

Bushmeat protection plans top of the menu for Catherine

South East Lib Dem Euro MP Catherine Bearder is urging the European Parliament to include support for African food production and trade in any future international development plans.

Catherine led a discussion between conservation experts, African and European MPs on how to make sure essential bushmeat hunting boosts the African economy and protects local wildlife.

“Bushmeat is a vital source of protein for rural communities across central and western Africa”, explained **Catherine**. “But the current high hunting levels put Africa’s poorest regions at risk of future starvation, and endangers their wildlife.”

“Over 270 million tonnes of illegal bushmeat are also trafficked into the EU every year, making this problem even worse”, Catherine added. “We



Lib Dem Euro MP Catherine Bearder is working with conservation experts to find new ways to tackle starvation and protect Africa’s natural biodiversity

must find a sustainable way for bushmeat to stay part of the diet in the rural African communities where it makes a real difference.”