

From: [Matthew Goodall](#)
To: [DS Minister for Climate Change; DS Minister for Rural Affairs, North Wales and Trefnydd;](#) [redacted] [Correspondence mail - JJ](#)
[correspondence.julie.james@gov.wales](#)
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: TO BE RESCHEDULED - Meeting with the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd and Matt Goodall, Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust
Date: 18 January 2023 17:23:19
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image005.jpg](#)
[GWCT Wales Written Evidence for the Senedd's Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee regarding the Agriculture \(Wales\) Bill Paper 1.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Dear all,
Please could we reschedule the meeting as was promised below?
I feel that this important topic is being ignored to the serious detriment of threatened iconic species in Wales such as curlew. There is an opportunity to create a very positive piece of legislation here which makes it easier to detect criminal activity whilst enforcing and licencing good practice and most importantly in this case humane practice.
The Minister for Rural Affairs has stated today in the Senedd that the Bill is ‘about preventing inhumane methods being used, and it doesn’t prevent more humane methods of control’ and the Minister for Climate Change told me face to face that they didn’t want to make a huge mistake whilst trying to do the right thing.
The title ‘Humane Cable Restraint’ has not just been given, rather it has been earned by being tested under contract using a Home Office Project Licence from FERA in a report that was submitted to DEFRA. I have stated this many times previously, the Humane Cable Restraint has been scientifically proven to pass the standards for humane restraining traps as set out in the Agreement of International Humane Trapping Standards – standards which Wales as part of the UK have signed up to and standards which are recognised as the highest humane standards available internationally.
We have a humane restraining i.e. live capture trap available to catch foxes which is necessary for the conservation of many threatened species in Wales. We have an opportunity to licence this activity to ensure high standards of humaneness are met. There appears to be no evidence of competent i.e. successful curlew conservation without the use of a humane cable restraint. Shooting alone is not effective due to vegetation length and live capture cage traps are not efficient enough nor have they passed any testing regarding their humaneness.
I have included a report which was submitted to the Senedd’s Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee which summarises the concerns regarding a complete ban on the use of humane cable restraints. It highlights the scientific evidence available, in addition to data from projects which have not been published as scientific literature.

Please also see this video linked below for further information:
<https://www.gwct.org.uk/blogs/news/2022/september/video-what-is-a-humane-cable-restraint/>

As always I would be delighted to answer any questions and very much look forward to our promised meeting being rescheduled.
With best wishes,

Matt Goodall
Matthew Goodall
Advisor Wales and Head of Education
Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust
Tel [redacted]
Web www.gwct.org.uk/wales

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From: Matthew Goodall
Sent: 21 October 2022 13:10
To: DS Minister for Climate Change; DS Minister for Rural Affairs, North Wales and Trefnydd; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] [Correspondence.Julie James@gov.wales](#)
Subject: FW: TO BE RESCHEDULED - Meeting with the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd and Matt Goodall, Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust
Importance: High

Dear all,
Further to my email below I wondered when it might be possible to reschedule our meeting? As has been highlighted previously, time is of the essence and I have not received any further correspondence since the below message on the 6th October.

With best wishes,
Matt Goodall

From: Matthew Goodall
Sent: 06 October 2022 15:17
To: DS Minister for Climate Change; DS Minister for Rural Affairs, North Wales and Trefnydd; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] [Correspondence.Julie James@gov.wales](#)
Subject: RE: TO BE RESCHEDULED - Meeting with the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd and Matt Goodall, Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust

Dear all,
It was very unfortunate that today’s meeting needed to be cancelled, but I understand that the Minister’s diaries sometimes require changes at short notice.
Please could I reiterate the importance of urgently rescheduling this meeting, with the Welsh Agriculture Bill moving forward at a pace it’s really

very vital that the Ministers are made aware of the potential huge conservation disaster which could be created by not licencing humane cable restraints.

It is the Trust's position that without the ability to use these live-capture devices, devices which meet the highest internationally agreed humaneness standards set out within the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS) and which the UK is signed up to, then the ability to conserve several Section 7 Priority species under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (species such as curlew, lapwing, golden plover and black grouse) will be severely compromised.

This position is backed up by both scientific and anecdotal evidence which I am desperate to share with the Ministers when our meeting is rescheduled. There are currently no examples where conservation of species such as curlew have been successful (i.e. breeding productivity surpassing the level needed to maintain/ recover populations) without the use of live-capture restraints to manage foxes. Whereas there is evidence that using these live-capture devices can reduce predation pressure enough to allow these species to reach breeding productivity which maintains and recovers local populations.

I would also like to reiterate that the Trust would like to see other forms of restraints i.e. current non-code compliant but still currently legal snares banned, and that we believe a licencing system, including compulsory training and tagging of humane cable restraints would see a huge improvement and positive step forward regarding animal welfare standards in Wales. It would also make it much simpler for the Welsh Authorities to differentiate between legal and illegal activity.

I dearly hope that we can reschedule this meeting as soon as possible.

With best wishes,
Matt Goodall

-----Original Appointment-----

From: DS Minister for Climate Change;

Sent: 06 October 2022 09:55

To: DS Minister for Rural Affairs, North Wales and Trefnydd; Matthew Goodall; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Canceled: TO BE RESCHEDULED - Meeting with the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd and Matt Goodall, Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust

When: 06 October 2022 12:00-12:30 (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London.

Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Importance: High

Dear all,

With sincere apologies for the short notice, unfortunately, this meeting will need to be cancelled today and rescheduled. We will be in touch with a new date in due course.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



Sganiwyd y neges hon am bob feirws hysbys wrth iddi adael Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cymryd o ddifrif yr angen i ddiogelu eich data. Os cysylltwch â Llywodraeth Cymru, mae ein [hysbysiad preifatrwydd](#) yn esbonio sut rydym yn defnyddio eich gwybodaeth a sut rydym yn diogelu eich preifatrwydd. Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn anfon ateb yn Gymraeg i ohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi. On leaving the Welsh Government this email was scanned for all known viruses. The Welsh Government takes the protection of your data seriously. If you contact the Welsh Government then our [Privacy Notice](#) explains how we use your information and the ways in which we protect your privacy. 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.

