



Ein cyf/Our ref MA/P/LG/1845/17

Marc Wyn Jones
Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee

17 May 2017

Dear Marc,

Thank you for your letter of 10 May, requesting further information on the proposals for badger removal in Wales

I have responded to your questions in the order asked as follows:

- When will this policy be implemented?

Initial badger activity surveys have already begun on a number of farms. It is envisaged that the trap and test operation will begin later this year

- Which organisation will be evaluating and monitoring the activity?

The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) will be commissioned to monitor the effect in both cattle and badgers.

- Who will be responsible for the culling - farmers or vets?

The field operations including the humane killing of the badgers will be undertaken by government staff and veterinary surgeons..

- What kind of culling has been approved or is recommended?

Badgers that have tested positive for TB will be humanely killed by injection administered while the badgers are under anaesthetic.

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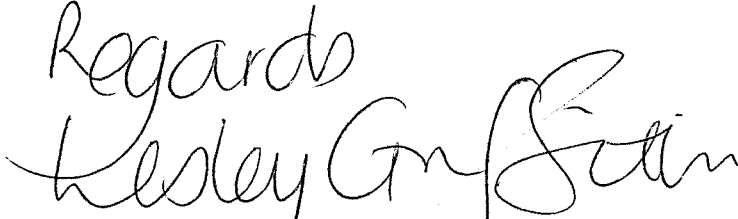
Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

- How will this policy operate on a farm level?

A policy of localised trapping and removal of test positive badgers has not been implemented previously and we are seeking guidance from APHA on the optimal duration of trapping, whether trapping has to be repeated and if so, how often and the time interval between trapping events.

Please feel free to contact me should you require any further information.

Regards


Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs