



WorldHorseWelfare

Joint statement urging Government to pass the Kept Animals Bill

In its 2019 manifesto the Government committed, amongst other measures, to end live exports for slaughter and fattening, ban keeping primates as pets, and crack down on puppy smuggling. The Kept Animals Bill would deliver on all three promises. So it is with significant concern that we report that this Bill has been waiting more than a year to be allocated time for its next stage in the Commons. And it is with exasperation that we register the Government's failure, at a Parliamentary debate on 5th December responding to a 107,886 signature petition, to provide any concrete assurance on when the Bill will progress.

The Government's manifesto stated that *"High standards of animal welfare are one of the hallmarks of a civilised society"*, we – and millions of voters – agree. But achieving high standards requires more than soundbites. Parliamentary time must be prioritised to deliver promised animal protection laws. We urge the Government to bring the Kept Animals Bill back to Parliament with the urgency animals deserve, and the commitment voters expect.

Signed by CEOs and leaders from 31 of the UK's largest animal protection organisations:

Elisa Allen, Vice President PETA UK

Sonul Badiani-Hammett, UK Country Director, FOUR PAWS UK

Kirsteen Campbell, CEO, Scottish SPCA

Sarah Carr, CEO, Naturewatch Foundation

Jan Creamer, President, Animal Defenders International

Tricia Croasdell, UK Country Director, World Animal Protection

Bob Elliot, Director, OneKind

Chris Fegan, Chief Executive, Catholic Concern for Animals

Sean Gifford, Managing Director, The Humane League UK

Frances Goodrum, Head of Campaigns and Programmes, IFAW UK

Iain Green, Director, Animal Aid

Laura Hellwig, Managing Director, Viva!

Nick Jones, executive director, Humane Society International/UK

Andrew Kelly, Director, Freedom for Animals

Andy Knott MBE, CEO, League Against Cruel Sports

Peter Laurie, CEO, Battersea Dogs & Cats Home

Duncan McNair, CEO, Save the Asian Elephants

Simon Marsh, Wild Welfare

John May, Chief Executive, Cats Protection

Jaysukh Mehta, Mahavir Trust

Roly Owers, Chief Executive, World Horse Welfare

Dr Nick Palmer, Head of Compassion in World Farming UK, Compassion in World Farming

Abigail Penny, Executive Director, Animal Equality UK

Lorraine Platt, Co-Founder, Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation

Ian Redmond OBE, Head of Conservation, Ecoflox and Chairman, Ape Alliance

Owen Sharp, Chief Executive, Dogs Trust

Chris Sherwood, CEO, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Paula Sparks, UK Centre for Animal Law

Dr Ben Sturgeon, Chief Executive, Crustacean Compassion

Elaine Toland, Director, Animal Protection Agency

Will Travers OBE, Executive President, Born Free Foundation