

**Lesley Griffiths AS/MS**  
**Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd**  
**Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd**



**Llywodraeth Cymru**  
**Welsh Government**

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1202  
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/10265/21

Jack Sargeant MS  
Chair - Petitions committee  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

28 September 2021

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 3 September, regarding Petition P-06-1202 Ban the killing of day old chicks in Wales.

The production and disposal of surplus chicks is a sensitive issue. Hatcheries faced with this responsibility must ensure every chick in their care is humanely dispatched. Surplus chicks at laying hen hatcheries, which include male chicks and any other chicks deemed unviable by the producer, must be culled humanely by a trained and competent person and in accordance with the provisions of the relevant welfare at the time of killing legislation.

We are monitoring progress with the work going on globally to find alternatives to culling male chicks, including technology which can detect the sex of a chick before it hatches, and how this could be applied commercially. Any decision to ban the practice would need to be based on evidence and expert advice.

Yours sincerely,

**Lesley Griffiths AS/MS**  
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**Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd**

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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.