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Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref SF/AD-/6927/11

Julie James AM,

Chair of the E&S Committee Task  
and Finish Group on Common  
Fisheries Policy Reform

6 December 2011

*Wan Julie,*

#### **Update on Discussion with the UK Minister on the UK 'Fisheries Concordat'**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to present evidence to the task and finish group on CFP reform back on the 3 November. At that meeting I undertook to provide an update to you on my discussions with the UK Minister Richard Benyon MP, regarding the UK Fisheries Concordat.

As you are aware I was unwilling to agree to the concordat while I believed it would be detrimental to the Welsh industry. I am glad to say that we have now reached an agreement for the issue of splitting the pool of quota for vessels under 10 meters in length to be stepped out of the agreement. This issue will now be given the proper consideration it deserves and an equitable solution will be found.

This will allow the other important work streams to begin and I will be working closely on those with the other UK Fisheries Ministers to ensure maximum benefit for the Welsh Industry.

I also undertook to provide the committee with a copy of the Impact Assessment on the removal of domestic historic fishing rights. This will be completed after the closure of the consultation period and I will ensure a copy is sent to you once it is available.

I hope this short update is helpful, if you require any further information on anything I covered in my evidence or anything else related to the fishing industry in Wales please don't hesitate to write to me again.

Best wishes  
Alun

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