



Department for
Business & Trade

The Rt Hon Greg Hands MP
Minister of State for Trade Policy
Minister for London
Department for Business and Trade
Old Admiralty Building
Admiralty Place
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2DY

Rt Hon Liam Byrne MP
Chair, Business and Trade Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

T +44 (0) 20 4551 0011
E hands.correspondence@businessandtrade.gov.uk
W www.gov.uk/dbt

23rd February 2024

Dear Liam,

Update on geographical indications (GIs) in the UK-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

I am writing to update you on the progress of establishing protected status for some of the UK's most iconic products in Japan.

The Department for Business and Trade, along with officials from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, have been working closely with Japanese officials to agree a date for entry into force of the necessary amendments to the CEPA, and both the UK and Japan have now completed the necessary technical and legislative processes for listing the first tranche of GIs in the agreement.

I am pleased to announce that 37 GIs will receive protected status on 29 February, including famed products such as Melton Mowbray Pork Pies, Welsh Lamb, Scotch Beef, Irish Poteen, and English Wine, joining the seven GIs already protected in our agreement. The Department is working to ensure other British producers can see the full benefits of the enhanced GI protection our agreement provides. Japanese GIs will also be protected in the UK under this agreement. I have included a full list of the UK products gaining protection as an Annex to this letter.

The Department is also continuing work to secure protection for further products. The GI additions have been split into two tranches running in parallel to aid processing time, and officials will continue work to finalise the completion of UK and Japanese processes for the second and final tranche.

This is an important step in our bilateral trading relationship with Japan, reinforcing the importance of the CEPA and of continuing to strengthen economic ties between the UK and Japan.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'G Hands', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

The Rt Hon Greg Hands MP
Minister of State for Trade Policy and Minister for London
Department for Business and Trade