

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd  
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein Cyf: LG/00019/22

Councillor Simon Glyn  
Chair of the Council

eirianroberts3@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

3rd February 2022

Dear Simon,

Thank you for your e-mail of 12 January regarding Gwynedd Council's proposals for woodland creation in Wales.

As part of our response to the climate emergency, we need to plant 43,000 hectares of woodland before 2030 and 180,000 hectares before 2050. It is essential that we do this in a way that benefits local communities and the rural economy.

We want farmers to be central to planting more trees in Wales. We are keen to avoid external interests buying land and want to work with Welsh landowners to achieve this. My officials have set up a working group to consider models to attract investment in woodland creation, without disrupting existing communities and land ownership patterns. I recognise the need to look at what more should be done, and we will consider the options that you have put forward as part of that process. Properly managed, this offers a significant opportunity for our rural economy to create green jobs and skills in harvesting timber for high value goods.

There are good examples where this is already happening, such as [Stump Up for Trees](#) work which harnesses private sector investment to fund local Welsh farmers to plant trees on their land.

The current Glastir Woodland Creation scheme is open to people with control over land in Wales and the final window of the scheme has now closed. As we move beyond the Rural Development Programme we will bring forward a new proposal for woodland creation, which we are currently developing.

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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.

However, we want other landowners in Wales to play their part in planting trees, and I am aware of the impact that restricting eligibility for active farmers could have on this.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping 'L' and 'G'.

**Lesley Griffiths AS/MS**  
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