Thank you for your letter of 26 January 2017 addressed to Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform seeking a meeting on Wednesday 15 March 2017 to discuss electronic training collars.

Unfortunately, Ms Cunningham will be unable to attend the meeting on this date owing to existing diary commitments.

However, if it would be helpful, the Animal Welfare Branch would be happy to meet with you to discuss the regulation of electronic training collars. I would be grateful if you could contact Animal Welfare Branch, directly or by email – , should you wish to arrange a meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Private Secretary
Ms Roseanna Cunningham MSP  
Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP  

Thursday 26th January 2017  

Dear Ms Cunningham,  

Dogs Trust is holding a drop in session for MSPs in the Scottish Parliament on 15th March from 12pm-2pm to discuss aversive training devices.  

Joining us will be ________, Director of Canine Behaviour & Research at Dogs Trust. ________ is a European and RCVS Recognised Specialist in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine, a European Specialist in Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law, and a Certified Clinical Animal Behaviourist who has been specialising in veterinary behaviour for over 20 years.  

We would be grateful if we could organise a separate meeting with you on this day to discuss the proposed regulations on electronic training devices and how the regulations can best be worded to ensure the use of these devices is limited to approved trainers or vets. In particular, we would like to discuss how an approved trainer can be defined.  

If this would be possible, I would be grateful if your office could please contact me at ________@dogstrust.org.uk / ________. I look forward to hearing from you.  

Yours sincerely,  

[Signature]  

Head of Public Affairs  

---  

Dogs Trust  
Clarissa Baldwin House  
17 Wakley Street  
London ECV 7RQ  

[Address]  

P 020 7833 2701  
F 020 7833 2701  
www.dogstrust.org.uk  

A dog is for life, not just for Christmas
### ADVICE FOR: ROSEANNA CUNNINGHAM

**Location of Event:** The Scottish Parliament

**Date and time of Event:** Wednesday 15 March 2017 (timings flexible)

**Overview of invitation and audience profile:**
- Invitation is for the Cabinet Secretary to meet with Dogs Trust to discuss the proposed regulations on electronic training collars.
- Director of Canine Behaviour & Research at Dogs Trust also to attend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Has the Minister been asked to attend of behalf of FM?</th>
<th>Yes ☐</th>
<th>No ☒</th>
<th>Don't Know ☐</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**RECOMMENDATION:** Decline and offer a meeting with Animal Welfare Branch officials

**Comments:**

- Dogs Trust is a major stakeholder (in both Scotland and the UK) in the welfare of dogs. They have 2 rehoming centres in Scotland (Glasgow and West Calder) with a further 18 centres throughout the UK.

- Cabinet Secretary met with Dogs Trust on 21 September 2016 to discuss Tail Shortening and Electronic Training Collars.

- Dogs Trust are in regular correspondence on matters of animal welfare.

- Animal Welfare Branch are currently meeting with a number of stakeholders to collate further evidence on this topic and a meeting between Dogs Trust and officials would help with this process.

If recommendation is to accept, has this advice been agreed with your Head of Division? Yes ☐ No ☒

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Has another Minister been asked to attend:</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Main theme that the event supports: | Greener – Animal Welfare |
| **Main purpose of attending:** | • Explain new policy or a major policy shift  
|                             | • Reinforce or illustrate existing policy  
|                             | • Improve relations with stakeholders  
| (Tick as many as apply)     | • Encourage participation in consultation  
|                             | • Recognise contribution to policy implementation  
|                             | • Announce funding  
|                             | • Other (please specify):  
| **Main message to communicate:** |  
| **Most appropriate type of Ministerial input:** | Meeting between Cabinet Secretary and representatives of Dogs Trust. Alternatively meeting with officials at present time  
| **Private Office view:** |  
| Private Office contact: |  
| **Comments:** |  
| **Communications Office view:** |  
| Communications Office contact: |  
| **Action Officer:** |  

Good morning.

I hope you are well. Moving meeting forward to 3pm is no problem.

I will let the front desk know.

Kind regards,

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

Tel:

Apologies for the inconvenience, but would it be possible to move this meeting forward half an hour to 3pm please?

Many thanks,

Thanks. I just like to double check (think it’s my previous post coming back to me).
Apologies I did wonder how clear it was in my email. You are correct though, it will be [name1] and [name2] attending the meeting.

Many thanks,

---

Can I just check that it will be just [name1] and [name2] attending the meeting? Just so I can let reception know.

Thanks

---

Hi [name1],

Thank you for your email, hope you are well too.

I have checked the diary and 3.30pm suits both [name1] and [name2]. They look forward to seeing you at Saughton House then.
Hi,

Thank you for your email below. I hope that you are well.

Andrew and I would be happy to meet with you to give you an update on the proposed regulations. We would be free to meet you on 15 March however it will need to take place in Saughton House.

Would 3.30pm be a suitable time or would you prefer 4pm to give you time to pack up at parliament and make your way out to Saughton?

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

Tel: 

Hi,

We have received a letter from the Cabinet Secretary’s Private Secretary to say that she is unable to meet with us on 15th March to discuss electronic training collars, but to contact you if it would be useful to meet with the Animal Welfare Branch.

We’ll be in the Scottish Parliament that day holding a drop-in event for MSPs. Our Director of Canine Behaviour and Research, will be joining us and so it would be a good opportunity for her to discuss the details of the proposed Regulations.

Would you be available for a meeting at 3pm on 15th March at all? Ideally in the Scottish Parliament (the public cata) or we could go to Saughton House if that wasn’t an option.

Many thanks,
Head of Public Affairs

Dogs Trust - A Dog Is For Life

Visit our Public Affairs website at www.dogtrust.org.uk/publicaffairs

Twitter: @DT_Pawitical
has asked for a meeting with Andrew and I to discuss the progress of the Association of Balanced Dog Trainers that is currently being set up.

The meeting is due to take place in Saughton House on Tuesday 25 April at 10:30. will accompanied by and .

I would like to extend the invitation to yourself and , and hope that you will both be available to attend.

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel:

Your email finds me very well, thank you and I trust you and Andrew are well too.

Kind regards,
Hi,

I hope that this email finds you well.

During the meeting with trainers in January, Andrew mentioned that when you recommend an electronic training collar to a client you have a disclaimer/contract that they sign before initial use of the device. I wondered if it was possible for you to send me a copy of this form.

Kind regards,

.....................................

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel:
RE: Electric collars

From: [redacted]
Sent: 09 March 2017 10:49
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Electric collars

I refer to your email exchange below with Andrew Voas concerning the regulations to be introduced to control the use of electronic training collars.

You expressed an interest in meeting with us to discuss the collars and would give us an opportunity to update you on the progression on the early stages of the regulations.

I wondered if you would be free over the next few weeks (before Easter) to meet with Andrew and I. The meeting would be held in Saughton House.

Kind regards

---

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [redacted]

---

From: [redacted]@basc.org.uk]
Sent: 17 January 2017 15:19
To: Voas AP (Andrew)
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Electric collars

Thank you Andrew,

I shall go back to the members and explain the situation. I have successfully used an electronic collar in the past to manage a dog around livestock so have a personal interest in the issue. If we can be of assistance in any way please let me know.

Best regards,
This meeting is intended specifically for trainers who use collars to explore the possibilities for future authorisation/approval rather than representative bodies. However, I am sure there will be future wider meetings BASC will be welcome to attend and we will keep your interest in mind when we send invitations — we are still at an early stage in developing detailed proposals for further consultation. We are of course always happy to discuss any areas of concern with you at any point.

Regards

Andrew

Andrew Voas BVM&S MRCVS
Veterinary Adviser
Scottish Government
Spur P Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
EDINBURGH
EH11 3XD
The British Association for Shooting and Conservation

Please consider the environment. Do you really need to print this email?
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 10 March 2017 10:09
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Electronic training collars

Following telephone call this morning I can advise that the meeting will be taking place at 13:00 on 25 April 2017.

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [Redacted]

---

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 09 March 2017 10:39
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Electronic training collars

[Redacted] has asked for a meeting with Andrew and I to discuss the progress of the Association of Balanced Dog Trainers that is currently being set up.

The meeting is due to take place in Saughton House on Tuesday 25 April at 10:30. [Redacted] will accompanied by [Redacted] and [Redacted].

I would like to extend the invitation to yourself and [Redacted], and hope that you will both be available to attend.

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [Redacted]
Hi,

Your email finds me very well, thank you and I trust you and Andrew are well too.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

Sent: 15 February 2017 11:43
To:
Subject: RE: Electronic training collars

Hi,

I hope that this email finds you well.

During the meeting with trainers in January, Andrew mentioned that when you recommend an electronic training collar to a client you have a disclaimer/contract that they sign before initial use of the device. I wondered if it was possible for you to send me a copy of this form.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [Redacted]
From: [redacted]
Sent: 10 March 2017 10:54
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Electronic training collars

Thank you.
It's in my diary and I'll book a train ticket.
Best wishes,

From: [redacted]
Sent: 10 March 2017 10:09
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Electronic training collars

Following telephone call this morning I can advise that the meeting will be taking place at 13:00 on 25 April 2017.

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [redacted]
From: [redacted]
Sent: 10 March 2017 09:31
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: AGENDA - Scottish Government Meeting - Electronic training Collars - Wednesday 25th January 2017

I have been in contact with [redacted] he is unable to attend a meeting in the morning of 25 April. I would be able to fit a meeting in later in the day and have moved the meeting to 13:00. I hope this time is still suitable for you.

Kind regards

P Spur
Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [redacted]

---Original Message---
From: [redacted]
Sent: 09 March 2017 10:55
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: AGENDA - Scottish Government Meeting - Electronic training Collars - Wednesday 25th January 2017

Thank you for confirming. I have contacted [redacted] and invited him to the meeting also.

I would be grateful if you could send me a copy of the draft code of conduct ahead of the meeting, and any training materials you may have from the IACP.

Kind regards

P Spur
Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [redacted]

---Original Message---
From: [redacted]
Sent: 09 March 2017 10:41
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: AGENDA - Scottish Government Meeting - Electronic training Collars - Wednesday 25th January 2017

No problem that's a go all confirmed look forward to it

---
On 2017-03-09 10:26, Andrew@gov.scot wrote:
> I have discussed with Andrew and suggest we hold a meeting on
> Tuesday 25 April 2017 at 10:30 in Saughton House.
> I would be grateful if you could confirm the date and time with and
> Kind regards

On 2017-03-07 12:20, Animal Welfare Branch @gov.scot wrote:
> Thanks
> I have spoke with them and we can make ourselves available when suits
> you after 12th April. Just let me know when suits asap and I'll pass it
> on
> Many thanks

On 2017-03-06 08:30, Animal Welfare Branch @gov.scot wrote:
> Thank you for your email below and I can confirm that I am content for
> both and to attend the meeting.
> In order for us to find a suitable date I would be grateful if you
> could liaise with both and to find 3 or 4 dates, after
> your holiday, which they would be able travel through to Edinburgh to
> attend a meeting.
> I will then look at timings which would suitable for us all.
> Kind regards
That sounds great. We have a code of conduct rough draft for you to peruse and our next meeting.

Would both be able to attend?

I spoke with [name] and we will be discussing this further in the coming couple of weeks.

When would be good to meet up?

I'm away on holiday from [date] to [date] Apart from that I can make myself free as can my colleagues.

Regards

On 2017-02-27 15:09, [name] wrote:

Thank you for your email below. I think it would be useful if we have a further meeting to be updated on the progress of the Association.

In order for the meeting to be beneficial to both the Association and Scottish Government, it would be more productive to keep the number of meeting attendees to a minimum. I would be grateful if you could nominate one other person to attend the meeting with you. I will also be extending an invitation to [name] and a colleague.

You advised at the last meeting that you are a member of IACP and I wondered if you had information on their training programmes.

Information on the structure of the programme offered (minimum...
training requirements for trainers, number of hours experience (e.g. 150 hrs), training logs etc) which a trainer is required to attain before becoming a member of the Association might prove helpful.

It would also be good to have sight of the draft code of conduct ahead of the meeting (hopefully to take place in March).

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive |
Tel: 

Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

--- Original Message ---

From: 
Sent: 19 February 2017 12:39
To: 
Subject: RE: AGENDA - Scottish Government Meeting - Electronic training Collars - Wednesday 25th January 2017

Afternoon and Andrew. Just wanted to keep you updated to say that the Association is progressing well and are keen to meet with you guys again whenever suits you to move things forward. I have spoken with the number, as well as a number of the world leading e-collar trainers.

All are keen to participate and are members of the Association of Balanced Dog Trainers.

We had a meeting yesterday and are finalising a draft code of conduct and some other aspects that will be of interest to you.

I look forward to hearing from you

Kind regards

On 2017-01-19 08:59, wrote:

Please below topics that will be discussed at the meeting next week.

Agenda
1. Introductions
2. Approved Trainers
3. Training
4. Behaviour problems
5. Electronic training collars

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive |
Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: 

---

Original Message---

From: 
Sent: 18 January 2017 22:25
To: 
Subject: Re: AGENDA - Scottish Government Meeting - Electronic training Collars - Wednesday 25th January 2017

Hey are you able to resend the agenda in a different format I can't open it

---

On 2017-01-18 15:24, @gov.scot wrote:

Dear all,

Please find attached a copy of the agenda for the meeting to be held in Saughton House on Wednesday 25th January 2017.

I would be grateful if you report to the Main Reception on arrival at Saughton House.

To note this meeting will allow us to gather further information on how electronic collars are being used and the training programmes currently in place.

Kind regards

---

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive |
Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: 

---
Hi

Thank you for your email. I would be happy to attend the meeting. Are there any car parking spots available for this day? If so can I please request one.

Regards

On 2017-03-10 10:08, [email] wrote:

[Name] has asked for a meeting with Andrew and me to discuss the progress of the Association of Balanced Dog Trainers that is currently being set up.

The meeting is due to take place in Saughton House on Tuesday 25 April at 13:00. [Name] will be accompanied by [Name] and [Name].

I would like to extend an invitation for you to attend also. [Name] has also agreed to attend the meeting.

Kind regards

[Name]

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [phone number]
Following our telephone call earlier today I would be grateful if you could pass on our apologies to [redacted] and [redacted].

As advised, Andrew has been called down to a meeting at the Scottish Parliament tomorrow afternoon and will now be unable to attend this meeting.

We would, of course, be happy to arrange another date and time which would be suitable for both [redacted] and [redacted].

Kind regards

[Footer]
Hi [Name],

Thank you for your email, hope you are well too.

I have checked the diary and 3.30pm suits both [Name] and [Name]. They look forward to seeing you at Saughton House then.

Many thanks,

[Signature]

---

From: [Email Address]@dogtrust.org.uk
Sent: 23 February 2017 11:44
To: [Email Address]
Cc: [Email Address]
Subject: RE: Meeting to discuss electronic training collars

Hi [Name],

Thank you for your email, hope you are well too.

I have checked the diary and 3.30pm suits both [Name] and [Name]. They look forward to seeing you at Saughton House then.

Many thanks,

[Signature]

---

From: [Email Address]@gov.scot
Sent: 23 February 2017 10:10
To: [Email Address]
Cc: [Email Address]
Subject: RE: Meeting to discuss electronic training collars

Hi [Name],

Thank you for your email below. I hope that you are well.

Andrew and I would be happy to meet with you to give you an update on the proposed regulations. We would be free to meet you on 15 March however it will need to take place in Saughton House.

Would 3.30pm be a suitable time or would you prefer 4pm to give you time to pack up at parliament and make your way out to Saughton?

Kind regards,

[Signature]
Hi,

We have received a letter from the Cabinet Secretary's Private Secretary to say that she is unable to meet with us on 15th March to discuss electronic training collars, but to contact you if it would be useful to meet with the Animal Welfare Branch.

We’ll be in the Scottish Parliament that day holding a drop-in event for MSPs. [Redacted] our Director of Canine Behaviour and Research, will be joining us and so it would be a good opportunity for her to discuss the details of the proposed Regulations.

Would you be available for a meeting at 3pm on 15th March at all? Ideally in the Scottish Parliament (the public cafetaria?) or we could go to Saughton House if that wasn’t an option.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Head of Public Affairs

Dogs Trust - A Dog Is For Life

Visit our Public Affairs website at www.dogstrust.org.uk/publicaffairs

Twitter: @DT_Pawitical
Dear all

The annual British Veterinary Association (BVA) dinner is going to be held in the Scottish Parliament on Tuesday 16 May. Mr Ewing is attending as guest of honour and will give a 10 minute speech prior to the dinner. Ms Cunningham is also planning to meet with the BVA on Tuesday afternoon but is not attending the dinner. Briefing is required for both ministers.
draft speech would be welcome by Wednesday 19 April.

Briefing

The BVA have identified the following as their priority policy areas:

- Animal welfare
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

The topics from last year were:

- Electronic training aids
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

- Bev/Andrew
I would be grateful for any contributions to be provided to me by Friday 28 April.

Thanks

The Scottish Government
Directorate for Agriculture, Food & Rural Communities
Animal Health & Welfare
P-Spur, Saughton House,
Broomhouse Drive,
Edinburgh, EH11 3XD

Tel: [Redacted]
Fax: 0300 244 9797
Electronic training collars

Top line

- The Scottish Government is working with stakeholders to progress the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform's commitment to introduce regulations to tightly control the use of electronic training collars for animals.

Background

- Electronic training collars are mainly used on dogs, but some also used on cats.
- There are different types of electronic training collars: some collars pass a small electric current between two terminals in contact with the animal's neck (a static pulse collar); others emit a noise or ultrasonic sound; or a spray of water or citronella.
- There are three main uses: remote training collars used as part of a training regime via an owner-operated remote control; anti-bark collars; and electric boundary or "freedom" fences.
- On 4 October 2016, the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform announced that the Scottish Government would be introducing strict new regulations to tightly control the use by permitting their use under professional guidance only and in circumstances where other training methods have failed or would be inappropriate.
- The announcement followed a public consultation which ran between the 6 November 2015 and 29 January 2016, and received 1032 responses. The results were mixed - 44% of respondents were in favour of a ban on certain devices; 5% seeking stricter regulations; 10% in favour of a mixture of ban and regulations; 9% favoured guidance or a statutory welfare code; and 28% felt that current legislation was sufficient.
- The regulations will be based on a code of practice drawn up in conjunction with trainers and other stakeholders which will define how the different types of electronic collars can be used. The Scottish Government would authorise accredited and qualified trainers to supervise the use of collars by pet owners.
- Initial discussions have taken place with stakeholders from the pet industry, animal training and veterinary professional bodies. These discussions have included the qualifications required to become an approved trainer and the circumstances in which these devices should be used. The possible involvement of veterinary surgeons in approving the use of the devices has also been discussed but RCVS has indicated that they would have little interest in being involved as they do not consider dog training to be an act of veterinary surgery.
Animal Welfare annexes G1-G5 reformatted as requested. Hope this fits in with the rest.

Best wishes

AFRC – Animal Health & Welfare
P Spur
Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
Edinburgh
EH11 3XD

Thanks for this. I need to get consistency in style/format so a couple of extra requests:

- For each topic can you also add a line into the text box capturing the 'issue'
- Could you please add in sub-headings for the contribution on further legislation on performing animals e.g. top lines etc.
- Similarly for the electronic training collars entry it is currently all top lines so needs to be broken up

I've attached the in progress version which should be clearer.

thanks again

Landscape and Involvement with the Natural Environment
Hi,

Thanks – [Redacted] is co-ordinating Ms Cunningham's committee briefing so copying in him.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary to Roseanna Cunningham MSP | Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change & Land Reform | Scottish Government | 2N:08, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

From: [Redacted] On Behalf Of Voas S (Sheila)
Sent: 14 June 2017 15:01
To: Voas AP (Andrew); Williams B (Beverley);
Subject: FW: Response Required: ECCLR Committee: themes for meeting on 27 June
Importance: High

Please see the request below. I'd be grateful if your Welfare briefing could be sent directly to Cab Sec’s office by cop on Thursday 22nd please. Thanks very much.

Animal Health and Welfare Division
Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate
The Scottish Government
P Spur – Saughton House
All

To see below a list of possible topics that might be covered at Ms Cunningham's committee appearance on the 27 June.

Grateful if a briefing pack could be provided by close of play on Thursday 22 June.

Just to flag that this on the agenda for the Portfolio Meeting taking place tomorrow where Ms Cunningham can provide a steer on her briefing style preference.

Happy to discuss.

Many thanks,

Deputy Private Secretary to Roseanna Cunningham, Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform
Scottish Government
Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

Included below is a list of possible themes which the Committee might cover on the 27th. If I might firstly highlight a few caveats:

•
•
•
I would expect the Committee to begin the session by asking the Cabinet Secretary to outline the expected priorities within her portfolio over the coming year.

Can you also please let us know the names and titles of any accompanying officials by Tuesday 20 June.

Possible themes

- Animal Welfare
• Electronic training collars

Kind regards

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>What</strong></th>
<th>ECCLR Committee session.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Where</strong></td>
<td>Committee Room 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>When</strong></td>
<td>Tuesday 27 June – 10.45 -12.45.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(start time will be dependent on the animals in circuses session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Who</strong></td>
<td>Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Why</strong></td>
<td>ECCLR Committee are taking evidence from the Cabinet Secretary on issues across the Environment Climate Change and Land Reform portfolio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Officials</strong></td>
<td>[Redacted]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Briefing contents</strong></td>
<td>MAIN BRIEFING PACK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Annex G4 - Electronic Training Collars

**ISSUE: Regulations to control the use of electronic training collars in Scotland**

- On 4 October 2016 the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform announced the Scottish Government would be introducing tough new regulations to control the use of electronic training collars for animals.
- In the announcement, the Cabinet Secretary noted that there was evidence electronic training collars can cause suffering and, as such, would only be permitted under professional guidance and in circumstances where other training methods had failed or proven ineffective.

**Top Lines:**

- The regulations will be based on a code of practice drawn up in conjunction with trainers and other stakeholders. Code will define how the different types of electronic training collars can be used.
- The proposed regulations would authorise trainers to supervise the use of collars by pet owners based on externally accredited training and qualifications. Authorised trainers would have a written agreement with clients specifying the precise type of collar to be used (to overcome concerns about cheap substandard collars that may give excessive or unreliable stimuli) and how it should be used in their clients own circumstances.
- Records of collar use would be submitted to the trainers' organisation or Scottish Government and there would be sanctions if trainers were found to be permitting the use of collars in contravention of the code of practice.

**Animal Welfare Benefits of Regulation:**

- allowing the continued responsible use of good quality electronic collars in defined circumstances where other training methods have failed
- introduce specific offences for irresponsible or casual use of these devices illegal.

**Discussions with stakeholders:**

- Discussions with stakeholders are continuing, and recently a group of Scottish trainers set up their own “Association of Balanced Dog Trainers”. The Scottish Government will work with them, other trainers, the pet industry and the animal welfare sector to: produce a code of practice for collar use; and develop independently recognised training and qualification without which trainers could not approve use of collars.

**Consultation:**

- The announcement on 4 October 2016 followed a public consultation which ran between 6 November 2015 and 29 January 2016 and received 1032 responses. The results were mixed – 44% of responses were in favour of a ban on certain devices; 5% sought stricter regulations; 10% were in favour of a mixture of a ban and regulations; 9% favoured guidance or a statutory welfare code; and 28% felt that current legislation was sufficient.
It is no problem to add [redacted] to the meeting attendees. I will pass on her details to Reception.

It would not be appropriate to film or photograph this meeting. The meeting has been arranged at your request for your US colleagues to provide us with their comments and I would suggest that you might provide us with a pointer on what other elements of collars you might like to discuss.

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [redacted]

---Original Message---
From: [redacted]
Sent: 04 July 2017 14:57
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Electronic Training Collar Regulations - Stakeholder meeting on 25 April 2017

Also is there an agenda or anything particular you'd like discussed tomorrow Just so we can be prepared

On 2017-06-26 08:11, [redacted]@gov.scot wrote:
> Hi [redacted],
> A parking space has been reserved for you on 5th July 2017.
> Kind regards
> [redacted]
> Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
> Tel: [redacted]
> FROM: [redacted]
> SENT: 24 June 2017 21:50
> TO: [redacted]
> SUBJECT: RE: Electronic Training Collar Regulations - Stakeholder meeting on 25 April 2017
Hi,

There will be myself, and .

Can I get a parking space please, reg .

Thanks

On 2017-08-14 14:51, wrote:

» Dear 

» Thank you for your email. 1pm on Wednesday 5th July 2017 would be fine.

» As advised in my previous email, both Andrew and I would be happy to meet with to hear their views on e-collars whilst they are in Scotland. However, it is our intention to hold the joint meeting with animal welfare organisations and balanced trainers/association in early Autumn. I will be in touch during the summer to arrange a time which would be suitable for all.

» I will be in touch in July to arrange some dates to shadow you and other members of the ABDT.

» I would be grateful if you could advise who will be attending the meeting on 5 July 2017 along with you, and .

» Kind regards

»

» Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive |
» Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
» Tel: 

---Original Message---
» From: 
» Sent: 13 June 2017 17:26
» To: 
» Subject: RE: Electronic Training Collar Regulations - Stakeholder meeting on 25 April 2017

» Hi 

» Thanks for the response. Could we make it about 1pm at all?

»
I'll sort the website no problem.

What are you thinking about shadowing a session?

On 2017-06-13 15:39, gov.scot wrote:

Dear

Thank you for your email below and hope that you are well.

Andrew and I would be happy to meet with [redacted] and [redacted] when they are in Scotland and Wednesday 5 July 2017 would be fine.

I have booked a meeting room in Saughton House for 11am.

I have discussed with Andrew about the possibility of inviting the animal welfare organisations to this meeting. However, we do not think it would be appropriate for them to be in attendance if the meeting is to be held with representatives from ABDT only.

We hope to hold the meeting between Scottish Trainers and Animal Welfare Organisations at a later date.

I would be grateful if you could confirm who will be attending the meeting on the 5 July 2017.

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive |
Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

Tel:

FROM: [redacted]
SENT: 08 June 2017 21:22
TO: [redacted]
SUBJECT: Re: Electronic Training Collar Regulations - Stakeholder
Meeting on 25 April 2017

Hi

Many thanks for the email.

I was wondering if it was possible for us to meet again on Wednesday 5th July at all?

I don't know if you remember but advised that and are over from the US and I feel it would be great for you guys to meet them.

Ideally of course with the other organisations that we discussed at the last meeting. I appreciate that it could be quite short notice so that may not be possible.

However if it is not possible it would still be great to have you guys meet with them.

I would ask that if it was between yourselves and the ABDT along with and that it would only be such. I wouldn't expect or those not part of our organisation to be there as some of the things we can discuss would be personal to the ABDT.

I hope we can make this happen.

Also for your info, our website is up and running and still needs to have meat added to it but it's the beginning.

Feel free to check it out.

www.abdt.org.uk

I look forward to hearing from you and just let me know when you want to come out on a session.

Many thanks

On 2017-05-31 12:21, wrote:

Thank you for attending the meeting in Edinburgh on Tuesday 25 April 2017 and I apologise for the delay in following the meeting up with the qualification information and the (very early) draft of the code of practice discussed at the meeting.
From: [Redacted]@dogstrust.org.uk
Sent: 19 July 2017 15:24
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Meeting to discuss electronic training collars

Thanks [Redacted]
It'll be [Redacted] and [Redacted] dialing in together.
I've copied [Redacted] in so that she has the details.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Public Affairs Officer

dogstrust.org.uk

Tel: [Redacted]

Dogs Trust - A Dog Is For Life

Website: http://www.dogstrust.org.uk
http://www.dogandcatwelfare.eu

Twitter: @DT_Pawlitical
@EUdogsandcats

Dogs Trust - A Dog Is For Life

Website: http://www.dogstrust.org.uk
http://www.dogandcatwelfare.eu

Twitter: @DT_Pawlitical
@EUdogsandcats
Hi

Please see below the dial in details for the meeting on 10 August 2017.

Conference Number —
Participant code —

I would be grateful if you could confirm who will be dialling into the teleconference.

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

Tel:

From: [email protected]
Sent: 19 July 2017 09:25
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Meeting to discuss electronic training collars

Hi

That's perfect, thank you.

Best wishes,

[Redacted]

Public Affairs Officer

Website: http://www.dogtrust.org.uk
         http://www.dogandcatwelfare.eu
Twitter: @DT_Pawltical
         @EUdogsandcats
We would be able to do a conference call on 10th August 2017 if that is suitable. Would 13:00 be okay for you?

Kind regards

---

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

Tel: 

---

Hi 

We would be able to do a conference call on 10th August 2017 if that is suitable. Would 13:00 be okay for you?

Kind regards

---

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

Tel:
Unfortunately we haven't been able to tack on any other meetings to our scheduled meeting on the 10th August.

With this in mind, please could you let me know whether there would be an option to have, preferably a Skype call, or otherwise a conference call?

Many thanks,

Public Affairs Officer

Tel: @dogstrust.org.uk

Dogs Trust - A Dog Is For Life

Website: http://www.dogtrust.org.uk
http://www.dogandcatwelfare.eu

Twitter: @DT_Pawitical
@EUDogsAndCats

Hi

Thank you for coming back to me. I have put the meeting in for 1pm on 10th August.
I would be grateful if you could confirm nearer the time who will be attending the meeting so I can advise Reception.

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

Tel:

From: [redacted]@dogtrust.org.uk
Sent: 06 July 2017 10:30
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Meeting to discuss electronic training collars

Hi

Apologies for the delay. Would 1pm on the 10th August be suitable?

Many thanks,

[redacted]

Public Affairs Officer

Tel: [redacted]@dogtrust.org.uk

Dogs Trust - A Dog Is For Life

Website: [http://www.dogtrust.org.uk](http://www.dogtrust.org.uk)
[http://www.dogandcatwelfare.eu](http://www.dogandcatwelfare.eu)

Twitter: @DT_Pawitical
@EUdgosandcats
Hi,

I hope you are well.

Had a check of calendars and the afternoon of Thursday 10 August is free in our calendars. Would this be suitable for you?

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

Tel:

From: [redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: 03 July 2017 12:07
To: [redacted]
Cc: Andrew.Voa@gov.scot; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Meeting to discuss electronic training collars

PS

Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
Edinburgh
EH11 3XD

Tel:

From: [redacted]@dogtrust.org.uk
Sent: 03 July 2017 11:26
To: [redacted]
Hi,

I hope you're well.

It seems likely that [person] will not be available on the day of the Steering Group meeting. With this in mind it might be useful to start looking at alternative dates to discuss the proposed Regulations on electronic training collars.

Would you be available to meet on either 10th or 11th August?

Many thanks,

[Name]

Public Affairs Officer

[Email]

Tel: [Tel]

Dogs Trust - A Dog Is For Life

Website: http://www.dogstrust.org.uk  
http://www.dogandcatwelfare.eu

Twitter: @DT_Pawitical  
@EUdoggiesandcats
Hi,

Thank you for your email.

We are hoping to find a date when our Director of Canine Behaviour and Research is available to meet with you to discuss the proposed Regulations on electronic training collars. However, her diary is usually very busy and it might not be possible for her to meet on the same day as the Steering Group.

With that in mind, we would be really grateful if you could confirm the date of the Steering Group meeting at your earliest convenience, and if it is not possible for the Director to meet on that day, if we can find an alternative date to discuss aversive training devices.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Public Affairs Officer

[Redacted]@dogtrust.org.uk

Tel: [Redacted]

Dogs Trust - A Dog Is For Life

Website: http://www.dogtrust.org.uk
        http://www.dogandcatwelfare.eu

Twitter: @DT_Pawitical
         @EUdogsandcats
Hi,

I hope that this email finds you well.

Andrew and I would be happy to meet with the Dogs Trust to discuss electronic training collars. We are both currently unsure of our leave plans during the summer recess and would not want to commit to a date during this time in case we need to cancel.

I have been advised that the next Steering Group meeting for the puppy import research will be set up shortly and I would propose that we set up a meeting to discuss electronic training collars on the same day (we could provide video/teleconference facilities for those not attending in person).

I will be in touch once this date is known.

Kind regards

[Signature]

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [Number]

---

From: [Email]
Sent: 06 June 2017 15:06
To: [Email] (Andrew)
Cc: [Email]
Subject: RE: Meeting to discuss electronic training collars

Hi,

Thank you for your email. We'll wait to hear from [Name] and hopefully we'll be able to find a convenient date to meet. Otherwise a teleconference would be useful.

Best wishes,

[Signature]

Public Affairs Officer
dogtrust.org.uk
Tel: [Number]
Hi and will be happy to meet with Dogs Trust to discuss electronic collars. However, I am unsure of their holiday plans for July and can not commit at the moment to the 17th.

I'd suggest it would be better to leave your request for on her return to work next week. If a meeting date is not easy for a date on which you and your colleagues are in Edinburgh, would it be possible to do by video or tele conference?

Best wishes

AFRC - Animal Health & Welfare
P Spur
Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
Hi Andrew,

I have just emailed and received her out of office.

Is the below something you could help with please?

Many thanks,

[Name]

Public Affairs Officer

dog@dogtrust.org.uk

Tel: [Number]

Dogs Trust - A Dog Is For Life

Website: [Website]

Twitter: [Twitter]

[Redacted]
Hi,

I hope you're well.

Following on from the conversation below, would you be available for a meeting on 17th July to discuss the details of the proposed Regulations on electronic training collars?

Many thanks,

[Name]

Public Affairs Officer

dogtrust.org.uk

Dogs Trust - A Dog Is For Life

Website: http://www.dogtrust.org.uk

http://www.dogandcatwelfare.eu

Twitter: @DT_Pawlitical

@EUdogsandcats
Hi;

Thank you for your email below. I hope that you are well.

Andrew and I would be happy to meet with you to give you an update on the proposed regulations. We would be free to meet you on 15 March however it will need to take place in Saughton House.

Would 3.30pm be a suitable time or would you prefer 4pm to give you time to pack up at parliament and make your way out to Saughton?

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

Tel:___

Hi;

We have received a letter from the Cabinet Secretary’s Private Secretary to say that she is unable to meet with us on 15th March to discuss electronic training collars, but to contact you if it would be useful to meet with the Animal Welfare Branch.

We’ll be in the Scottish Parliament that day holding a drop-in event for MSPs. [Full name] our Director of Canine Behaviour and Research, will be joining us and so it would be a good opportunity for her to discuss the details of the proposed Regulations.

Would you be available for a meeting at 3pm on 15th March at all? Ideally in the Scottish Parliament (the public cafâ€™) or we could go to Saughton House if that wasn’t an option.

Many thanks,
That’s great - thank you.

I will send formal invites over within the next couple of weeks.

Good morning,

I refer to your email below about a proposed event in the Scottish Parliament on 8 November 2017.

I can advise that both Andrew Voas and I would be available to attend. I will put a hold in our calendars.

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD

Hello

I hope you are well.

I just wanted to let you know that we are organising a round table event in the Scottish Parliament, on Weds 8th November from 6pm-8pm. We are hoping to bring together vets, behaviourists, academics and welfare organisations, as well as some MSPs to discuss the topic of electronic training aids.

We would very much like it if you were there.

A formal invite will follow, but I wanted to check availability at this stage.
Best wishes

Public Affairs Manager
The Kennel Club
From: [Name]
Sent: 31 August 2017 10:54
To: [Name]
Subject: RE: Scottish Government - SVQ's

Hi [Name],

13 September will be fine at 1030.

I will leave your name at reception. They will call me when you arrive.

Kind regards

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: [Number]

From: [Name]
Sent: 30 August 2017 21:07
To: [Name]
Subject: Re: Scottish Government - SVQ's

Hi [Name],

Would you mind changing that date to the 13th of September, how about the same time, 10.30am?

Kind Regards

On 29 August 2017 at 02:28, [Name] wrote:

Hi [Name],

That's perfect, see you then.

Best Wishes

Tel [Number]

On Mon, 28 Aug 2017 at 19:02, [Name] wrote:

Hi [Name],
Would 10:30 be okay?

Animal Welfare Branch | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD
Tel: 

From: 
Sent: 28 August 2017 15:28

To: 
Subject: Re: Scottish Government - SVQ's

Hi 

Can we go for Friday the 8th?

Best Wishes

On Mon, 28 Aug 2017 at 12:11, @gov.scot> wrote:

Hi

Would you be free on any of the following dates?
Hello

I have been thinking about you the last few days, isn't that funny? I just received your contact details from [redacted].

Yes I'm delighted to be of assistance. When we're you thinking of meeting up, if you propose a few dates we can see what works for us both?
I hope that this email finds you well. At the last meeting with the Association you offered to come and speak to me about SVQ’s following your experience of them in a previous job.

I wondered if this offer was still open? And if so, would sometime over the next few weeks be suitable for you to come in and have an informal chat to discuss the SVQ process.

Kind regards

[Redacted]