EU EXIT LEGISLATION – PROTOCOL WITH SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

The Nutrition (Amendment etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019

Dear Lewis

The Scottish Parliament recommended on 19 December 2018 that the Nutrition (Amendment etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 should include Scottish devolved matters, as set out in the notification to the Parliament.

The Nutrition (Amendment etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 was laid in the UK Parliament on 17 January 2019. I can now confirm that this SI is consistent with the consent granted.

In your letter of 19 December 2018 you raised a couple of areas of interest that the Committee still wished to pursue.

You asked to be kept abreast of our consideration of the process for scrutinising UK regulations made under provisions amended by EU Exit SIs or SSIs and the decisions that are reached. As you will be aware the issue of ensuring the necessary scrutiny is not unique to this instrument and the process is still under consideration. I will keep the Committee informed of developments as requested.

In relation to a new Committee being established to conduct the scientific advisory functions currently undertaken by the European Food Safety Authority in relation to substantiation of any new nutrition or health claims applications, you asked if we were able to provide further information on the cost of setting up the new Committee and how these costs will be met. I am advised by the Department of Health and Social Care that as negotiations on the UK’s exit from the EU are ongoing it would not be appropriate to publicise information regarding the overall costs at this time.
However, remuneration of £500/day up to a maximum of 24 days or £550/day for chairing meetings up to a maximum of 6 days a year has been set out in recruitment material. The only other costs incurred would be for a small secretariat to support the committee’s work. Funding will mainly come from the UK Government budget, however after the first year contributions from the devolved administrations may be requested, and could require some adjustment to budgets.

I am copying this letter to the Convener of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee.

Best wishes

JOE FITZPATRICK