

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2856/09
by Chris Davies (ALDE)
to the Commission

Subject: Grey squirrels - invasive alien species

What is the Commission's assessment of the current survival prospects of the European red squirrel given their rapid displacement by grey squirrels?

Is the Commission currently funding any research into the development of a vaccine to combat the effects of squirrel pox, which is carried by grey squirrels and is fatal to red squirrels?

If it is not, can the Commission confirm that support for such a research project would likely be deemed an appropriate use for Community resources if an application for funding met the required technical and administrative criteria?