

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

28th July 2011

Dear Commissioner Dalli,

Re: Recommendation for an 8 hour journey limit for animal transportation

I am writing to voice my concern over the current long and often gruelling journeys for animals being transported for fattening or slaughter.

A report by Compassion in World Farming has shown how long journey times and poor conditions for animals journeying to slaughter or further fattening results in exhaustion, dehydration, and in some cases, death in transit. Long distance transport times also play a significant role in the spread of disease. Their research has shown that current permitted journey times are too long, and rest periods are inadequate, something I feel needs to urgently be addressed.

I am aware that the Commission will be reviewing and bringing out a recommendation on the operation of the Regulation EC 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport in September, and urge the Commission to include an 8 hour maximum journey time limit on animals being transported for slaughter or fattening as part of this recommendation. I would also call on the Commission to strengthen the monitoring and enforcement of both existing and any new regulations on animal transportation as a matter of urgency.

I feel strongly that an 8 hour journey limit is an important step toward improving protection and conditions for animals being transported to slaughter, as a step towards a total ban on live exports. The transportation of live animals is also something which many of my constituents are extremely concerned about and I have now received over 700 e-mails calling on the EU to support an 8 hour journey time limits for animal transportation. In addition the 8 hours campaign's petition (www.8hours.eu/) has received over 300, 000 signatures from individuals across the EU calling for a limit of 8 hours for animals being transported for slaughter or fattening.

I hope that the Commission will listen to the voices of those across Europe campaigning hard for the improvement of animal protection and ensure an 8 hour journey limit and better enforcement of animal transportation legislation is included in the upcoming recommendation.

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 flourish underneath the name.

Keith Taylor - Green Party MEP, South East England.