Baroness Bakewell of Hardington Mandeville   
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Dear Cathy,

During the debate on the Pet Abduction Bill 2024 on Friday 10 May I inadvertently misspoke. In response to your questions, I said that “the devolved administrations have similar plans to introduce this type of legislation.”

Pet abduction falls within the competence of the devolved administrations. The Bill will apply in England and Northern Ireland.

In Northern Ireland, the Assembly will consider the Legislative Consent Motion in relation to this Bill on 20 May. Lord Black will update the House during the Pet Abduction Bill’s next stage.

With regards to Wales and Scotland,. my Department is not aware of any announcements that the Scottish and Welsh Governments have made to introduce similar legislation. Though I am informed that in Scotland, Maurice Golden MSP has secured the right to introduce a ‘Dog Abduction (Scotland) Bill’ as a Member’s Bill.

I am satisfied that the Scottish Parliament and Senedd have the necessary competence to introduce similar legislation in the future, should they choose to do so.

My department will continue to work closely with them on all animal welfare policies.

I will share this letter with Lord Black and will also place a copy in the House library.

Yours sincerely,



**LORD DOUGLAS-MILLER**