

Jeff Cuthbert AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi
Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref
Llyr Gryffydd AM
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

17 January 2014

Dear Llyr

During Assembly Questions on 15 January 2014 you asked whether sustainable development as a central organising principle would become the duty of the Welsh Government in 2015, and if not when both the Welsh Government and other public sector bodies in Wales would be subject to the new duties in the Bill.

In response to this question, I am afraid that I must have misheard you and I should have stated that the intention is for the Welsh Government to be subject to the duty from 2016 rather than 2015, subject to the will of the National Assembly. The timetable for implementation of a Bill is inextricably linked to its introduction and passing. The implementation programme set out in *A Sustainable Wales: Better Choices for a Better Future*, the white paper published in 2012, was based on an introduction date in Autumn 2013. When the First Minister made his annual statement on the legislative programme on 16 July 2013 he confirmed the Bill would be introduced before this year's summer recess.

Subject to the Bill being passed by the Assembly, I anticipate it receiving Royal Assent in 2015. On this basis, I consider that implementation of the duties in 2016 to be both feasible and appropriate.

I will be issuing a Written Statement in the coming weeks detailing when it is intended other public bodies in Wales will become subject to the new duties in the Bill.

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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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