

**From:** Burgess, Stuart (NE)  
**Sent:** 16 November 2007 15:40  
**To:** Thompson, Guy (NE)  
**Cc:** Howat, Martyn (NE); Thomas, Shaun (NE); Woolford, Julian (NE)  
**Subject:** Hen harrier irregular update 16/11  
Guy,

As expected, unfavourable coverage in the Shooting Times yesterday in the opinion column by Alasdair Mitchell, I don't recommend responding.

BBC Online, Norfolk, are having an internal investigation in to their coverage following a complaint and I am giving them information as to what we said when.

See note below on relations with the estate -

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Shaun

Marcus O'Lone, head Land Agent at the Sandringham Estate, phoned me on Wednesday to suggest that we should meet. I have readily agreed, and suggested that it would be appropriate for us to do so once the dust has settled in the New Year. I will discuss with colleagues who should attend this meeting with me.

I mentioned that we would welcome the opportunity to look ahead in terms of restoring good working relations with the Estate, and Mr O'Lone agreed. However, he said that he would also like to cover some basic issues raised by this incident, and principles for working together in the future. He also said that he was 'taken aback by statements made by Natural England, from the Chairman down.'

Meanwhile our staff on the reserve continue to experience very difficult conditions in terms of their relations with Estate workers at the local level, and we will continue to monitor this and support them.

Sarah

**Sarah Wilson**

*Area Manager, Norfolk and Suffolk*

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We are responding to a letter from the National Gamekeepers' Organisation.

Stuart

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Natural England is here to conserve and enhance the natural environment, for its intrinsic value, the wellbeing and enjoyment of people and the economic prosperity that it brings.