**Geldings on the forest whilst stallions are out.**

Good morning official Verderer, Verderers and Members of the public.

My name is Eloise Cavanna, I am a young commoner.

I have a proposal that I would like considered regarding geldings, staying out on the forest whilst the stallions are turned out.

I wish to propose that any gelding over the age of four; that cannot be easily removed by their owner, or kept in throughout the short duration of the stallion turn out, are permanently ordered off the forest.

A minority of commoners do already remove their geldings during this time, and a few geldings make bachelor herds and stay out the way. Unfortunately, in my recent experience, this has not been the case.

The stallion list is readily available, and even public information on social media platforms a couple of weeks before the turn out date. In response to this I had spoken with a commoner who has a gelding running in our area. To ask whether they could remove their gelding as my mare runs with him and the years previous, the gelding was only, kept in for three days before being turned out again! Resulting in the stallion being pushed off, which prevented my mare, as well as other commoner’s mares from being in foal.

This gelding changed his haunt this year to an area where a stallion was known to be running, being seen in a completely new area a week or so after the stallion was put out there. This stallion was removed early. My mare is now old and a blood line I would like to breed from.

We are not the only commoners who have offered to help bring in geldings, but currently this offer is often ignored.

My fear for the near future, is that commoners will be reluctant or refuse to turn out their stallion because of the risk of running with geldings.

The risk of commoners stallions sustaining an injury, whilst benefiting the wider community of commoners is a financial burden many will not want to risk. It also causes unnecessary stress for the stallion, a gelding trying to prevent the stallion form do its job also increases the risk to the public.

Without these commoners offering their stallions to the verderers scheme it reduces others from building up their forest run herds; This will have a detrimental effect on bloodlines.

I am sure that we can all agree that the stallions have more than enough work to do whilst out!

Competing with geldings over mares should not be one.

Thank you for listening.