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



Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1291 Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00455/22 Jack Sargeant MS Chair - Petitions Committee Senedd Cymru Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1SN

08 Sep.2022

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 3 August, regarding 'Petition P-06-1291: Hold an enquiry into the corporate takeover of the veterinary profession in Wales', as originally raised by Dr Linda Evelyn Joyce-Jones.

Dr Joyce-Jones' comments regarding general standards of care and charging are a matter of some concern as I feel strongly that the same professional standards should be expected of all vets who practice and offer services to the public, regardless of the model of ownership and operation.

While, therefore, I may sympathise with the points contained within the petition, I very much regret having to advise that I am prevented from commenting or engaging in this matter as the provision of veterinary services in Wales remains a non-devolved issue, which lies beyond the remit and responsibility of the Welsh Government. In such circumstances, all concerns regarding standards in the corporate sector can only be addressed to the Royal College of Surgeons for further consideration.

I fully appreciate this is unlikely to have been the response Dr Joyce-Jones had hoped to receive. Despite having sent numerous petitions to the UK Government's Department for the Environment and Rural Affairs previously, I am afraid it remains the only avenue open in trying to address this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd 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.