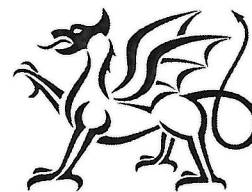


Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00265/18

Dr Stephen Marsh-Smith OBE
Chief Executive
Rivers Trusts of Wales

stephen@afonyddcymru.org

13 February 2018

Dear Stephen

Thank you for your letter of 31 January, regarding the Industrial Scale Pollution of SAC Rivers in Wales.

I share your concern with the state of some of our most well known Welsh rivers. In my statement issued in December, I committed to work with stakeholders to get the right balance of regulatory measures, voluntary initiatives and investment. None of these interventions will work in isolation and I do not see us being in a position where there is simply no regulation which is why I am committed to developing a suite of interventions. I am by no means advocating one approach over another and will endeavour to use all the tools available to tackle this issue.

I note what you say about European obligations. However, I am committed to tackling this issue regardless of our status in Europe and I must ensure that the approach taken in Wales is the most appropriate for our environment and businesses.

I am aware of the work the Wye and Usk foundation has undertaken in tackling agricultural pollution in Herefordshire and the borders and how you plan to undertake this work more widely. I would like my officials to explore this with you further and would welcome your input into the discussions around any future approach to tackling this issue.

Regards

Lesley Griffiths

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Lesley.Griffiths@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Lesley.Griffiths@gov.wales

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.