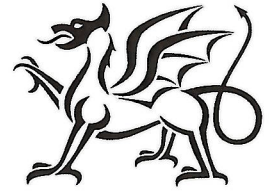


Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-477
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/07475/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair of the Petitions Committee

Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

19 December 2019

Dear Janet

Thank you for your letter of 19 November, regarding Petition P-04-477 Support for the Control of Dogs (Wales) Bill.

I mentioned in my previous correspondence in October the research by Middlesex University, commissioned by Defra, using the joint England, Scotland and Wales research budget. The findings were originally due at the end of the year, at which stage there would be detailed discussions on aspects relevant for Wales.

In line with Defra requirements for the pre-election period, the fieldwork for the project is currently on hold. The decision was made to extend the project end date to February 2020 to enable sufficient time to complete the delayed fieldwork.

Part of the research will look in to measures to reduce dog attacks and promote responsible ownership amongst dog owners with dog control issues in the UK.

The project's core objectives are to investigate:

1. The factors and situations that may cause dog attacks.
2. The effectiveness of current policy and enforcement practice in dealing with dangerous dog issues.
3. How best to promote responsible dog ownership.

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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.

It would not be appropriate to confirm or dismiss future planned work in this area without full consideration of the research. I will update you on developments in due course.

Regards
Lesley

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs