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Public Health Wales

Number 2 Capital Quarter, Tyndall Street,
Cardiff CF10 4BZ

Our ref: MK/pab

15 November 2022

Paul Davies MS
Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay,
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Dear Mr Davies,

Re: Agriculture (Wales) Bill – Proposals to prohibit the use of glue traps in Wales

Thank you for your email and letter of 11 November, to which Tracey Cooper has asked me to respond.

I am not sighted on the request from the British Pest Control Association to Public Health Wales for advice.

The control of pests is a regulated activity that allows local authorities and licensed businesses to carry out pest control where there is a significant risk of damage being caused by pests. There are also detrimental effects of pests, such as the transmission of infectious diseases, and therefore, it is in the interest of public health to have effective pest control measures where there is a risk.

Our view is that the method of pest control is a matter of using the most humane and effective option as there is no doubt that under certain circumstances, pests pose a threat to public health. We are not able to comment on the merits of alternative methods of pest control and would look to experts in this field of practice to advise. Furthermore, as we do not monitor this activity, we are not able to provide information on the deployment of glue traps in public buildings in Wales.

I hope this helps with the Committee discussion tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fu Meng Khaw', is centered on a light green rectangular background.

Dr Fu Meng Khaw
National Director of Screening and Health Protection Services/Executive
Medical Director