

ELIZABETH TRUSS MP

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Rt Hon Caroline Spelman MP
Secretary of State for Environment
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Nobel House
17 Smith Square
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12 July 2011

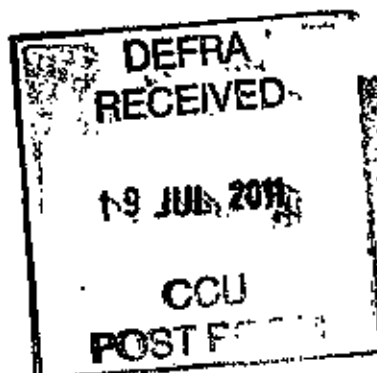
Dear Caroline,

I have received emails from my constituents, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] They have all
their concerns regarding live exports from the port of Ramsgate.

I would appreciate it if you could respond to their concerns.

Best wishes
Elizabeth Truss



Elizabeth Truss MP

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 July 2011 01:28
To: TRUSS, Elizabeth
Subject: Live Exports from Ramsgate
Attachments: one_way_ticket8748966162178014803.jpg

Ms Elizabeth Truss MP
South West Norfolk
House of Commons
London SW1A0AA

Dear Ms Truss,

I am writing to you regarding the worrying news that the live export of UK farm animals to continental Europe has begun from the port of Ramsgate.

Even though local residents and elected representatives are appalled by this development, the Harbours, Docks and Piers Clauses Act 1847 means that the port of Ramsgate is not allowed to refuse a ship the right to use the port if it is carrying out a lawful trade. The law does not permit the owner of a port, in this case the local authority, to refuse entry to the port on ethical grounds.

There is huge public support for the cessation of live exports on the grounds of animal welfare.

This outdated law needs to be amended so that the owner of a port is permitted to refuse its use for the export of live animals as well as on other ethical grounds.

Over 30,000 British citizens have signed a petition calling for transport times involving live animals to be reduced to a maximum of eight hours (<http://www.8hours.eu/support>). The number of people from across the EU who have signed this petition is nearly 300,000 people!

I am therefore urging you to take action to ensure that the 1847 Act is updated to reflect the attitudes of the British public.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION NOW.

I would be most grateful if you would:

- Back calls to ban the export of live animals to continental Europe
- Write to both the Secretary of State for Transport and the Secretary of State for Environment Food and Rural Affairs to call for them to take action to amend the 1847 Act.

I believe that there is no need for UK animals to be sent abroad for slaughter or fattening. Farm animals should be fattened as close as possible to the farm where they are born and slaughtered as near as possible to the farm on which they have been reared.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]