

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: IM/LG/0230/20

The Rt Hon. Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park  
Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs  
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London  
SW1P 4DF

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23 December 2020

Dear Rt Hon. Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park

Thank you for your recent response to my letter to you on this important issue (Our ref: LG/230/20, your ref: MC2020/16377/EC).

I have also previously written to The Rt Hon. Amber Rudd, then Home Secretary, in 2017 (ref: DC-LG-01014-17), and to Lord Gardiner of Kimble, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity, in 2018 (Your ref: PO2017/11464/MP /Our ref: IM/LG/00396/18), on this matter.

As you are aware, the reserved nature of The Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953 prevents the Welsh Government from implementing the recommendations outlined in my previous letter, which were put forth following engagement with the National Police Chiefs' Council and the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Animal Welfare on the matter.

I therefore very much welcome the news from your correspondence that work is now underway to explore legislative changes needed to best address the problem of livestock worrying.

You note that in addition to the National Police Chiefs' Council and the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Animal Welfare, your officials have also been engaging with ours to understand fully the Welsh perspective on proposed policy options, and engagement on this to date has been much appreciated.

We both share concerns about the devastating impact these attacks can cause to both the animals involved, from a welfare perspective, and also to the farming community.

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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.

I would like to confirm my support for any positive changes outlined in updated legislation, and would welcome inclusion of Wales under any provisions agreed in order to help protect against, and prosecute where needed, incidents of this nature.



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