

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref ER
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00040/21

Councillor Edgar Owen
Chair of Gwynedd Council

eirianroberts3@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

1 February 2021

Dear Edgar,

Thank you for your letter dated 7 January regarding fireworks.

I share Gwynedd Council's concerns regarding the impact of fireworks on vulnerable people and on animals. In November, the First Minister and I discussed the subject in the Senedd, where wide-ranging support was received in favour of improving regulations in the field.

Under the Fireworks Act 2003, UK Government Ministers are responsible for regulations on the sale and use of fireworks in Wales and England. I wrote to the UK Government to note the support of Welsh Government to the recommendations of the House of Commons Petitions Committee to improve the regulation of fireworks. Therefore, I have called on the UK Government to tighten the regulations on the sale and use of fireworks on a Great Britain level, in order to reduce the damaging impacts.

Bearing in mind that our most populated areas are so close to shops in England and that on-line shopping is so easy, I believe that everyone needs to work together across Great Britain to ensure that the fireworks available for sale to the public are quiet and are used less frequently.

I have requested a three-way meeting with Ministers who are responsible for the fireworks policy in the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the Scottish Government as soon as possible to discuss the way forward.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
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Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

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

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

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.