

HENRY SMITH MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Michael Gove MP
Secretary of State for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR

18th August 2017

Dear Michael,

Thank you for your answer to me in the House of Commons on 20th July 2017, confirming that Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union which categorises animals as sentient beings will be part of the Repeal Bill.

I have been contacted by Compassion in World Farming (CIWF), regarding the enclosed letter they have received from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Rural Affairs & Biosecurity, Lord Gardiner of Kimble, with reference to legal confirmation of animals as sentient beings.

I am concerned that the response provided by Lord Gardiner is not consistent with the answer kindly provided by yourself to me in the House. I would be grateful for your urgent clarification on this issue in a format I would be able to share with my constituents, parliamentary colleagues, CIWF, and other relevant organisations.

My thanks for your assistance on this issue.

As ever,
Henry

Henry Smith
Member of Parliament
Crawley Constituency