Written evidence submitted by Greg Fletcher (AWB0001)

I believe that the Bill should have the following principles:

- All animals to have appropriate access to open spaces on a daily basis (so no caged animals like chickens and cattle)
- All animals to be transported in appropriate conditions that are healthy and safe
- All animals to be registered and tagged by an internal chip so as to keep track of them (especially if they get lost or stolen) - done through a local registered vet
- All animals to have a health ‘passport’, which is updated every two years (and every year for animals that are eaten) by a registered local vet
- All sellers of pets to have a licence to show that their shop has a healthy, safe and secure accommodation for all animals, and have taken an appropriate training course in handling and caring of animals
- All breeding of animals is to be stopped, especially cats and dogs (which should all be neutered to reduce the number of unwanted animals)
- No animals to be used for testing purposes of any kind
- All owners of animals to be registered
- All farmers who have animals which are eventually slaughtered, to have a licence to show they have had training in the health and care of their herds and flocks
- Animals that need to be killed are put down humanely by only registered abattoirs (with registered staff) or registered vets (eg for food consumption, animal is in extreme pain or old age or if due to disease they are put down by accredited DEFRA staff trained for such purposes)
- All animals to be stunned prior to slaughter
- All animals to be used as food outside the UK are put down humanely in only registered abattoirs before leaving this country.
- All animals brought to this country must have certification proving their health and where exactly they come from so there is traceability
- All animals coming into this country must be quarantined as appropriate
- A national dedicated animal welfare team (which includes specially trained police officers, RSPCA and other groups) is formed and located across the country with sufficient staff and an appropriate budget from the national purse, along with legal authority to seize animals if not cared for properly or have been stolen
- All food sold to the public to have a label which can be scanned to locate which farm the product is from and that farm is licensed as meeting the various standards regarding crops grown organically and animals are not caged and are fed natural feed that does not come from animals or non-natural sources - this includes food from abroad

January 2018