



Ein cyf/Our ref LG/1057/21

Arfon Williams / Andrew Tuddenham
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Thank you for your letter of 16 December regarding the new Sustainable Farming Scheme and stability payments.

I thank you for the support and engagement the Wales Environment Link has given on my proposals for future farm support.

I agree we cannot afford to delay our response to the climate and nature emergencies. Welsh agriculture is at the heart of many of our rural communities. Our high standards in food, farming and land management are key to our response to the climate emergency and our plans for enhancing biodiversity. Our aim is to create a sustainable agriculture sector in Wales for future generations.

I can confirm future farm support will reward farmers who take action to meet these challenges. The proposed Sustainable Farming Scheme will be different to the current Basic Payment Scheme. The fundamental change will be that the level of payment will be linked to the actions which an active farmer undertakes. I will publish an outline scheme in the summer and this will start a programme of co-design and consultation.

We are working in collaboration with Cefin Campbell MS on our proposals for the transition from current support to the future scheme and we will consult on these in 2023. I am still in discussion with Plaid Cymru on the cooperation agreement and I will arrange a meeting with you to discuss further in due course.

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

**Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd**