

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol
Minister for Natural Resources



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Chair of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee

5th November 2014

Dear *Am*.

I have today laid before the Assembly a proposed Order under section 109 of the Government of Wales Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act"), which seeks to amend Schedule 7 to the 2006 Act so as to confer legislative competence upon the National Assembly for Wales to amend section 79 (sustainable development) of the 2006 Act.

The Sustainable Development Bill White paper, published in December 2012, set out the Welsh Government's intention to bring replace the existing duty in section 79 of the 2006 Act to promote sustainable development, but that the National Assembly for Wales does not have the legislative competence to amend that section. If this Order is agreed, I intend to bring forward a Government amendment to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Bill ("the Bill") which amends the 2006 Act as soon as I am able to.

Because of the ongoing negotiations with the UK Government to get to this stage, I have not been able to lay this proposed Order before now or to discuss it with you at one of my appearances before the Committee for scrutiny of the Bill, which I would have hoped to do if I had been able to bring the Order forward earlier.

I attach a copy of the Explanatory Memorandum for the Order, also today laid before the Assembly. I know the Committee is extremely busy but if time and calendars permit, I would be happy to appear for a short scrutiny session if that would be helpful. Alternatively, I would be happy to write with further information.

I have copied this letter to Alun Ffred Jones AM, Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee].

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a vertical line.

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol
Minister for Natural Resources