

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-433
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00911/18

David John Rowlands AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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9

May 2018

Dear David

Thank you for your letter of 27 April regarding petitions P-04-399 Slaughter Practices and P-04-433 CCTV in Slaughterhouses.

I would like to reiterate that here in Wales we have some of the highest animal welfare standards in the world, and strict regulations to address any cases where these standards are not met.

On 22 March I issued a Written Statement announcing the launch of a £1.1million Food Business Investment funding package specifically for small and medium size slaughterhouses. This support will enable these businesses to invest in improvements to ensure their resilience and their ability to continue to provide slaughtering facilities which are often in remote areas.

The grant aid will include both capital investment and provide advice on animal welfare, business improvement and technical matters. Welfare friendly infrastructure and facilities will be supported and also the installation and upgrading of CCTV monitoring systems. CCTV is a useful system to support both the Food Business Operator and the Official Veterinarian but is not a substitute for the important work undertaken by both to safeguard animal welfare.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The details of the grant scheme will be developed over the coming months, in consultation with the industry to ensure the support meets the needs of the sector. It will be launched before the summer recess. We will review the progression of the scheme, uptake by Food Business Operators and the type and scale of investments undertaken. I want Wales' slaughterhouses to be fully prepared as I continue to explore opportunities to legislate in the longer term.

Regards
Lesley

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