

**Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad
Minister for the Environment, Planning & the Countryside**



Our ref: CJ/05486/03

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Sandy Mewies AM
Chair – European and External Affairs Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

28 July 2003

Dear *Sandy*

Thank you for your letter of 7 July on behalf of the European and External Affairs Committee about the recently agreed reforms to the EU Common Agriculture Policy.

The package on which decisions were reached at the Luxembourg Council in June represents a high level framework that delivers fundamental reform to the CAP. The European Commission is expected later this year to publish the draft legal texts that will provide further detail on implementation of the Luxembourg Agreement.

There is much detail in the Luxembourg Agreement that needs to be examined closely. My officials are taking forward discussion with the key industry and environmental stakeholders in Wales, prior to initiating formal consultation, how we in Wales can shape CAP reform to the benefit of Welsh farming. In parallel, I and officials will continue to be fully engaged at the London and Brussels levels as well as maintaining our dialogue with Welsh stakeholders.

On 16 July, I reported to the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee on the CAP reform process. For ease of reference, I enclose a copy of the papers that I presented to the Committee. It is my intention to report regularly to the Committee and I have asked my officials to ensure that your Clerk receives copies of future papers that are prepared. I aim also to ensure that the National Assembly, in plenary, is kept informed as



BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

part of the process under which the Welsh Assembly Government will reach decisions in the months ahead on the shape of CAP reform in Wales.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C Jones', written in a cursive style.

Carwyn Jones AM