



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

6th February 2023

Dear Gentlemen,

RE: BANNING COMMERCIAL BREEDING FOR LABORATORIES

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of your concerns surrounding the banning of commercial breeding for laboratories. I have read your comments with interest.

The Government is clear that the use of animals in science supports the development of new medicines and the safety of our environment, for the benefit of humans and animals, and is only permitted when there are no alternatives.

The use of animals in science supports the development of new medicines and cutting-edge medical technologies, for humans and animals, as well as supporting the safety and sustainability of our environment. Animal research has helped us to make life-changing discoveries, from new vaccines and medicines to transplant procedures, anaesthetics, and blood transfusions.

However, I can assure you that the Government is clear that animals must be protected. As such, the use of animals in science is highly regulated, including a three-tier system of licensing which licenses each establishment, project, and individual involved in, performing regulated procedures involving animals. I understand that the UK regulator conducts an integrated assessment of the compliance of all licence holders, including on-site inspections.

The Home Office has published and enforces standards for the care and accommodation of all animals bred, supplied, or used, for scientific purposes.

Finally, thank you for your invitation to attend the Westminster Hall debate on the 16th January 2023 in respect of this issue. Unfortunately, owing to prior diary commitments I was unable to attend, although please be assured that I will continue to monitor the issues raised closely.

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,

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE