

T: 0300 244 4000 E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Mr Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Your ref: ACH/MM/Foxhunting/Cunningham Our ref: 2018/0043768 2\tDecember 2018

Dow Alex,

Thank you for your letter of 7 December 2018 to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform, Roseanna Cunningham, on behalf of your constituents who had enquired about fox hunting.

Fox hunting passed into my portfolio as part of my animal health and welfare brief following my appointment as Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment in June. This is a complex subject and it is necessary for me to take the time to consider the full extent of the issues before announcing any new proposals.

Following the publication of the independent analysis of the 20,000 or so responses to our consultation on Lord Bonomy's review earlier in 2018, I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response very soon.

MAIRI GOUGEON









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Dr Andrew Murrison MP House Of Commons LONDON SW1A 0AA

Your ref: AM/SJG/06/021118 Our ref: 2018/0039199

November 2018

Dear Mr. Muinson,

Thank you for your letter of 2 November 2018 to the First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon, on behalf of your constituents regarding fox hunting.

Fox hunting passed into my portfolio as part of my animal health and welfare brief following my appointment as Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment in June. This is a complex subject and it is necessary for me to take the time to consider the full extent of the issues before announcing any new proposals.

Following the publication of the independent analysis of the 20,000 or so responses to our consultation on Lord Bonomy's review earlier this year, I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response very soon.

MAIRI GOUGEON









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Ms Gill Furniss MP House of Commons LONDON SW1A 0AA

Your ref: GF7855 Our ref: 2018/0038133 276 November 2018

Dear Gill,

Thank you for your letter of 23 October on behalf of your constituents regarding fox hunting.

Fox hunting passed into my portfolio as part of my animal health and welfare brief following my appointment as Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment in June. This is a complex subject and it is necessary for me to take the time to consider the full extent of the issues before announcing any new proposals.

Following the publication of the independent analysis of the 20,000 or so responses to our consultation on Lord Bonomy's review, I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response very soon.









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Mr Tom Mason MSP The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Our ref: 2018/0038962

286 November 2018

Dear Tom,

Thank you for your letter of 7 November on behalf of your constituents on the subject of fox hunting.

Fox hunting passed into my portfolio as part of my animal health and welfare brief following my appointment as Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment in June. This is a complex subject and it is necessary for me to take the time to consider the full extent of the issues before announcing any new proposals.

Following the publication of the independent analysis of the 20,000 or so responses to our consultation on Lord Bonomy's review, I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response very soon.

MAIRI GOUGEON









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Mr Mark McDonald MSP The Scottish Parliament **EDINBURGH** EH99 1SP

Your ref: MM2265 Our ref: 2018/0038094 27th November 2018

Dear Nak,

Thank you for your letter of 31 October addressed to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform on behalf of your constituents regarding fox hunting.

Fox hunting passed into my portfolio as part of my animal health and welfare brief following my appointment as Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment in July. This is a complex subject and it is necessary for me to take the time to consider the full extent of the issues before announcing any new proposals.

Following the publication of the independent analysis of the 20,000 or so responses to our consultation on Lord Bonomy's review, I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response very soon.

MAIRI GOUGEON









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By email

Our ref: 2018/0019737

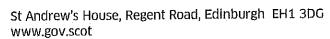
September 2018

Thank you for your letter of 1 June to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform in which you outline the thoughts on fox hunting. Please accept my apologies for the overdue response.

I was pleased to meet with you provided with interest, and hope to be in a position to outline the Government's response to Lord Bonomy's review and our ensuing consultation soon.

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MAIRI GOUGEON











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Ms Mary Glindon MP House Of Commons LONDON SW1A 0AA

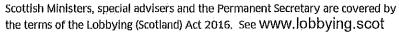
Our ref; 2018/0037224 286November 2018

Dear Mary,

Thank you for your letter of 23 October sent to the First Minister on behalf of your constituent regarding fox hunting.

Fox hunting passed into my portfolio as part of my animal health and welfare brief following my appointment as Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment in June. This is a complex subject and it is necessary for me to take the time to consider the full extent of the issues before announcing any new proposals.

Following the publication of the independent analysis of the 20,000 or so responses to our consultation on Lord Bonomy's review, I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response very soon.











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Mr Alex Neil MSP The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Our ref: 2018/0036251

Dear Alex,

Thank you for your letter of 18 October addressed to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform on behalf of your constituent Mr Catterson regarding fox hunting.

Fox hunting passed into my portfolio as part of my animal health and welfare brief following my appointment as Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment in June. This is a complex subject and it is necessary for me to take the time to consider the full extent of the issues before announcing any new proposals.

Following the publication of the independent analysis of the 20,000 or so responses to our consultation on Lord Bonomy's review, I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response very soon.

MAIRI GOUGEON









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Ms Shona Robison MSP The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Our ref: 2018/0035682 6 November 2018

Dear Shora,

Thank you for your letter of 15 October addressed to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform on behalf of your constituents regarding fox hunting. I am replying as policy on the use of dogs for the control of foxes is included in my portfolio.

Following Lord Bonomy's review of the operation of the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002, we consulted on his recommendations and in June published the independent analysis of the 20,000 or so responses received. Your constituents may be interested in the analysis report and other information on progress to date which is available via the following web link: https://www.gov.scot/About/Review/protection-wild-mammals.

I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response to Lord Bonomy's review and our ensuing consultation on his recommendations soon.

MAIRI GOUGEON









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Ms Aileen Campbell MSP The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Our ref: 2018/0022495 6 September 2018

Dear Hilean,

Thank you for your letter of 25 June 2018 addressed to the Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform enclosing a letter sent to you by Mr R G Swan (Master of Fox Hounds) of Eyemouth on the value of foxhounds for fox control in Scotland and offering to meet with you to discuss the points he makes. I am replying because this policy area is in my portfolio.

Following Lord Bonomy's review of the operation of the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002, we consulted on his recommendations and recently published the analysis of some 20,000 responses. Mr Swan may be interested in this and other information on progress to date which is available via the following web link: https://www.gov.scot/About/Review/protection-wild-mammals; I hope that he took the opportunity to make his views known in the consultation.

I hope to be in a position to outline the Government's response to Lord Bonomy's review and our ensuing consultation soon.

Mairi Gougeon







Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Roseanna Cunningham MSP



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Ms Ruth Maguire MSP The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Our ref 2017/0034275

Dean Ruth,

Thank you for your letter of 11 September on the subject of fox hunting.

You may already be aware that on Friday 6 October, we launched a consultation on Lord Bonomy's recommended reforms to the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act and I would encourage you and your constituents to participate.

The consultation will run until 31 January 2018 and can be accessed via the following web link https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/wildlife-management-and-protected-areas/improving-protection-for-wild-mammals/

Yours

Roseanna Cunningham





Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Roseanna Cunningham MSP



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Ms Jo Swinson MP House Of Commons LONDON SW1A 0AA

Our ref: 2017/0019411 ፊት June 2017

Dear Jo,

Thank you for your letter of 25 May regarding fox hunting,

You may be interested to note that on 3 January, I announced the Scottish Government's response to the recent review by the Rt Hon. Lord Bonomy on the operation of the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002. Lord Bonomy's report is available via the following web link http://gov.scot/Publications/2016/11/9965 and contains a number of recommendations to improve the operation of the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002, all of which we are exploring further.

Further to this, we recently announced the appointment of retired Deputy Chief Constable Ruaraidh Nicolson to lead a stakeholder group tasked with developing a new code of practice on hunting, and to explore the feasibility of a monitoring scheme. We also plan to consult in the near future on all of Lord Bonomy's proposed changes to the existing legislation which include the removal of inconsistencies and the improvement of definitions in the Act to aid enforcement as well as considering the introduction of new vicarious liability and "reverse burden of proof" provisions along with extending the time limit for bringing prosecutions.

Whilst it would not be appropriate to pre-empt the outcome of the forthcoming consultation, we currently regard the possibility of legislative reform in the current parliamentary session to Youses Reama be a viable prospect.

Roseanna Cunningham









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Mr Bob Doris MSP The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Your ref: BD6284 Our ref: 2018/0039260 orn December 2018

Dear Bh,

Thank you for your letter of 8 November 2018 on behalf of your constituents, regarding fox hunting.

Fox hunting passed into my portfolio as part of my animal health and welfare brief following my appointment as Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment in June. This is a complex subject and it is necessary for me to take the time to consider the full extent of the issues before announcing any new proposals.

The independent analysis of the 20,000 plus responses to our consultation on Lord Bonomy's review was published in June this year, and can be viewed via the following web link: www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-improving-protection-wild-mammals-analysis-responses/.

The specific concerns you highlight in your letter (e.g. exemptions with in the 2002 Act) are being considered as part of this work and I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response very soon.

MAIRI GOUGEON



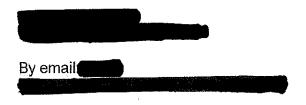




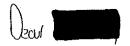


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Our ref: 2018/0032151 2Lmt September 2018



Thank you for your letters of 7 August and 20 September (further to our meeting on 30 July) in which you enclosed a copy of Naylor and Knott's recently published study on the efficacy of packs vs pairs of dogs for flushing red foxes from cover, Sheriff Patterson's judgement on the Jedforest case, Q&A relating to the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002, a copy of your letter of 14 September to Colin Smyth MSP and observations on responses received to our consultation on Lord Bonomy's recommendations. I am grateful to you for providing this information which I have noted with interest.

I hope to be in a position to outline the Government's response to Lord Bonomy's review and our ensuing consultation soon.

MAIRI GOUGEON









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Mr Ken Macintosh MSP The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Our ref: 2018/0035778 13 November 2018

Dear ken,

Thank you for your letter of 15 October on behalf of your constituents regarding fox hunting.

Fox hunting passed into my portfolio as part of my animal health and welfare brief following my appointment as Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment in June. This is a complex subject and it is necessary for me to take the time to consider the full extent of the issues before announcing any new proposals.

Following the publication of the independent analysis of the 20,000 or so responses to our consultation on Lord Bonomy's review, I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response very soon.









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Mr John Scott MSP The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Our ref: 2018/0036783 6 November 2018

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 15 October on behalf of your constituents regarding fox hunting.

Following Lord Bonomy's review of the operation of the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002, we consulted on his recommendations and in June published the independent analysis of the 20,000 or so responses received. Your constituents may be interested in the analysis report and other information on progress to date which is available via the following web link: https://www.gov.scot/About/Review/protection-wild-mammals

I hope to be in a position to outline the Scottish Government's response to Lord Bonomy's review and our ensuing consultation on his recommendations soon.

