This would firstly assist the Committee in clarifying the scope of the Bill and ensure it is able to consult appropriately. Secondly it would help the Committee in its consideration of whether the Bill contains a reasonable balance between the powers on the face of the Bill and the powers conferred by Regulations.

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I would be grateful if you could give consideration to this request and look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Mark Drakeford.

Mark Drakeford AM
Chair