

John Griffiths AC /AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy
Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref PO4-433
Ein cyf/Our ref JG/00240/13

William Powell AM
AM for Mid & West Wales
Chair Petition's committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
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March 2013

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter dated 5 February concerning CCTV in Welsh slaughterhouses.

I have met with Animal Aid and other animal welfare organisations to discuss the issue of CCTV at an event arranged by Animal Aid at the Senedd on 10th October 2012.

Retailers and Assurance Schemes such as the Red Tractor and the RSPCA Freedom Food encourage the installation of CCTV at slaughterhouses as better practice. A number of slaughterhouses in Wales do have CCTV installed to monitor animal welfare standards.

For CCTV to have a positive impact on welfare standards at slaughterhouses it must be recognised that appropriate time would be required for officials to view at least a sample of recorded footage. This would remove officials from other health and welfare responsibilities at slaughterhouse.

To develop policy on this subject, the Welsh Government would need to show that there was a reasonable basis for a decision to introduce legislation, that the decision was taken in accordance with the principles of procedural fairness and that it was lawful.

In relation to the timescale, the Welsh Government will approach the industry and welfare organisations to establish a clear position before making any further commitments. I will make a further announcement after the implementation of PATK later this year.

Youn,



John Griffiths AC / AM

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