

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS  
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig  
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-933  
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/01742/20

Janet Finch-Saunders MS  
Chair of the Petitions Committee

Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

03 August 2020

Dear Janet

Thank you for your letter of 9 July regarding the giving of animals as prizes, and the additional documentation provided to the Petitions Committee from the petitioner and the RSPCA, which I have read with interest.

You will appreciate the Coronavirus has had an impact on the priorities of the Welsh Government and the Senedd, both in terms of the business which has been possible to consider in the Senedd, and from a resource perspective, as officials have been redeployed to provide an emergency response to those affected by the pandemic. The Animal Welfare team is no exception. Whilst it was my intention for The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Animal Exhibits) (Wales) Regulations 2020 to be made this year, the difficult decision was made to postpone this whilst other, higher priority work is undertaken.

Since my last letter, I can confirm the results of the 2019 consultation have been published ([www.gov.wales/animal-exhibits](http://www.gov.wales/animal-exhibits)) and a third, short consultation is planned when resources allow. My officials do maintain a mailing list for those who wish to be kept updated on the progress of these Regulations; should the petitioner be interested in being added, please ask them to email [WAHFG@gov.wales](mailto:WAHFG@gov.wales). With regard to whether the giving of animals as prizes would fall within the scope of these Regulations, the position has not changed since my previous letter i.e. Local Authorities will be encouraged to take a pragmatic approach to ascertain whether an activity is licensable.

With regard to your query about the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework Group, whilst the group has continued meeting virtually throughout the pandemic, understandably their focus has shifted to topics relevant for the current situation we find ourselves in.

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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 can assure you the giving of animals as prizes will be added as a future agenda item when it is appropriate for the Group to return its attention to 'business as usual'.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping 'L' and 'G'.

**Lesley Griffiths AS/MS**

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