



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR

T 03459 335577
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Monima O'Connor

mona@monima.co.uk

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From George Eustice MP

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Farming, Food and Marine Environment

Dear Monima

Thank you for your email of 7 October about the use of electronic training devices to train dogs.

Firstly, while we work closely with the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish Governments on animal health and welfare matters, this reply only covers the situation in England.

There are no proposals to introduce a ban on electronic boundary fencing for dogs or cats, because we do not consider that there is evidence that the use of such devices causes unnecessary suffering. The research Defra commissioned was restricted to the use of electronic training collars for dogs and whilst this showed that they do compromise the welfare of some dogs, this was not enough to consider introducing a ban. However, we are currently working with the industry to introduce a code of practice on the use of electronic training aids and looking at how the strength of some of these devices can be reduced.

George Eustice

GEORGE EUSTICE MP

