Dear Prime Minister

Britain prides itself on being a nation of animal lovers, and in May 2021 the Government pledged to reinforce our country’s position ‘as a global champion of animal rights’ with the publication of its Action Plan for Animal Welfare. The Plan promised the animal-loving British public it would deliver improvements in the lives and wellbeing of millions of animals.

But two years on, we and the animals we care so deeply about have been badly let down.

The Plan committed to ‘revolutionise the treatment of animals in the UK’ and introduced more than 35 ‘game changing welfare measures’ to protect companion animals, farmed animals and wildlife, both at home and overseas. But very few of these plans have been delivered so far.

There were many important animal protection measures in the plan, including:

● Ending live exports so farmed animals are no longer forced to endure gruelling, long journeys for slaughter or fattening;
● Prohibiting keeping primates as pets;
● Cracking down on the cruel puppy trade;
● Exploring action on the import of cruel fur products, to stop animals suffering in fur farms and traps overseas for the UK market;
● Introducing reforms to improve the welfare of farmed animals, including examining the use of cages.

However, despite these promises, all now seem little more than a distant memory to this Government.

Animals deserve better than being hung out to dry like this. Please act now to deliver the Action Plan for Animal Welfare in full.

Sincerely

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Dame Joanna Lumley DBE FRGS Rula Lenska
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