



Ein cyf/Our ref: A35572821

Elin Jones MS
Y Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee
Senedd Cymru

Elin.jones@senedd.wales

19 July 2021

Dear Elin,

The Chairs of both the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure (CCEI) Committee and the Legislation, Justice and Constitution (LJC) Committee wrote to you on 2 July raising concerns regarding the timetable for scrutiny for the Legislative Consent Memorandum (LCM) on the Environment Bill.

We recognise the importance of the Senedd's scrutiny process where the UK Government proposes to legislate in matters of devolved competence and share the view the Sixth Senedd Committee members require the opportunity to carry out full scrutiny of the LCM. However, the setting of the scrutiny period and debate date is subject to the UK Parliamentary timetable for consideration of the Bill, over which we have no control.

However, I am pleased to confirm the Minister for Climate Change has received a favourable response to her letter of 2 July to the Secretary of State for Agriculture and Food requesting Lords Third Reading be scheduled to allow more time for Senedd Committee scrutiny of the LCM. Consequently, we now propose the debate takes place on 28 September and the time is extended to allow the Senedd additional time to debate the LCM on this Bill.

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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.

Accordingly, we propose a revised reporting deadline of 23 September. Whilst we recognise this is still shy of the at least six sitting weeks' scrutiny period we would normally afford to the Committees, to assist the Committees in their scrutiny of the LCM, the Minister for Climate Change has attended at both Committees prior to the summer recess and has committed to formally responding prior to the debate to scrutiny Committee reports published by the revised deadline.

I am copying this letter to the Chairs of the LJC and CCEI Committees.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Lesley Griffiths'.

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

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