

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-1097
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/10383/21

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions committee

16 November 2021

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 22 October regarding Petition P-05-1097 Ban game bird cages.

The Programme for Government includes a commitment to restrict the use of cages for farmed animals. Our Animal Welfare Plan for Wales 2021-26, launched on 4 November, provides detail and a timeline for this and other animal welfare commitments: [Animal Welfare Plan for Wales 2021 to 2026 | GOV.WALES](#)

We are working with other administrations to examine the evidence around the use of cages in farming, including their use for breeding gamebirds. We will look at how and where they are used, and to what extent. We will consider the welfare impacts of existing and alternative systems.

Our Code of Practice for the Welfare of Gamebirds Reared for Sporting Purpose was developed in consultation with stakeholders including representatives from the shooting industry and welfare organisations. The purpose of the Code is to provide practical guidance in relation to Section 9 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006. I am sure you will understand the unprecedented position we find ourselves in due to the ongoing pressures of the Covid situation and following transition out of the European Union. It is for these reasons that the review into the Code is on hold. Any changes to Code, or to welfare legislation, will not be made without further consultation with stakeholders, along with relevant research, analysis and evidence. Officials will make contact with stakeholders when we are in a position to progress with this work.

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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.

Any concerns about a specific gamebird rearing premises should be reported to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) or relevant Local Authority. They are responsible for the delivery and enforcement of animal health and welfare provisions on behalf of the Welsh Government.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

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