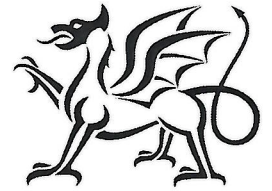


Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-901
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/06542/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair Petitions Committee

Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

3 September 2019

Dear Janet

Thank you for your letter of 17 July, regarding banning the sale and import of real animal fur in Wales.

Banning the sale and import of real animal fur in Wales is a complex matter which includes both devolved and non-devolved powers and is dependent upon EU law. Therefore, any legislation in this area is heavily dependent on the UK's future relationship with the EU.

We currently support the UK Government's position which states while some fur products may never be legally imported into the UK, national bans are less effective than working at an international level on animal welfare standards.

International efforts to bring about higher standards are supported by strict EU rules and regulations around fur imports, which apply to both the UK and wider EU.

Firstly, these regulations include a blanket ban of the importing of furs from a number of animals, including cats and dogs as well as most seal skins and products. Secondly, there are regulations which ensure any fur imported into the UK comes from animals which have been treated, trapped and killed humanely.

In addition to these EU regulations, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) controls the fur from an endangered species. For example, there are export permits and commercial use certificates which strictly control the imports of furs from endangered species. These controls are implemented in the UK by the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Lesley.Griffiths@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Lesley.Griffiths@gov.wales

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.

The UK Government has previously stated it will ensure these controls are not removed once the UK leaves the EU.

Regards
Lesley

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs