

Ms Elin Jones Minister for Rural Affairs The Welsh Assembley Cathays Park Cardiff CF10 3NQ

April 24<sup>th</sup> 2009

Dear Ms Jones,

## Black and White Campaign – Atal Y Cwlio! Stop the Cull!

I write on behalf of the 14,098 people who have signed the Black and White Campaign against the culling of badgers.

We are totally against the culling and would like to know why you are going ahead with the culling policy when there is robust science in place that shows conclusively that the culling of badgers plays no part in the control of Bovine TB in cattle?

The culling of badgers will need to be undertaken for at least 5 years and we would like to know where the finances for this programme is coming from and indeed how you can prove that this will be cost effective.

The pilot scheme is to find hard boundaries that will cancel out the edge effect. What hard boundaries are you considering and what will be the objective of such as scheme if it does not translate into a working policy that is achievable?

Will farmers who subsequently suffer Bovine TB breakdowns in their herds due to the culling of badgers that causes perturbation be able to bring forward litigation for the losses that they will obviously suffer?

We believe that the pilot scheme is politically motivated and is merely a cynical ploy to appease the farming community because you would prefer to be 'seen to be doing something' even when sound science is perfectly clear that it will make matters worse.



We also wish to make it clear to the Welsh Assembly that should they go ahead with the cull, many, many people will show their disgust by refusing to buy welsh farming products and prefer not to take holidays in such a country with draconian views. Sadly this will affect all farming people — a shame as a huge number of farmers remain against this pilot scheme that will prove nothing, cost a great deal in money to carry out and be very detrimental to the reputation of the farming fraternity.

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Kidner Charity Founder

Secret World Wildlife Rescue Black and White Campaign

c.c. Sent with the petition forms to the Petitions Committee