[redacted]

From: [redacted] (Defra)
Sent: 07 February 2014 16:04
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: LAG meeting on 24 February, Slimbridge

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for this.
I just wanted to confirm that you [redacted] and the other member of the LAG continue to be content for 2-3 of us from Defra (plus [redacted] from FSA) to attend as observers? I will confirm numbers with [redacted] and [redacted] next week and let [redacted] know.

I also wanted to reassure you that we are respecting the LAG's independence and confidentiality of discussions and – whilst we have alerted Ministers and other relevant policy officials that the group's working is accelerating towards its conclusion – we haven't given any indications or personal speculations on what the outcomes may be. Quite frankly, this is in no small part due to the fact that discussions are still relatively wide open!

You will likely be aware that Christopher Graffius met with Lord de Mauley to discuss BASC's overarching goals and current 'bugbears' – a meeting which I attended. While the issue of lead ammunition was touched upon, both parties acknowledged that little could be said until the LAG's report has been received and considered.

Prior to the meeting, I did note to the Minister that both BASC and WWT are currently updating key elements of their respective evidence bases - the WWT undertaking a replication of their 2010 survey of gamebirds bought from dealers to assess compliance with the existing regulations, and BASC's survey of members etc to assess the socioeconomic and conservation value of shooting. My opinion is that, while theses assessments of course need to be reviewed periodically, their timing is indicative of the fine balance of evidence that has been considered by the LAG, and is testament to the impartiality with which the process has been overseen by yourself.

Best wishes, have a pleasant weekend
[redacted]

[redacted] Defra | [redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 07 February 2014 15:03
To: [redacted] (Defra); [redacted] (Defra); [redacted],
[redacted]
Subject: LAG meeting on 24 February, Slimbridge

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[redacted]

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