

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WAQ 78007

Suzy Davies AM
Suzy.Davies@assembly.wales

3rd May 2019

Dear Suzy,

Further to your Written Assembly Question please see my response below:

Suzy Davies (South Wales West): Following a recent Farming Connect event in Bridgend at which farmers were advised about making tax digital and it was asked whether Welsh Government will be providing training for farmers on this matter, will Welsh Government take the next step and provide the relevant training to farmers? WAQ78007 (e)

Lesley Griffiths: From 1 April 2019, businesses with a taxable turnover equal to or above the compulsory VAT registration threshold will need to keep digital records for VAT and send VAT Returns using Making Tax Digital (MTD) compatible software.

All farmers reaching that threshold will need to either create their VAT return digitally using such software for return periods, or instruct an accountant or business adviser to undertake this on their behalf, from 1 April 2019 onwards. The new legislation means this will be a non negotiable challenge for thousands of UK businesses, as HMRC has made it clear that it is only in very rare circumstances that some businesses may be considered exempt.

For farm and forestry businesses registered with Farming Connect, help has and continues to be on hand to explain what is needed.

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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.

Farming Connect held a series of Making Tax Digital evening events across Wales between January and March 2019. A total of 19 events were held with over a thousand attendees.

Through the new Farming Connect ICT Programme, “Making Tax Digital” workshops will be delivered across Wales by Accountants from May 2019 onwards. These workshops will follow on from the events held at the beginning of the year and will focus on how “Making Tax Digital” will affect farmers and foresters, and demonstrate two software packages, Xero and Quickbooks, as well as “bridging” software.

Other support available through Farming Connect includes the “Making Tax Digital for VAT” e-Learning module and the Financial Recording & VAT accredited training course.

Other businesses outside the scope of Farming Connect can access advice and support from Business Wales which includes advice on how to make use of digital services such as new online taxation systems.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs