Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: TO/LGRRS/05259/26

[redacted]

June 2026

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your correspondence of 10 June to Llyr Gruffydd, Cabinet Minister for Rural Resilience and Sustainability, regarding sewage pollution. The Welsh Government's Water Branch has been asked to respond.

We recognise the strength of feeling across Wales about the health of our rivers, coastal waters and wider environment.

The Welsh Government is currently taking forward a programme of work to consider how the water sector and its regulatory framework can be strengthened to better respond to the challenges facing Wales. This includes improving environmental outcomes, strengthening oversight and supporting long-term resilience of water infrastructure.

The programme is being developed around a number of core principles, including:

- Strengthening overall accountability across the system;
- Supporting long-term environmental resilience and improvement;
- Ensuring regulatory frameworks are effective, proportionate and responsive; and
- Improving transparency and public confidence.

Alongside regulatory reform, there is a broader programme of work underway to address water quality challenges from multiple sources. Sources of pollution can include sewage discharges, agricultural runoff, urban pollution such as road and transport runoff and litter as well as legacy industrial impacts. We are taking action across these areas, including strengthening environmental regulation, supporting sustainable farming practices, and working with partners to improve river health.

We appreciate that there is a strong desire to see rapid progress in this area. The development of reforms of this scale requires careful consideration to ensure that they are effective, deliverable and provide long-term benefits.

Thank you for writing to us and we hope that you find this response helpful.

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.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre
0300 0604400

Yours sincerely,

Water Policy Branch
**Climate Change and Rural Affairs Group**
**Welsh Government**