



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE **The Common Agricultural Policy (Rules for Direct Payments) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018**

DATE **19 December 2018**

BY **Lesley Griffiths AM, Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs**

The Common Agricultural Policy (Rules for Direct Payments) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018

The law which is being amended

Amends retained EU legislation relating to Direct Payments:

- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 641/2014 of 16 June 2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the common agricultural policy; and
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 639/2014 of 11 March 2014 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the common agricultural policy and amending Annex X to that Regulation.

Any impact the SI may have on the Assembly's legislative competence and/or the Welsh Ministers' executive competence

Agriculture is a devolved matter.

Functions in relation to the administration of the common agricultural policy (CAP) have been transferred by these instruments so that they are exercisable by the Welsh Ministers alone.

Any necessary transfer of legislative functions will be dealt with by a separate instrument.

The purpose of the amendments

The instruments amend retained EU legislation in relation to Direct Payments to farmers under pillar 1 of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

The instrument address failures of retained EU law to operate effectively and other deficiencies arising from the withdrawal of the UK from the EU. It deals with corrections that are technical in nature and do not make any significant policy changes, instead corrections incorporate new (agreed) terms to ensure the existing EU programmes will continue to be funded for the remainder of the 2014 to 2020 programme, if there is no deal.

This SI is the fourth UK correcting Statutory Instrument included as part of the wider package to correcting the CAP.

The SI and accompanying Explanatory Memorandum, setting out the effect of each amendment is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/eu-withdrawal-act-2018-statutory-instruments/the-common-agricultural-policy-rules-for-direct-payments-amendment-eu-exit-regulations-2018>

Why consent was given

Consent has been given for the UK Government to make these corrections in relation to, and on behalf of, Wales for reasons of efficiency, expediency and due to the technical nature of the amendments. The amendments have been considered fully; and there is no divergence in policy. These amendments are to ensure that the statute book remains functional following the UK's exit from the EU. This is in line with the principles for correcting agreed by the Cabinet Sub-Committee on European Transition in May.