

Lord Douglas-Miller
Minister for Biosecurity, Animal Health and Welfare
Defra
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

2 February 2024

Dear Minister Douglas-Miller

Thank you for your letters of 19 January 2024 to Shaun Spiers and me seeking our views on the list of 73 pieces of assimilated laws that fall within Defra's policy responsibility that are proposed for inclusion in a forthcoming revocation and reform statutory instrument.

We welcome this improved process, which fulfils commitments made during the passage of the Retained EU Law Bill to conduct consultation on proposed changes to assimilated laws. The information in the annex to your letter is helpfully set out and we hope that this can form a template for engagement on future proposals.

We have some technical questions for clarification arising from some of these regulations and would be grateful for the department's response.

We also have two questions in relation to the government's first [statutory report](#) to Parliament on REUL.

Question 1

Please can you provide the Defra breakdowns for the following categories in the HMG roadmap for REUL set out in Table 2:

- Propose to revoke in 2024
- Propose to revoke in 2025-26
- Propose to reform in 2024
- Propose to reform in 2025-26

Question 2

What impact assessment and public consultation will be undertaken to inform this process?

Questions for clarification

- **Council Regulation (EC) No 1420/1999 establishing common rules and procedures to apply to shipments to certain non-OECD countries of certain types of waste.** We note that Commission Regulation (EC) No 1418/2007 of 29 November 2007 concerning the export for recovery of certain waste listed in Annex III or IIIA to Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 supersedes Council Regulation (EC) No 1420/1999. Please can Defra explain why the UK government's decision differs from the EU's, which we understand has opted to keep both in force?
- **Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1992 of 14 December 2018 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1191/2014 as regards the reporting of data referred to in Article 19 of Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 in respect of hydrofluorocarbons placed on the market in the United Kingdom and in the Union of 27 Member States.** Please can Defra clarify which UK legislation requires reporting of hydrofluorocarbon (HFCs) placed on the market in the UK and in what form and to who this report is sent?
- **Council Decision (EU) 2019/2135 of 21 November 2019 on the position to be taken, on behalf of the European Union, at the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, as regards the adoption of a Decision on the phasing-out of dental amalgam and amending Annex A to that Convention.** Please can Defra confirm that the UK government intends to (a) retain its current position as a Party to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and (b) express its continued support for the phasing out of dental amalgam?

For more information, contact:

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