

## DIARY CASE – DC/JJ/11310/21



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Wednesday 13 October, 09:00-09:45

<b>Who is the Minister meeting?</b>	Chris Sherwood, Chief Executive, RSPCA
<b>Who requested the meeting?</b>	RSPCA
<b>Primary purpose</b>	To discuss animal welfare issues within your portfolio
<b>Is there an agreed agenda?</b>	Yes
<b>Which officials are supporting the Minister?</b>	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
<b>Where is the meeting?</b>	Microsoft Teams meeting
<b>Other practical considerations</b>	N/A

## DIARY CASE BRIEFING

### **Agenda – all items proposed by the RSPCA**

1. Consolidation of wildlife law
2. Gene editing - and the position of the Welsh Government
3. Flooding - RSPCA's work with statutory agencies
4. Planning - and material matters in the planning process
5. New RSPCA strategy - and the widening of the charity's remit, including climate change
6. Dogs Die in Hot Cars - namely the successful impact of M4 motorway signs commissioned by her ministry
7. Fireworks

### **Item 1 - Consolidation of wildlife law**

- The Law Commission published a comprehensive report on Wildlife law reform along with a draft Wildlife Bill in November 2015. A response by the then Minister, Lesley Griffiths, was issued in November 2016 stating that the timing wasn't right to take forward in Wales due to domestic legislation being put in place (WFG and Env Acts) and the need to assess the impact of referendum result to leave the EU. It was acknowledged that the proposals could help shape the future of environmental law in Wales.
- Since then the WFG and Env Acts have had a chance to bed in and we have a better understanding of the implications of exiting the EU on the implementation and governance of environmental law in Wales.
- As part of our wider work on environmental governance I have asked officials to scope out a possible review of environmental law in Wales to identify how it could be modernised to meet our ambition to tackle the climate and nature emergencies. Wildlife law potentially could be part of this wider review subject to agreement on way forward. *(To note this has not been discussed with stakeholders including RSPA).*

### **Snares**

- We are looking at legislative options to bring a ban in on snares in this Senedd.

### **Background**

- The Programme for Government 2021 to 2026 included a commitment to ban the use of snares in Wales. Officials originally intended to introduce the legislative provisions through the Agriculture Bill being introduced by the Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales and Trefnydd. However, the scope for this Bill has since been narrowed and the banning of snares and glue traps fell out of scope.
- Officials have recently input to an MA assessing the impact of putting snare proposals back in to the Agriculture Bill. The alternative vehicle suggested was a Handout Bill but that route is fraught with difficulties and not guaranteed.