

Scotland for Animals wish to lodge a formal objection to the fact that of 194 organisations consulted only one was specifically involved in animal welfare. This is in contrast to heavy representation of the slaughter industry.

As the new body will have the responsibility of enforcing welfare legislation at time of slaughter we feel this is unacceptable.

1) See 8.

2) See 8 and 13.

3) See 8 and 13.

4) The new body should at all times be mandated to ensure that all advice accepted be empirical and evidence based as opposed to biased towards an industry agenda.

5) The new body should concentrate on Scottish issues but should co-operate on any overlapping issues with other bodies in other areas. Again any action should be implemented using empirical and evidence based data as opposed to that biased towards an industry agenda.

7) As the FSA is responsible for enforcing legislation to protect animals at time of slaughter the new body should have representatives of animal welfare organisations on it's management committee. This should be written into any legislation.

As the slaughter industry will be consulted by the new body welfare groups should be legally and at all times given completely equal status and inclusion when consulting or implementing any measures.

8) The new food body should have powers to request stricter labelling rules for food products, i.e labelling of meat from animals slaughtered without stunning, method of rearing, etc. This would ensure food information, labelling and advertising adheres to both consumer and human rights legislation which it currently does not.

Scottish legislation to introduce mandatory CCTV in abattoir killing areas should be implemented through the Animal Health and Welfare Act in time for the new body coming into force. The body should then have a legal remit to monitor footage.

9) See 8.

10) See 8.

11) See 8.

12) See 7 and 8.

13) Greater emphasis should be placed on consumption of non-animal sourced food products. Data shows that a meat and/ or dairy free diet reduces the chances of contracting conditions which cause some of the highest rates of death and illness in Scotland.

This can be provided on request.

14) Legally enforced detailed labelling of food products such as that mentioned in answer 8 would improve consumer confidence and protect the rights of consumers to make fully informed decisions when purchasing and/ or consuming.

This would ensure food information, labelling and advertising adheres to both consumer and human rights legislation which it currently does not.

15) See 4 and 7.