

Mark Drakeford AM/AC
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid
Cabinet Secretary for Finance



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mick Antoniw AM
Chair, Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee
National Assembly for Wales

Dear Mick,

19 June 2018

Thank you for your letter of 19 June in respect of the Intergovernmental Agreement, and the Oliver Letwin amendment to the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill relating to environmental principles, which was agreed by Parliament on Monday 18 June.

The UK Government is very clear that the draft Bill which the Secretary of State will be required to produce will apply only in England, or to reserved matters. In addition, the amendment requires the Bill to set out a series of cross-cutting environmental principles; it does not oblige the UK Government to produce a Bill which sets out a legislative framework in relation to one of the specific policy areas set out in the Annex to the Intergovernmental Agreement.

As such, on this basis I do not believe that the amendment has the potential to breach the Intergovernmental Agreement, but Welsh Government officials will continue to engage closely with UK Government colleagues as they develop the draft Bill, and will be reminding them of the need to ensure that they are compliant with the Agreement.

Best wishes,
Mark

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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.