

Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Nobel House
17 Smith Square London
SW1P 3JR

8 November 2016

Dear Secretary of State,

The future of agricultural, environment and rural policies in Wales

The Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee ('the Committee') at the National Assembly for Wales is currently undertaking an inquiry into the future of agricultural, environment and rural policies in Wales.

On Wednesday 9 November 2016, I am making a statement to the Assembly on behalf of the Committee to update Assembly Members on progress with this work.

As part of this statement, I will be calling on the UK Government to commit to providing Wales with the same level of funding for agriculture, environment and rural development as is currently provided by the European Union.

I will also call on the UK Government to recognise that these areas are devolved and, as such, Wales must have the freedom to determine future policy in these areas.

As a Committee, we are supportive of the bilateral talks that are being held between the Welsh and UK Government and the multilateral talks involving all the devolved governments. We recognise that some level of UK-wide framework for agricultural policy is an option. However, we believe that any such framework should be agreed between the devolved nations and the UK Government and subject to the scrutiny and consent of the devolved assemblies and parliaments.



Our work on this inquiry continues and we will be publishing a full report in the first quarter of 2017.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this further and I invite you to attend a future meeting of the Committee.

In the meantime, I would be grateful for your response to the points I will be raising in my statement.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Reckless', is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Mark Reckless AM

Chair of the Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

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