



Cabinet Office

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[REDACTED]
Senior Assistant Clerk
Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee (DSC)

14 August 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

COM 2023 411 Proposal for a Regulation on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and their food and feed, and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/625

I write further to your letter dated 27 June 2025.

Regarding the above proposal for a Regulation, the Government is continuing its analysis of the act as it progresses through the EU's legislative bodies. As the proposal has not been fully adopted by the EU yet, we are unable to make a final assessment of possible interactions with domestic UK legislation. In particular, we would note that the positions of the European Parliament and the Council remain divergent on a number of issues, including conditions necessary to obtain "category 1 NGT" status. Such considerations will have a material impact on the differences between UK and EU regulatory regimes. Once the final legislation is published, we will provide an explanatory memorandum which sets out our view.

Regarding the future UK-EU SPS Agreement, the EU has accepted there will need to be a number of areas where the UK will retain its own rules. The details of these are subject to negotiation, but we have been clear about the importance of being able to support the use of new and innovative technologies. The Government remains committed to moving forward with the Precision Breeding Act.

Finally, the EU has indicated that certain elements of the proposal may amend/replace existing legislation already contained within the Windsor Framework, namely Regulation (EU) 2017/625, and that other provisions that may be in scope of the Framework could only apply following a Joint Committee decision. Such a decision could only be agreed between the UK and EU with respect to the Government's commitments under Schedule 6B to the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

I trust this information will be of assistance to the Committee.

PAUL FLYNN

DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WINDSOR FRAMEWORK TASKFORCE



[REDACTED], Senior Assistant Clerk
Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee
(DSC)

Ref: DSC/184/2025

27 June 2025

[REDACTED]
Windsor Framework Taskforce – Cabinet Office
Issued via email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

COM 2023 411 Proposal for a Regulation on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and their food and feed, and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/625

At its meeting on 26 June 2025, the Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee (DSC) continued its consideration of the above proposed EU act. This proposed Regulation would likely have been notified to the Committee, had it been established at the time of its publication.

As part of its consideration of the proposed EU act, the DSC sought the views of key stakeholders identified by the NI Assembly's Research and Information Service. One response was received from the Ulster Farmers' Union.

The DSC agreed to share the consultation response with the UK Government. The response can be viewed [here](#).

Additionally, the DSC agreed to ask the UK Government:

- How the proposed EU act, once adopted and published, would interact with the Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Act 2023 and secondary legislation made under this Act?
- What are the implications of the EU-UK reset (in particular the agreement to negotiate a Sanitary and Phytosanitary agreement with the EU) for the regulatory regime in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland for new genomic techniques (NGT) plants and their products?
- Has the EU indicated to the UK Government that it considers the proposal to be within the scope of the Windsor Framework, and therefore may seek to add it to the Framework via Article 13(4) following its adoption?

I would appreciate a response by 14 August 2025.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Senior Assistant Clerk
Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee