

Press Release

Famous faces, including Joanna Lumley and Deborah Meaden, join the fight to #EndtheCageAge

Joanna Lumley, Deborah Meaden, Peter Egan, Evanna Lynch, Kate Ford and Mike Beckingham have all spoken out against cages in Compassion in World Farming's exciting new campaign film 'Dear Humans', released today (11th March).

['Dear Humans'](#) is based around a short, powerful and thought provoking address from Britain's caged farm animals to the UK public.

Most cages are barren, cramped and deny the animals space to move freely. They are cruel and completely unnecessary. 'Dear Humans' highlights the reality for the 16 million UK farm animals currently suffering in cages.

Natasha Smith, Campaigns Manager at Campaigns at Compassion in World Farming, said: *"The adorable animals in 'Dear Humans' will melt your heart, but the shameful realisation that many are kept in cramped, inhumane cages is sure to break it. We need people to show their love for farm animals by signing the petition to End the Cage Age."*

This latest push from Compassion in World Farming to End the Cage Age is being supported by Animal Aid, Animal Equality, Humane Society International, OneKind, PETA, RSPCA, Sustain, The Humane League and Viva!. All ten animal welfare organisations are backing a [parliamentary petition](#) calling on the Government to end the use of cages for UK farm animals.

"Every farm animal should have the chance to feel the sun on their back and the earth under their feet, yet in the UK alone, around 16 million farm animals are trapped in cages every year," said Dragon's Den favourite and petition creator, Deborah Meaden. *"Higher-welfare cage-free systems are viable, making the use of cruel cages in farming totally unnecessary."*

100,000 [petition](#) signatures are needed to bring about a parliamentary debate on the use of cages for farm animals. This debate could be a powerful tool in the battle against cage

cruelty, rallying MPs to support a change in the law and putting pressure on the Government to give millions of farm animals a life worth living.

~ends~

For more information please email mediateam@ciwf.org.uk or call 01483 541886

Dear Humans can be viewed and [downloaded here](#).

Notes to Editors

1. Compassion in World Farming was founded in 1967 by a British dairy farmer who became horrified at the development of intensive factory farming. Today Compassion is the leading farm animal welfare organisation dedicated to ending factory farming and achieving humane and sustainable food. With headquarters in the UK, we have offices across Europe, in the US, China and South Africa.
2. To find out more about Compassion in World Farming visit: www.ciwf.org
3. Supporting celebrity quotes:

Absolutely Fabulous actress and campaigner, **Joanna Lumley** said: *“Millions of animals experience unimaginable suffering in cages on factory farms throughout the UK. It’s time to stop this cruelty. It’s time to End the Cage Age.”*

Harry Potter actor, **Evanna Lynch** said: *“Knowing that so many farm animals in the UK are suffering in such miserable conditions is truly heart-breaking. No animal deserves to be subjected to a life in a cage.”*

Downton Abbey star and animal advocate, **Peter Egan** said: *“It is abysmal that in 2019 millions of farm animals continue suffering the horrors of cages. All animals deserve a life worth living, and should not be condemned to a lifetime in a cage.”*

Coronation Street’s resident bad-girl, **Kate Ford** said: *“I’m proud to be part of this campaign which highlights the plight of millions of animals in factory farms across the UK. A life in a cage is no life at all but we have the power to prevent this suffering. It’s time to End the Cage Age.”*

Actor and long-term stalwart of the End the Cage Age campaign, **Mike Beckingham** said:

“The number of farm animals living in these horrifying conditions across the UK is truly shocking and it’s been kept behind closed doors for far too long. I’m proud to give a voice to farm animals. A cage-free future is possible. We can End the Cage Age.”