

**Lesley Griffiths AS/MS**  
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig  
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref: TGY/RIA/00191552/2

Carol Day  
Leigh Day Solicitors

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26 November 2020

Dear Carol

Thank you for your letter of 2nd November setting out the outcome of your client's claim against the Secretary of State for the Environment and Rural Affairs.

I can confirm the Welsh Ministers intend to consult on adding pheasants and red-legged partridges to Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) also intend to consult on the appropriate conditions for the general and specific licences that arise from that addition. My officials will work with NRW with the intention there will be an appropriate process in place for releases of pheasants and red-legged partridges in Wales in the 2022 season (assumed to be June/July) which will be both appropriate for the circumstances in Wales and in compliance with Article 6(2) and Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive. Please note elections to the Senedd are taking place on 6th May 2021 and this may mean the Welsh Government does not follow the same timetable as Defra.

I will ensure your clients are made aware of the consultation as soon as it is published. In the meantime, your clients may approach my officials to discuss what is proposed. However, any final decision made on the form controls of releases will take and the terms of any licences will be subject to the outcome of the consultation.

Regards

**Lesley Griffiths AS/MS**  
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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.