



Lesley Griffiths AM

Dear Minister,

Thank you for your letter dated 22 November setting out the Welsh Government's response to our Report on Wildlife law.

Whilst we are naturally disappointed that the Welsh Government has no immediate intention to act on our recommendations, we understand that leaving the EU will dramatically change the context within which our Report was drafted and that now would not be an appropriate time to bring forward a major reform of wildlife law.

I am nevertheless pleased that you intend to use the Report and Draft Bill to inform your way forward on new legislative opportunities to protect wildlife in Wales. They provide a comprehensive account of the domestic, EU and other international legal obligations which currently apply in England and Wales and will facilitate the task of taking stock of the current situation and making adaptations to reflect future policy choices. The project's core aim to provide clear, coherent legislation and a modern, flexible regulatory framework to govern wildlife management remains important. The Law Commission would be pleased to lend further assistance if you found that useful.

We have been consistently impressed by the Welsh Government's forward-thinking and modern approach to environmental legislation, and look forward to the opportunity to work with you and your Department again in the future, on this or other environmental law issues.

Over the life of the project the Commission received assistance and support from a number of stakeholders within Wales who responded to our consultation or gave up time to meet us. I would like to take the opportunity to reiterate our debt of gratitude to them for their past and ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

The Rt. Hon. Sir David Bean

Chair, Law Commission of England and Wales