

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref JJ/01937/23

Andy Hill
Chair
Stove Industry Association

[Redacted personal data]

13 July 2023

Dear Andy,

Thank you for your letter of 30 June regarding the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Bill.

We welcome your thoughts on how to make the proposals more effective and will consider them alongside further feedback we expect to receive via the Committee reports later this month.

The national targets provisions include a duty to lay regulations to set a PM_{2.5} air quality target before the Senedd within three years of the Act receiving Royal Assent. This timescale is necessary as there are a significant number of steps that need to be undertaken before such a target can be set. The process will be informed by several sources of evidence, including scientific data and models, historical datasets, and assessment of what is feasible from a socio-economic perspective. It is an iterative process and will rely on input, expertise and scrutiny from stakeholders. Our policy intention is to ensure the target is set in a transparent way and with full consultation. We will provide more detailed timelines on the process as the work progresses, and we appreciate your continued support during this period.

We are amending existing legislation in relation to the national air quality strategy to include a requirement to consult the public, which is set out in section 10 of the Bill. This ensures the Welsh Ministers must consult with the public, which will include stakeholders and industry representatives, in the usual way. The same applies to the consultation requirements included in section 22 of the Bill. These relate to consultation on the National Soundscapes Strategy and section 12 of the Bill which amends the existing consultation requirements in section 87 of the Environment Act 1995.

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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.

I appreciate your offer to support any messaging we develop as part of the Bill and the accompanying guidance. We intend to work closely with industry in the development of any communications campaign. Organisations such as the Stove Industry Association are well placed to promote advice on best practice techniques and ways to reduce emissions from domestic burning. I am aware that you already do this through your well-established media platforms and advice at point of sale.

My officials will be in touch shortly to arrange a meeting with you, and we look forward to continued engagement with the Stove Industry Association as the Bill passes through the Senedd.

Yours sincerely,



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