

Kelly Tolhurst MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Small Business,
Consumers and Corporate Responsibility)
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET
United Kingdom

Dear Minister,

Fireworks Controls

You may be aware that the RSPCA has written to Councils in Wales seeking support for a change in the law relating to fireworks. Likewise, I am sure you are aware of the recommendations made by the Petitions Committee to your Government to introduce provisions to better protect animals from the impact of fireworks.

In December 2019, the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee considered these matters and agreed that I should write to you to confirm the three Councils' support (Bridgend, Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan) for an enhanced scheme to exercise more control over the use of fireworks.

I do appreciate that the laws concerning fireworks controls are the remit of different Westminster government departments, but perhaps you could use your influence to ensure the concerns voiced by the RSPCA and the Petitions Committee are considered by the new Government and that changes can be put in train before the fireworks season of 2020.

The Committee has also asked that I indicate that our Shared Regulatory Service would be willing to participate in any pilot scheme to exercise more control over the use of fireworks in areas of concern within local communities. As unitary authorities with responsibility for trading standards, licensing, and environmental health matters, we are well placed to operate such a scheme.

I do hope you can consider this matter presently and perhaps ask your officials to contact our Head of Shared Regulatory Services, Mr Dave Holland, to discuss matters further. Dave can be contacted by telephone on 01446 709360 or by email at dholland@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Eddie Williams, Chair Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee