Dear Prime Minister,

As you are aware, thousands of sheep and young, unweaned calves are exported on long and gruelling journeys from the UK each year, only to be slaughtered on arrival overseas or to be fattened and then slaughtered.

You have repeatedly said that, after leaving the EU, **we "can ban cruel live exports"**. This is a policy that is long overdue, and one that our nation of animal lovers has been urging for decades.

In your election manifesto, and more recently in the Queen's Speech, you declared your intention to "end excessively long journeys for slaughter and fattening". This simply doesn't go far enough. By only restricting journey time, there is a great risk of your policy being undermined, potentially allowing live animal exports to continue to take place from British ports.

This would not deliver your promise to **abolish the cruel live shipment of animals**. And it certainly would not represent – as you've been highlighting – a tangible benefit of Brexit.

We, alongside Compassion in World Farming, urge the Government to introduce a comprehensive live export ban.

It is time to end, once and for all, this unjustified and horrific trade that is a stain on Britain's reputation as a beacon of animal welfare – please.

Yours sincerely and in hope for animals,

Joanna Lumley OBE
Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall
Evanna Lynch
Virginia McKenna OBE
Sue Jameson
Lesley Nicol
Mike Beckingham
Marc Abraham BVM&S MRCVS
James Greenwood BVSc MRCVS
Liz Earle MBE
Professor Dave Goulson
Professor Joy Carter CBE
Professor Toby Knowles
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Professor Andrew Knight
Professor David Clough
Professor Mark Eisler
Marina Lewycka

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