Friday 4th November 2011

*** VERY IMPORTANT NEWS ***

The 8 Hour petition to the EU calling for a maximum journey time of 8 hours has now achieved over 861,000 signatures. It aims to collect 1,000,000 in order to push for EU animal transport regulations to be changed.

Because of this success, the original November 2011 petition closure has now been extended until the 5th January 2012.

Please continue to get everyone you know to add their signature to this petition.

Thank you – KAALE.

Signatures so far: 861,070

Help now by signing and sharing New deadline: 5 January 2012

Visit and sign the petition at: http://www.8hours.eu/
Keith Taylor, the Green MEP for Kent and the South East Visits Ramsgate on 2nd November

Keith Meets Local Campaigners


2 November 2011 – Keith Taylor, the Green MEP for Kent and the South East, will visit Ramsgate today, Wednesday 2 November, to show his support for campaigners who are demanding an end to live animal exports from Ramsgate port.

Keith is visiting Ramsgate to find out from local campaigners what is happening at the port and to discuss how he can support them in their work to try to ban this cruel trade. Keith will meet with campaigners to hear what is happening at the port, discuss their concerns and to find out how he can further support their work to try to ban this cruel practice.

Keith has recently raised his concerns about the welfare of animals being exported from Ramsgate in a letter to James Paice MP, the Minister of State for Agriculture and Food. He has also written to European Commissioner Dalli urging him to ensure better enforcement of EU standards and to consider the introduction of an 8 hour maximum journey limit for animal transportation, as a step towards ending all live exports.

Keith Taylor MEP said: “There is evidence that animals are transported over thousands of kilometres with EU welfare protection safeguards ignored or poorly applied, causing suffering and distress to the animals. It is not acceptable to allow such practices to continue merely to satisfy traders’ thirst for profit. EU welfare standards must be rigorously enforced and stricter transport time limits introduced as a step towards ending live exports. I am looking forward to discussing this issue with local campaigners and finding out what more I can do to support them.”

BAN LIVE ANIMAL EXPORTS

Kent Action Against Live Exports (KAALE).

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Contact – Mark Johnson – EU Correspondent and Press / Media; or Valerie Cameron – Official KAALE Photographer.
Thanet and Ramsgate Councillor, Ian Driver, who helped to launch the campaign against live exports from Ramsgate said: “I am delighted that Keith is coming to meet us. We are now beginning to attract national attention to our campaign and with the support of Keith, our local MP Laura Sandys and Peter Skinner MEP, we now have some very powerful and influential people backing us”.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1. According to Compassion in World Farming there have been more than 30 shipments of sheep and calves involving over 45,000 animals, since the trade from Ramsgate began in May 2011.

2. According to Compassion in World Farming many of the journeys undertaken cover vast distances. Information provided shows journeys as long as Yr Ystrad, North Wales (168 unweaned calves) to France, Cockermouth, Cumbria (115 unweaned calves) to France and Cockermouth, Cumbria (134 unweaned calves) through Dover to Spain. Other destinations include Holland, Belgium and Germany.

3. According to Compassion in World Farming EU Regulation (1/2005) on the protection of animals is often poorly enforced. Breaches of the regulations that have been revealed pursuant to Freedom of Information requests include: water systems being empty or not working; emergency feed stops not being undertaken; ventilation fans not working; and journey logs not being properly completed or returned for inspection following the journey.

Photographs From Keith’s Visit — by Valerie Cameron
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Other Keith Links:

http://www.keithtaylormep.org.uk/2011/03/30/new-animal-rights-newsletter-from-uk-green-meps/

http://www.keithtaylormep.org.uk/category/animal-rights/

KAALLE would like to offer its thanks to Keith for visiting Ramsgate and for increasing his experiences about the live animal export trade.

Keith; we are always available to provide you with any help and assistance relating to Uk live animal exports.

Please contact us either via our website at http://www.kaale.org.uk/contact.htm should you wish to discuss anything.

Regards – KAALE.