CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE1124

Thank you for your letter of 2 November 2011 on behalf of the Public Petitions Committee seeking a response to the following point that was raised at their meeting on 1st November 2011 in their consideration of Petition PE1124.

- When do you intend to bring forward the snaring regulations as provided for in the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011?

It is planned that section 13 of the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) 2011 will be commenced in January 2012. The coming into force of new sections 11A, 11D and 11E in sub-section 13(3) will require a lead-in time for snaring operators to have an opportunity to complete the snare training course. Therefore, it is planned that the new sections referred to above will come into force in January 2013.

I am copying this letter to Dave Thomson, Business Manager, Rural and Environment Directorate, for his information.

Yours sincerely

Hugh Dignon