Rebecca Evans AC / AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Ffermio a Bwyd
Deputy Minister for Farming and Food



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-500 Ein cyf/Our ref RE/00603/15

William Powell AM Chair - Petitions Committee Ty Hywel Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

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(August 2015

Dear Wilham

I write further to your letter of 7 May as you requested we provide an update on progress of the review regarding Animal Welfare Establishments (AWEs) in Wales (Petition: P-04 -500 Call For Regulation of Animal Welfare Establishments in Wales) when relevant.

My officials met with the Chair of the Animal Welfare Network Wales (AWNW) to discuss this matter. Concern was expressed that the report was heavily reliant on subordinate legislation being the way forward, appearing to dismiss possible other outcomes such as self-regulation, voluntary registration and/or the development of an agreed code of practice. It was felt that these needed to be explored further by the AWNW.

The Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework Group have also considered the report; indeed, I attended one of the meetings where this issue was raised. They held a positive view of working with the AWNW, especially on the development of a staged approach and in particular the publication of a code of practice on AWEs.

Moving forward, AWNW have agreed to revisit the findings of their report and have, once again, engaged Mike Radford from Aberdeen University to assist in its review. The first meeting date is scheduled for September. An official from the Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer will be in attendance as an observer.

I will continue to update you on progress.

Rebecca Evans AC / AM

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