

Julie James AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol
Minister for Housing and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-815
Ein cyf/Our ref JJ/06329/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

28 October 2019

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter regarding petition P-05-815 Control Rapidly Expanding Intensive Poultry Industry in Wales and the outcomes of your meeting with the petitioners on 9 July.

I note that since receiving your letter, the Town and Country Planning Intensive Agriculture Working Group has been established and met on two occasions, 7 August and 25 September. Representatives of the Brecon and Radnor Branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural Wales have been present on both occasions as full members of the Working Group.

The Terms of Reference have been debated by the Group in detail and the petitioner has been able to raise their points as a member of the Group.

The objective of the Group is to identify the various roles and responsibilities of all bodies involved in the planning process relevant to intensive agriculture and examine technical advice and scientific evidence in relation to planning permission. The work will include looking at the impacts of intensive agriculture on biodiversity and climate change. The preparation of new a Technical Advice Note (TAN) will be the key output of the Working Group to help improve the quality of planning decisions benefiting both the industry and local communities.

In relation to the concerns raised by the petitioners regarding the cumulative impacts of intensive agriculture, the Chief Planner wrote to LPAs in June 2018 reminding them to take in to account the cumulative impacts of intensive agriculture units resulting from similar developments nearby before approving a planning application.

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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.

The letter also invited authorities to contribute to work which would look at how cumulative analysis of nitrate and ammonia emissions can be better assessed. The management of cumulative effects has been included in the Terms of Reference of the Intensive Agriculture Working Group and will be a key area for discussion.

I look forward to the continued involvement of the petitioners in the Working Group.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Julie James AC/AM

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