

Dyddiad: Dydd Mercher 18 Gorffennaf 2001  
Amser: 2.00pm – 5.10pm  
Lleoliad: Ystafell Bwyllgora, Adeilad y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol

**Nid yw'r cyfieithiad Cymraeg ar gael ar hyn o bryd.**

## **INVESTIGATION INTO A BAN ON HUNTING WITH DOGS**

### **Introduction**

1. At its meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> February the committee agreed that it should conduct an investigation into the effect on Wales of implementing a ban on hunting with dogs. This paper sets out a suggested approach to the investigation.

### **Background**

2. In December 2000 a plenary session of the Assembly referred the Hunting Bill to the committee to consider its bearing of on Wales. In February, the committee agreed to conduct an investigation into the effect on Wales of implementing a ban on hunting with dogs and to feed its views into the Westminster debate.

3. Although the Hunting Bill failed to become law before the General Election, the Queen's speech in June indicated that the Government would enable a free vote to take place on the future of hunting with dogs.

### **Next steps**

4. With the committee's agreement it is proposed that a press release be issued after its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> July inviting written submissions to the investigation. The release will invite evidence on ***the possible consequences of implementing a ban, drawing attention to any factors of particular relevance to Wales.*** A decision on whether further oral evidence gathering is required will be taken once written submissions have been received.

5. An agreed paper from the committee would be submitted appropriately once it becomes clear how the matter is to be handled in Westminster.

## Action for the committee

6. The committee is invited to approve the approach outlined above and the attached draft release.

Secretariat

July 2001

Draft press release

### **Agriculture and Rural Development Committee: Investigation into hunting with dogs**

In December 2000 a plenary session of the National Assembly for Wales referred the Hunting Bill to the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee to consider its bearing of on Wales. Although the Bill failed to become law before the General Election, the Queen's speech in June indicated that the Government would enable a free vote to take place on the future of hunting with dogs.

The Agriculture and Rural Development Committee has therefore decided to conduct an investigation into the specific effect on Wales of implementing a ban on hunting with dogs and to feed its views into the Westminster debate. To this end, the committee invites written evidence on the possible consequences of implementing a ban, **drawing attention to any factors of particular relevance to Wales.**

Any person or organisation wishing to submit written evidence to this investigation should email their submission to

agri-rural.comm@wales.gsi.gov.uk or send a copy to the Clerk to the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee, Committee Secretariat, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1NA, to arrive no later than Friday 21 September 2001.

The committee may hold oral evidence sessions in connection with this investigation later in the year. Further details will be issued closer to the time.