

Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Cùisean Dùthchail agus na h- Àrainneachd
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment
Ridseard Lochhead BPA
Richard Lochhead MSP



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
PR and Communications Officer
The Scottish Gamekeepers Association



LEGACY 2014
XX COMMONWEALTH GAMES
SCOTLAND

By email: [REDACTED]

Ar faidhle/Our ref: 2014/0000732
20 February 2014

Thank you for your correspondence of 9 January 2014 to Richard Lochhead MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment, regarding the Scottish Gamekeepers Association petition asking people if the ban on the docking of working dogs' tails should be overturned in Scotland.

Mr Lochhead would be willing to meet with representatives of the Scottish Gamekeepers Association at Parliament and receive the petition.

I would be grateful if you could contact [REDACTED], Mr Lochhead's Diary Secretary, by email at [REDACTED] to make the necessary arrangements.

[REDACTED]
PRIVATE SECRETARY

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 January 2014 16:48:22
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Petition Handover Request- Richard Lochhead MSP

FAO: Richard Lochhead MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Environment.

Dear Richard,

The Scottish Gamekeepers Association is currently running a petition asking people if the ban on the docking of working dogs' tails should be overturned in Scotland. This is an issue close to the hearts of many people in the Scottish countryside, not solely gamekeepers, who have working dogs. As you may be aware First Minister Alex Salmond promised the Scottish Gamekeepers Association during an AGM speech five years ago that the SNP administration would overturn the ban if there was sufficient evidence to do so, within the first term of an SNP government.

We understand recent evidence from Glasgow University vets provides this evidence yet working dogs are continuing to suffer.

Our petition closes on January 31st, 2014, and it is our intention to deliver it to Holyrood.

We would appreciate it if you would be able to accept the petition from us at the Scottish Parliament so that the SNP administration may consider its findings with some urgency and, we hope, take this issue to the wider Parliament to be reconsidered, as promised.

We understand you will have many pressures on your time. If you were amenable to accepting our petition, we hope to deliver it between Monday 17th February and Friday 28th February 2014 and would be happy to work around your own diary in terms of this timescale. We look forward to hearing from you regarding this.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED] PR and Communications Officer, The Scottish Gamekeepers Association.

[REDACTED]