

Y Gwir Anrh/Rt Hon Mark Drakeford AC/AM
Prif Weinidog Cymru/First Minister of Wales



From the Senior Private Secretary
Oddi wrth Prif Ysgrifennydd Preifat

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Dr Grahame Davies
Deputy Private Secretary
Household of TRH The Prince of Wales & The Duchess of Cornwall
Clarence House
London
SW1A 1BA

26 March 2019

Dear Grahame

Following his meeting last month with the Prince of Wales, the First Minister asked that I provide an update on the Welsh Government's activities in relation to farm support schemes and tackling agricultural pollution.

In July last year, the Welsh Government published for consultation our proposals to reform the current Common Agricultural Policy in Wales. *Brexit and our Land*, sets out proposals for new support schemes: an Economic Resilience Scheme to provide investment for high-quality food production, and a Public Goods Scheme to provide an income stream for environmental outcomes.

The consultation closed in October last year and the Welsh Government has nearly completed its analysis of over 12,000 consultation responses. An update is provided in the attached written statement which was laid in the National Assembly on 21 March. A further consultation will be published ahead of this year's Royal Welsh Agricultural Show.

A significant issue raised in the consultation is the interaction between food production and public goods. We are very interested to explore the potential for public goods to be delivered through food production and for government to incentivise environmentally-sustainable farming.

Agricultural pollution is damaging the environment and the reputation of Welsh farming, and on 14 November 2018 the Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs issued a statement outlining our response (enclosed).

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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 regulations we propose will replicate good practice measures focussed on good nutrient management, which many farmers across Wales are already implementing routinely, and include the following requirements:

- Nutrient management planning;
- Sustainable fertiliser applications linked to the requirement of the crop;
- Protection of water from pollution related to when, where and how fertilisers are spread; and
- Manure storage standards.

The Welsh Government is seeking to ensure a number of issues are addressed, including agricultural pollution, trade in agricultural produce and providing baseline standards above which payments can be made to farmers for public goods outcomes (subject to the Welsh Government's response to the Brexit and our Land consultation).

The regulations will be part of a suite of measures designed to address this issue, including the support already being offered through Farming Connect and the Rural Development Programme for Wales.

I hope this update is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Rose Stewart

ROSE STEWART (MRS)

Senior Private Secretary to the First Minister
Prif Ysgrifennydd Preifat i'r Prif Weinidog