

Jane Hutt AC/AM
Arweinydd y Tŷ a'r Prif Chwip
Leader of the House and Chief Whip



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

20th March 2017

Dear Mike,

I am responding on behalf of the Welsh Government as Lesley is away from the office. We are aware the subject of the use of CCTV in slaughterhouses continues to be much discussed, attracting strong opinion from the public, the meat industry and animal welfare groups. The Safeguarding Animal Welfare at Slaughter Task and Finish Group report which considered the use of CCTV in slaughterhouses from an industry perspective continues to generate much comment from both sides of the debate.

The Cabinet Secretary has asked the publicly appointed Animal Health and Welfare Framework Group as a "next step" in the development of Welsh Government policy in this area to consider the Task and Finish report in their forthcoming meeting. This will be an opportunity for the Framework Group members to provide an independent opinion on not just the report but consider views on the matter from a broad range of standpoints. The feedback will enable the Cabinet Secretary to reflect on a broad range of opinion on whether CCTV is necessary in Welsh slaughterhouses and what possible solutions might be appropriate.

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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.

It is hoped to have the Animal Health and Welfare Framework Group feedback by the summer recess. The Cabinet Secretary will write again on the matter when in a position to do so.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jane', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Jane Hutt AC/AM

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