

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

18th August 2020

New Content,

RE: RESEARCH EXPERIMENTS ON ANIMALS.

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of your concerns regarding research experiments on animals; your comments upon which I have read with great interest.

Animal research still plays an important role in providing vital safety information for potential new medicines. It is worth remembering that, as a result of findings from animal studies, a large number of potential new drugs never get as far as being tested on humans. Some aspects of the toxicological assessment of new medicines cannot be adequately assessed in humans, and animal data is in many cases the only kind available.

Without animal testing it is highly likely that a large number of potentially dangerous new medicines would be tested on healthy volunteers and patients in clinical trials, and I know Ministers believe that this would be quite unacceptable. However, I am assured that animals are only used when there are no suitable alternatives, and by encouraging new cutting-edge approaches to science we will ensure that standards of animal welfare are improved.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom'.

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE