Dear [Name],

I am writing to clarify the current disposal arrangements of seized imported meat products, which are classified hazardous under the Animal By-products Regulations (Wales) 2003 as this issue was raised during the last EPC Committee meeting.

Animal By-products are classed as Category 1 Waste material and are not eligible for disposal at landfill sites. Once a seizure has been made at a Welsh port or airport the consignment is placed in cold storage. HM Customs & Excise contact the local authority or Divisional Veterinary Office for the necessary arrangements to be made. The consignment will then be incinerated at the most convenient facility.

Members also asked for clarification on disposal of International Catering Waste following the implementation of The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (Wales) Regulations 2004. Unused on-board catering supplies may be buried at landfill sites approved by the National Assembly for that purpose. At present four sites are under consideration for approval.

Members may be interested to note that in light of the new regulations Cardiff Wales Airport is constructing a compaction and skip facility for the management of the International Catering Waste.

Yours sincerely,

Carwyn Jones AM