

Tracey Cooper
Chief Executive
Public Health Wales

11 November 2022

Dear Tracey,

Agriculture (Wales) Bill – Proposals to prohibit the use of glue traps in Wales

In Committee on 9 November Members took evidence on the general principles of the Agriculture (Wales) Bill, in particular on the proposals in Part 5 of the Bill to prohibit use of snares and glue traps.

In evidence from trade bodies in pest control - the British Pest Control Association (BPCA) and the National Pest Technicians Association (NPTA) – it was stated that removing glue traps as an option for rodent control by professional pest controllers would have a detrimental effect on public health, and that the proposals were an important public health issue. However the Chief Executive of the BPCA said he was awaiting a response from Public Health Wales on its opinion on the proposals.

The Committee notes that Welsh Government's summary of responses to a targeted consultation on glue traps does not reference a position from Public Health Wales.

The Committee would welcome knowing Public Health Wales's position on the proposals. It would be helpful if this included more information on how widespread use of glue traps is in Welsh public buildings such as schools and hospitals, what alternative methods it envisages being used for rodent control to protect public health following a total ban, and whether PHW has any other concerns or views on the likely implications of a ban in Wales.

The Committee's consultation on the Bill concludes this Friday 11 November, and the Minister will be questioned further on the Bill in Committee next Wednesday 16 November, after which the Committee will formulate its report on the proposals. Therefore a response on this matter as soon as possible would be greatly appreciated by Members.

The written and oral evidence on this issue can be found at the link above, and a link to the Bill and explanatory memorandum can be found [here](#).

We look forward to a response at your earliest convenience.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered on the page.

Paul Davies MS

Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg | We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

