



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP
House of Commons
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Our ref: MC2024/08371/JA

14 May 2024

Dear Sir George,

Thank you for your email of 17 April to the Secretary of State on behalf of your constituents about Defra's call for evidence on the fur market in Britain. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area.

The Government shares the British public's high regard for animal welfare. Our ambition is to promote the highest standards both within the UK and globally.

The Call for Evidence that Defra published in 2021 was a key step in delivering on the commitment in the Action Plan for Animal Welfare to explore potential action in relation to the import of fur from abroad.

I recognise the amount of time that has passed since then. However, a summary of replies received should be published in due course.

In the meantime, we are continuing to build our evidence base on the fur sector. This includes commissioning our expert Animal Welfare Committee on what constitutes responsible sourcing of fur. The report that they produce will support our understanding of the fur industry and help inform our next steps.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need further information.

Yours sincerely,

LORD DOUGLAS-MILLER