

DP 1264 / 07-11

Jane Davidson AC/AMY Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai
Minister for Environment, Sustainability and HousingLlywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly GovernmentEich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref LF-JD-0110-
09Mike German, AM
National Assembly for Wales
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4 December 2009

Dear Mike,

I am writing to follow up an issue raised in the plenary debate on the Draft National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (Environment) Order 2009 held on Tuesday 1st December 2009.

During the plenary debate you asked about the use of floating exceptions and in particular whether such exceptions should apply to fields in which there were currently no matters conferring legislative competence on the National Assembly. I would refer you to the enclosed letter of 5th October 2009 from the First Minister sent to both Dr Hywel Francis MP, Chair of the Welsh Affairs Select Committee, and yourself in response to the letter of 17th August 2009 that you issued jointly with Dr Francis. The First Minister's response provides a detailed explanation of the Welsh Assembly Government's approach to the use of floating exceptions which I hope will clarify our thinking on this issue. I have also sent a copy of the letter to all Assembly Members, in line with my undertaking during the plenary debate.

Yours,

Jane Davidson AMY Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai
Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing