



George Eustice MP
Minister of State

Lord Gardiner
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Nobel House, 17 Smith Square
London, SW1P 3JR

26th July 2017

Dear Ministers,

Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and the Repeal Bill: recognition of animals as sentient beings

The primary purpose of the Repeal Bill is to bring EU Regulations into UK law.

A key part of EU law on animal welfare is in the Treaty and Conservative Animal Welfare believe that this must be brought into UK law.

We are concerned that Article 13 of the TFEU is not incorporated into UK law by the Repeal Bill.

Article 13 recognises animals as sentient beings and it requires Governments, in formulating and implementing policies on agriculture, fisheries, transport, research and technological development, to pay “full regard to the welfare requirements of animals”. Article 13 is the core requirement on animal welfare in the EU – and hence at this time in UK law.

We urge the Government to bring Article 13 into UK law.

This could be done by a Government amendment at Committee stage to the Repeal Bill. Such an amendment could directly incorporate Article 13 into UK law or it could do so by amending the Animal Welfare Act 2006. Alternatively, the Agriculture Bill could bring Article 13 into UK law although the scope of Article 13 goes beyond farm animals.

We would be most grateful if you could confirm that Article 13, and the protections and responsibilities within it, will be incorporated into UK Law and how the Government intends to do this.

Yours sincerely,

Lady Suzy and Sir Roger Gale MP (Patrons)

Henry Smith MP (Patron)

Lorraine and Chris Platt (Co- Founders)

Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation

