



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

Lord Douglas-Miller  
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Lord Jay of Ewelme  
Chair of the Sub-Committee on the Windsor Framework  
House of Lords  
London  
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7 May 2024

Dear Lord Jay,

**ANIMAL WELFARE (LIVESTOCK EXPORTS) BILL**

Thank you for your letter of 25 April regarding the Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Bill.

As the Bill does not extend to Northern Ireland, the legislative consent process is not engaged in relation to Northern Ireland.

Animal welfare in transport is an area of devolved competence. Future policy decisions, including with respect to live exports for slaughter and fattening, will be a matter for the Northern Ireland Executive. As you note, there would be potential repercussions to extending the ban to Northern Ireland, for example under the terms of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement.

I am copying this letter to Sir William Cash MP, Chair of the Commons European Scrutiny Committee; George Wilson, Clerk of the Commons European Scrutiny Committee; Rt Hon Sir Robert Buckland MP, Chair of the Commons Northern Ireland Affairs Committee; Les Saunders, EU Document Scrutiny Manager, Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office; John Leach, Departmental Scrutiny Coordinator, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Tom Elliott MLA, Chair of the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.

Yours sincerely,

**LORD DOUGLAS-MILLER**