

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref OAQ5467

Suzy Davies AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

November 2019

Thank you for your recent supplementary question relating to OAQ5467 at the plenary session on 13 November, regarding the exercise of common rights and wandering stock affecting the adjacent villages in Pennard, Gower.

My officials are currently working on bringing forward Part 2 - Management of the Commons Act 2006 (the Act). This part of the Act allows for the establishment of commons councils which will be able to create rules to control the agriculture and vegetation on the common or commons for which they have responsibility. These could include how commoners exercise their rights on the land and the leasing, licensing and transfer of rights of the common.

Commons councils cannot be imposed on a common and can only be established if substantial support can be demonstrated. Particular regard will need to be given to the views of commoners, those with rights relating to the land (other than rights of common) and those who, under any enactment, are responsible for the maintenance or management of the land.

When exercising their powers the commons council must have due regard of the public interest and the rules they create will be enforceable through the courts. Commons councils will be able to establish and maintain boundaries under their function to control agricultural activities which may be of most relevance to your question.

My officials are currently working with stakeholders to help shape the consultation package which is due to be published in January.

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Lesley.Griffiths@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Lesley.Griffiths@gov.wales

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.