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Graeme Dey MSP

Convener

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

Committee

The Scottish Parliament

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11 December 2017

Dear Graeme,

I am writing to advise you that the fifth annual report on Wildlife Crime in Scotland, covering the calendar year 2016, with data from financial year 2015-16, is being laid before Parliament today, and is now published on the Scottish Government website.

This report has been produced under Section 26B of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011). This section provides that Ministers must lay a report every calendar year on offences which relate to wildlife, to include information on incidences and prosecutions during the year to which the report relates, and on research and advice relevant to those offences.

I hope that you find the report helpful and informative.

Yours,

Roseanna Cunningham