

# Petitions Committee

## PET(3)-14-09 Paper 2: 20 October 2009

### Updates on previous petitions

This paper provides a list of updates received to petitions previously considered by the Committee. Many of these updates have been received as correspondence. Where relevant, copies of correspondence are appended to this paper as PET(3) 14-09 Paper 2A.

#### (i) P-03-172 Restore the Swansea-Cork Ferry

##### Petition wording

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to encourage, in every way possible, the early restoration of the Swansea/Cork Ferry. We believe it will have tangible economic and social benefits to both economies.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/eform-sign-petition-old/p-03-172.htm>

**Petition raised by:** John Hosford

**Number of signatures:** This petition was raised by John Hosford and collected 29 signatures. In excess of 1,500 signatures and statements of support have been collected on the petitioner's website calling for the restoration of this ferry route.

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 16 October 2008, 4 December 2008, 27 January 2009, 31 March 2009, 5 May 2009, 19 June 2009 and 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update from the petitioner has been received, and is attached as part of PET(3) 14-09 Paper 2A.

#### (ii) P-03-205 Keep Abergavenny Livestock Market

##### Petition wording

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to preserve Abergavenny's historic character as a market town by not repealing or amending the Abergavenny Improvement Acts 1854 to 1871, thereby preserving all the associated economic, social and cultural benefits of a market town.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-205.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Barry Greenwood

**Number of signatures:** 4757

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 19 May 2009, 9 June 2009, 23 June 2009 and 6 October 2009

**Update:** Updates have been received from Abergavenny Market Auctioneers Ltd., Farmers Union of Wales and National Farmers Union Cymru and the petitioner, and these are attached as part of PET(3) 14-09 Paper 2A.

#### (iii) P-03-213 Abandon the badger cull (Secret World Wildlife Rescue petition)

##### Petition wording

We call upon the Welsh Assembly Government to abandon its proposed cull of badgers as part of its Bovine TB Eradication programme. This is in the light of overwhelming evidence of sound science which has been peer reviewed from the Independent Scientific Group. This quite clearly states 'that badger culling can make no meaningful contribution to cattle TB'

Join our campaign - stop the cull!

**Link to the petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-213.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Secret World Wildlife Rescue

**Number of signatures:** 14098

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 5 May 2009, 23 June 2009 and 22 September 2009.

#### (iv) P-03-235 Abandon the Badger Cull (RSPCA petition)

##### Petition wording

Please sign the petition today and voice your protest against the Welsh Assembly Government's decision to cull badgers in Wales part of

a strategy to tackle bovine tuberculosis (bTB) in Cattle.

The RSPCA is shocked by the decision to cull badgers but welcomes the plans to increase cattle testing and biosecurity.

The Independent Scientific Group (ISG) supervised a badger culling trial in England, which took 10 years, cost £34 million, and the lives of nearly 11000 badgers. The research found that culling badgers alters the social behaviour of remaining badgers which, in turn, increases the risk of the disease spreading to other badgers and to cattle. Only by wiping out badgers over very extensive areas might this increased risk of disease be avoided. The ISG concluded that culling badgers on such a scale was not a feasible control option, because of logistical, economic, legal, environmental and welfare concerns.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-235.htm>

**Petition raised by:** RSPCA

**Number of signatures:** 304

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 22 September 2009

**Update:** The Minister for Rural Affairs has published a statement on the proposed badger cull, and this is attached as part of PET(3) 14-09 Paper 2A.

### **(v) P-03-227 Access Road in Llanmaes**

#### **Petition wording**

We the residents of Llanmaes, Millands Park, and the surrounding rural areas object to:

The proposed new northern access road for the proposed Defence Technical College

The proposed new Tremains Farm housing estate

Objections to the above are for the following reasons:

it involves the destruction of green field site when brown field sites are available

it will create considerable noise, light and dust pollution

it will incur substantial ecological damage.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-227.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Llanmaes Community Council

**Number of signatures:** 416

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 9 June 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Deputy First Minister, and this is attached as part of PET(3) 14-09 Paper 2A.

#### **Committee Service**

**October 2009**