



SWSDTA

Sent on behalf of the North Wales Sheep Dog Society (NWSDS) and the South Wales Sheep Dog Trials Association (SWSDTA)

11th July 2020

Dear Mr. Fleming,

We are writing on behalf members of the NWSDS and SWSDTA most of whom are also Welsh ISDS members.

You will not be surprised to learn that members are disappointed and dismayed to learn of the recent ISDS resignations. Whilst not being privy to the precise reasons behind the Welsh director's decision it is apparent that the governance of the Society has been problematic for some considerable time.

The seriousness of this situation is recognised and given recent history members do not have confidence that the many problems can be satisfactorily resolved without some external scrutiny of the Society's affairs.

To this end we would respectfully propose that the Council commission an independent investigation as soon as practicable.

The investigation or forensic audit ought to be conducted by someone completely impartial recommended, for example, by a regulator such as the Charity Commission or Audit Office.

In the spirit of transparency and to re-engage with members, Council should ensure that all the directors endorse the tender document and evaluate the tender proposals received; including the terms of reference, maximum budget sum and timescale to receive the full report and recommendations. These should include details of the next steps and designated actions.

This course of action is not proposed lightly but, in all sincerity, as to be in the best interests of the ISDS now and in the future. There does not seem to be any other reasonable course which is likely to help restore member's confidence and to improve the Society's conduct of its' affairs.

Yours faithfully,

Gareth Ruggeri (Chair NWSDS) and Emyr Lloyd (Chair SWSDTA)