

KEITH TAYLOR  
Green Party  
*for the South East of England*



Commissioner Dalli  
DG Health and Consumer Policy  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi 200  
B-1049 Brussels

12th May 2011

Dear Commissioner Dalli,

**Re: Recommendation for a 12 hour journey limit for low-value horses and horses destined for slaughter**

I am writing to you to impress on you the urgent need to introduce a journey limit of 12 hours for horses travelling to slaughter and horses transported for further fattening and low-value horses. As you are aware, the European Food Safety Authority has recently published a Scientific Opinion on the welfare of animals during transport, recommending a 12 hour journey limit for horses destined for slaughter. However, evidence collected by World Horse Welfare shows that low-value horses may still be at risk of travelling in poor conditions for excessively long time periods, compromising both their welfare and wider animal health and causing much suffering.

I welcome the Commission's intention to release a report in September this year on the operation of the Regulation 1/2005 but I believe that this does not go far enough. More efforts should be made towards improving horse welfare, and lowering the risk of disease outbreaks that could cripple the European sports horse industry. I therefore urge you to consider changing the Regulation as a matter of urgency.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience,

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke underneath the name.

Keith Taylor - Green Party MEP, South East England.