



Ref: PGI/GH/jr

28 June 2010

Dear Sir/Madam

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## Review of the Welsh Lamb and Welsh Beef PGI Designations

In 2002-2003, Welsh Lamb and Welsh Beef were awarded Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status. Hybu Cig Cymru-Meat Promotion Wales (HCC) act as guardian of the Welsh Lamb and Welsh Beef PGI designations.

The main requirements of the current PGI specifications are that lamb and cattle (i) must be born and reared in Wales, (ii) be fully traceable and (iii) be slaughtered and processed in an HCC approved abattoir/processor. Abattoirs and processors eligible for scheme approval are not restricted to Wales.

During 2006 a review was undertaken by HCC to determine the adequacies of the Welsh Lamb and Welsh Beef PGI designations. There was agreement amongst consultees on the value of having the PGI designations and that there was a need to maximise the potential for Welsh Lamb and Welsh Beef. There was also agreement that the slaughter of Welsh Lamb and Welsh Beef should not be restricted to Wales, rather it should be allowed in a controlled way both within and outwith Wales.

In April 2010 the HCC Board agreed that an industry-wide consultation to review the value, limitations and future potential of the Welsh Lamb and Welsh Beef PGI designations would be appropriate. Consultation will ensure sound governance of the PGI designations and also examine if the PGI's reflect the current needs of the industry.

Enclosed is a briefing paper which outlines the history and development of the Welsh Lamb and Welsh Beef PGI designations to assist any responses you may have.

Please send any comments by **27 August 2010** to:

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We may contact you by phone or in person after the consultation deadline in order to expand on any comments you have made.

Yours sincerely

**Gwyn Howells**  
Chief Executive