

PE1705/A

Scottish Government submission of 23 November 2018

Thank you for your email of 30 October 2018 to Bridget Campbell, Director of Environment and Forestry, regarding the petition by Alex Milne calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to review legislation relating to the investigation of and penalties applicable to wildlife crime in Scotland.

The Committee agreed to seek the views of the Scottish Government on the action called for in the petition and to provide an update and anticipated timescales with regard to its proposed consultation in advance of any primary legislation in this area.

I am replying as Natural Resources Division has policy responsibility for wildlife crime.

The Scottish Government has committed to legislate to increase penalties relating to wildlife crimes. It remains intention of the Scottish Government to take forward the necessary primary legislation during the current Parliamentary session. I am sorry that I am unable to be more specific on the timing at this point.