Dear Secretary of State,

We are writing to you as a cross-party group of over one hundred MPs and Peers to seek your support for the introduction of a UK ban on the import and sale of animal fur. We strongly believe the fur trade is a cruel and outdated practice, which has no place in the UK.

Despite banning fur farming in 2000, the UK currently allows imports of tens of millions of pounds of animal fur each year. By continuing to allow the sale of fur, we are exercising a double standard, and effectively outsourcing animal cruelty. Humane Society International/UK, which leads the Fur Free Britain campaign, has documented the terrible conditions under which animals such as this are kept. It is clear that there is no such thing as humane fur farming.

The Government has previously said that a sales ban would be incompatible with our membership of the European Union and, as such, no action could be taken at that time. The UK has now left the EU, and the Government has an opportunity - following the call for evidence on the fur trade held earlier this year - to act as a global leader in moral standards and extend existing fur trade bans (for cat, dog and seal fur) to all animals, thus eliminating illogical protections for some species above others.

As well as cementing the UK's role as a world leader in animal welfare, we believe a fur ban would enjoy widespread public support. A poll by Yonder published this May and a 2020 YouGov poll both found that 72% of the general public supports a ban on the import and sale of all animal fur. With the vast majority of UK high street stores now fur-free, a ban would have limited impact on businesses, and a proper and reasonable phase-out period would ensure that the few businesses still centred on fur could transition to alternative materials. In 2019, the state of California signed into law a ban on the sale of fur, and several other US cities and States have bills forthcoming. In June this year, Israel became the first country in the world to ban the sale of fur.

Given the very strong public and business sentiment against fur, we would urge you to legislate for a ban at the earliest opportunity. This letter demonstrates the strength of cross-party support in Parliament for a Fur Free Britain and we look forward to your response.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,
Christian Wakeford MP
Alan Brown MP
Allan Dorans MP
Andrew Gwynne MP
Andrew Slaughter MP
Baroness Bakewell of Hardington Mandeville
Baroness Brown of Cambridge
Baroness Burt of Solihull
Baroness Jolly
Baroness Young of Old Scone
Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP
Ben Lake MP
Carla Lockhart MP
Caroline Lucas MP
Catherine McKinnell MP
Chris Law MP
Christina Rees MP
Christine Jardine MP
Claudia Webbe MP
Clive Lewis MP
Colum Eastwood MP
Craig Mackinlay MP
Dan Carden MP
Debbie Abrahams MP
Deidre Brock MP
Dr Lisa Cameron MP
Dr Philippa Whitford MP
Drew Hendry MP
Duncan Baker MP
Elliot Colburn MP
Emma Lewell-Buck MP
Gavin Robinson MP
Grahame Morris MP
Hannah Bardell MP
Helen Hayes MP
Henry Smith MP
Hillary Benn MP
Ian Byrne MP
James Daly MP
James Davies MP
Jamie Stone MP
Jason McCartney MP
Jim Shannon MP
John McDonnell MP
John McN ally MP
John Nicolson MP
John Spellar MP
Kate Osborne MP
Kenny Macaskell MP
Kevin Brennan MO
Kim Johnson MP
Kirsten Oswald MP
Liz Saville Roberts MP
Lorde Brooke of Alverthorpe
Lord Coaker
Margaret Ferrier MP
Maria Eagle MP
Marion Fellow MP
Mark Tami MP
Mary Kelly Foy MP
Mhairi Black MP
Michael Fabricant MP
Mick Whitley MP
Mohammad Yasin MP
Munira Wilson MP
Nadia Whittome MP
Nevandu Mishra MP
Neale Hanvey MP
Neil Parish MP
Olivia Blake MP
Olivia Blake MP
Patricia Gibson MP
Paul Girvan MP
Paula Barker MP
Peter Dowd MP
Rachel Hopkins MP
Rob Roberts MP
Robert Largan MP
Rosie Duffield
Sarah Champion MP
Sarah Olney MP
Scott Mann MP
Simon Hoare MP
Sir David Amess MP
Sir George Howarth MP
Sir Roger Gale MP
Stephen Farry MP
Stephen Timms MP
Steven Bonnar MP
Stuart McDonald MP
Tommy Sheppard MP
Tonia Antoniazzi MP
Tony Lloyd MP
Tracey Crouch MP
Virendra Sharma MP
Wera Hobhouse MP
Yvonne Fovargue MP
Zarah Sultana MP
Tim Farron MP
Clive Betts MP
Martyn Day MP
Ian Mearns MP