

Commissioner David Byrne
Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection
The European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
B-1049 Brussels

15 April 2003

Dear Commissioner,

RE: unacceptable delays to the Commission's proposal improving the protection of animals during transport

I am writing to express my disappointment at further delays to the publication of a Commission proposal to improve the welfare of animals during transport. It is now over 12 months since the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare published its report on the welfare of animals during transport.

This report gives ample evidence that journey times should be shortened substantially and provides the scientific basis for publishing proposals to this effect. Publication of this report followed the Parliament's call for a maximum 8 hour journey limit.

I would be grateful if you would explain to me why the Commission is yet to publish its proposal and on what date you intend to do so and why you are dragging your feet over imposing a limit on journey times that is recommended by the SCAHAW.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Caroline Lucas MEP