

## WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 73/18  
PART OF STUDY FSGD-209  
REGIONAL NUMBER W/18/20  
OTHER REFERENCES 28-B0055-09-18  
SENDER VLA Carmarthen

LOCATION [REDACTED]  
Denbighshire

GRID REFERENCE [REDACTED]

INCIDENT DATE 2 August 2018

SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT insufficient tissue

DATE OF REPORT 17 December 2018

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : .....

### NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

2 buzzard

### COPIED TO

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Samples received**

99203 buzzard  
99204 buzzard

**Date received**

10/10/18  
10/10/18

**Sample identifier**

APHA: 28-B0055-09-18  
APHA: 28-B0055-09-18

**Summary of field data**

A member of the public discovered two dead buzzards in a field near a powerline [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Both birds had an infestation of maggots, so it is uncertain whether the birds died from natural causes or if any suspicious activity had taken place. It is stated that the birds may have flown into a nearby overhead power line as both were found very near to the cables. There is a woodland nearby with a river running through it. There are no overlooking properties to conduct enquiries and there is no CCTV covering the area.

**Summary of post mortem report**

Two buzzards with a severe degree of autolysis were submitted for post-mortem. Buzzard one weighed 218 grams while buzzard two weighed 520 grams. Both carcasses were severely autolysed and covered in dead maggots. The carcasses consisted of bone, skin and feathers with minimal muscle on bird two. The internal viscera were missing. Due to the condition of the carcasses it was not possible to determine why the buzzards died.

**Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite**

99203	no metaldehyde & carb (LC) detected	detection limit	0.07	µg
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**Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite**

99203	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	1.0	µg
99204	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	6.0	µg

**Conclusion**

It was suspected that these buzzards had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for some likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples, but no residues from the compound groups tested for were found. However, testing of these samples was limited given the condition of the carcasses, as little soft tissue remained and so it has only been possible to surface wash the carcasses. Given these results and the findings on post-mortem, the cause of death of these buzzards remains uncertain.