



By email

Paul Davies MS
[Chair of Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee](#)
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

10 March 2022

Dear Chair

Border Controls Posts

I'm writing to provide an update on the Welsh Government's programme to establish border control posts in Wales following the UK's exit from the European Union.

I can confirm that, as I announced to the Senedd in my statement of 10 March, I have appointed Kier Construction Ltd. as the contractor for the design of the proposed permanent Border Control Post facility to be situated at plot 9, Parc Cybi Holyhead. During the design stage of the contract Kier will work with the Welsh Government to produce detailed designs for the facility, which will then allow the cost and timetable to be confirmed. The build stage is subject to the granting of planning permission via a Special Development Order with a decision expected in May. I expect that the BCP will be operational by April 2023.

As you know, interim arrangements are being developed for each of the three Welsh ferry ports, to take effect from 1 July. This will ensure we maintain the flow of imports from the island of Ireland whilst protecting biosecurity and food safety. We continue to develop these plans with input from the local authorities and relevant enforcement agencies, (including the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), as well as the ports.

My written statement also noted that negotiations have been terminated for the site at Johnston (for the combined BCP serving the two Pembrokeshire ferry ports) following site surveys which revealed a large number of bat species. The interim arrangements allow more time to consider all the options for the permanent BCP arrangements, whilst monitoring trade flow data and I am not ruling out any options at this stage. I expect to make a further statement after July.

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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.

In December the UK Government extended staged controls for all movements of goods from the island of Ireland to Great Britain beyond 1 January 2022. The Foreign Secretary, Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP, wrote to confirm the continuing intention for full checking requirements to be introduced from 1 July - we are therefore planning on that basis. However, the negotiations on the Northern Ireland Protocol and unfettered market access continue to raise uncertainty for those that have to make preparations for the introduction of border controls from July 2022.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy