

# CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL

Report to:- **To the Mayor and Members of the Council**

Date of Meeting:- 15/1/2002

Agenda Item No:-

7(c)(ii)

**Public**

**Operational**

**Delegated Yes**

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## Accompanying Comments and Statements

	<b>Required</b>	<b>Included</b>
Environmental Impact Statement:	No	No
Corporate Management Team Comments:	No	No
City Treasurers Comments:	No	No
City Solicitor & Secretary Comments:	No	No
Head of Personnel Services Comments:	No	No

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**Title:-**

**ANIMAL HEALTH BILL**

**Report of:-**

**Director of Environment and Development**

**Report reference:-**

**EN.002/02**

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## Summary:-

1. The proposals within the Animal Health Bill relate to legislation which is not administered by Carlisle City Council.
2. Animal Health legislation is enforced by Trading Standards Officers based with Cumbria County Council. The proposals within the Bill should therefore be considered by the County Council whose officers will be better placed to comment on their relevance to both existing legislation and the impact of the Foot and Mouth episode.

## Recommendation:-

3. It is recommended that the petition be forwarded to Cumbria County Council for comment.

**M. BATTERSBY**

**Director of Environment and Development**

**Contact Officer:**

Richard Speirs

**Ext:** 7325

**Note:** in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

Mr Dixon  
(Copy)

Telephone: 01228-817007

Mayor's Parlour  
Civic Centre  
Carlisle  
CA3 8QG

Mr N J Davis  
Lonnings End  
Sandy Lonning  
Capon Tree Road  
BRAMPTON  
Cumbria  
CA8 1QL

19 November 2001

Dear Mr Davis

**Animal Health Bill**

I write to acknowledge receipt of your letter and petition, received on 14 November, asking the City Council to oppose the above Bill.

Your petition will be submitted to the next Meeting of the City Council, and Mr Ian Dixon, Head of Committee and Administrative Services, will be in touch with you shortly in relation to this matter.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Mrs Doreen Parsons  
Mayor

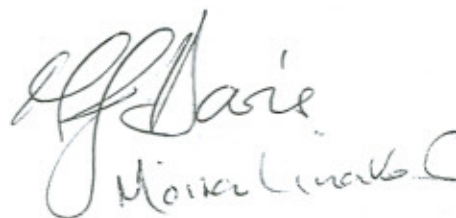
pmm/mayor/01n.davis.petition

Madam Mayor,

We call upon the members of Carlisle City Council to act on behalf and in support of farmers, smallholders, and members of the local community in North Cumbria and oppose with all their vigour the Animal Health Bill of 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

If you read this Bill you will understand our fears that if it becomes law it could lead to the annihilation of all of the remaining 40 million or so sheep in the UK and further devastate the agricultural industry which is so vital to this county. Powers are being put in place to let this happen.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'NAD'.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Alf Davis' with 'Moorland' written below it.



## 31 October 2001

### Animal health (amendment) bill published

The Government today published a bill aimed at ensuring that any new cases of foot and mouth disease can be dealt with effectively and that action can be taken to eradicate scrapie from the national sheep flock.

On foot and mouth disease, the bill will provide powers to slaughter any animal where this is necessary to prevent the spread of the disease. It will enable vaccinated animals to be slaughtered and compensation for them to be paid. Such powers do not rule out alternative approaches involving vaccination, including vaccinate and live, but increases the range of options that might be applied.

The bill will adjust the arrangements for compensation for animals from farms which are infected with the disease. 75% of the value of the animals before they became infected will be payable, with the remaining 25% subject to an assessment of whether the farmer has acted in ways which risk spreading the disease.

The bill also contains related powers of entry, strengthened enforcement powers and powers to extend the new measures to other animal diseases.

On scrapie, the bill will include powers to require all sheep to be genotyped and those found not to have a genotype providing resistance to scrapie to be slaughtered, castrated or sterilised. The bill also includes related powers of entry and enforcement.

Elliot Morley, Animal Health Minister, said:

*"Although there have been no new cases of foot and mouth disease since 30 September, we cannot be sure how the disease will develop, especially with large numbers of autumn movements taking place. This disease has involved huge expense, disruption and distress. We must not be prevented from taking effective action to stamp out the disease because we lack a key power. The foot and mouth provisions of this bill ensure that we will not be left in this position."*

*"On the compensation changes, we want to send a clear message that we will no longer tolerate poor biosecurity. The vast majority of farmers behave responsibly and they will still receive compensation as before. Regretfully, even a small minority can be responsible for serious spread and it is not acceptable that the majority are put at risk in this way."*

*"Where there is clear evidence - on Infected Premises only - that a farmer acted in such a way as to create the risk of spreading the disease, we will have powers to pay only 75% of the maximum amount. A lack of proper protection measures not only puts a farmer at risk but also the wider farming and rural community."*

*"There remains an acknowledged theoretical risk that BSE could be found in sheep. It is therefore important that we have sufficient powers to minimise any possible risk by breeding in resistance to TSEs as quickly as possible. While the National Scrapie Plan has received support from the sheep sector, current*

*indications are that the present voluntary arrangements under the Plan could take too long to have the desired effect. The TSE provisions of the bill will enable us to accelerate the development of a national flock which is resistant to TSEs for the benefit of both consumers and producers.*

*"We will be consulting on how these powers should be applied and the best way forward including the timing of the programme."*

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## Notes

1. The Animal Health Bill will amend the Animal Health Act 1981 to provide additional powers to tackle foot and mouth disease and powers to tackle scrapie in sheep. The bill covers England and Wales.
2. The Government has prepared a draft contingency plan for the emergence of naturally occurring BSE in sheep in the UK national flock. The plan was issued for public consultation on 28 September. The plan is part of the Government's precautionary strategy for risk management and the protection of public health. Copies are available from the DEFRA website.
3. The National Scrapie Plan (NSP) is part of the Action Plan for Farming and aims to reduce and eventually eradicate scrapie from the UK national sheep flock. At present it is a voluntary Scheme and owners who enter will have their sheep genotyped to establish if they are genetically resistant to scrapie. The plan was launched on 19 July.

Enquiries: 08459 335577; E-mail: [press@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:press@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

<http://www.defra.gov.uk>

END

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## URGENT PETITION

WE THE UNDERSIGNED OPPOSE WHOLEHEARTEDLY  
THE ANIMAL "HEALTH" [DEATH] BILL WHICH IS  
CURRENTLY BEFORE PARLIAMENT AND WHICH WILL  
PROVIDE SWEEPING NEW POWERS TO MINISTERS  
TO ALLOW TRESPASS ONTO PRIVATE PROPERTY  
AND THE COMPULSORY SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS  
WITHOUT ANY PROOF THAT THEY ARE INFECTED  
WITH FOOT AND MOUTH OR ANY OTHER DISEASE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
Paggio Davis Nick Davis	Sud Junction Broughton — do —	 
TIM EYRES AMANDA EYRES	2 The Croft Rigg DG16 5JE	Amanda EYRES.
PETER MCGREGOR	25 CRANVAIR PARK	
P. Broughton	16 BROADWATH, HEADS NOOK, CARLISLE.	P Broughton.
Moina Linaker	3 Holme Eden church Rd Warrick Bridge Carlisle CA4 8RE	M Linaker.
	2 Caern Crescent Corby Hill	
P Nichol	"	P Nichol
N Ruchlick	30 Caern Crescent Corby Hill	N Ruchlick
J Nichol	2 Caern Crescent Corby Hill	J Nichol

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
S.A. Fraser	Trowbeck Cottage Warwick Bridge Carlisle	S.A. Fraser Fraser.
Ian Fraser	— — — — —	
TIM WOOD	29 CUNNINGHAM LEDS	TIM WOOD
Claire Turner	"	Claire Turner
Charles Lindsay	2 The Spinning Killingwell Village Newcastle upon Tyne	Charles Lindsay
S.A.D. Members: STOP ANIMAL DEATHS Elli Logan	Spinneyside Brookfields Wigton, Ck? OKE	Elli Logan
Pat Fisher	West Street, Hetherington Nr Wigton	Pat Fisher
B. Airey	Lakeland Way Thretheld	B. Airey
J. Kew	Greening Westward.	J. L. Kew
G. E. Kew	" " " "	G. E. Kew



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<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
D. S. Bull.	Elint Cottage Ct Corby.	<u>D. S. Bull</u>
J. H. Jones	Eden Bank Little Corby	J. H. Jones.
A. GRANT	EDEN BANK LITTLE CORBY	A Grant
T. H. WAUGH	LOWLEES Hill	T. H. Waugh
Phyllis Rusby Mary Ross	Tindale Fell Tree Rd.	Phyllis Rusby Mary Ross
L. E. Allison John P. Penon	Tree Road. 1 TREE TERR	L. E. Allison John P. Penon
W. J. Penton (W. J. PENTON)	ROACHBURNGATE TINDALE FELL	W. J. Penton
Catherine T. Ritson	Brackenfell B. ton.	C. Ritson
Christabel Ritson	" "	C. Ritson
Betty Barclay	7 The Partryard Broadwith	



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<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
S.A.P. Members Ltd G Scott	Knockwood Animal Wildlife Refuge, Wigton	G Scott
Melody Lawley Coolson	Newbiggin Hall Temple Bewerby	M. Lawley- Coolson
Judy Bedford C Hodgson	7 Field View, Port Carlisle Near Carlisle Ranboo Farm, Newton Aulack	Judy Bedford C Hodgson
J Gate	Greenmagg CoHs Wigton	J. Gate.
J Ball	The little Farm Aglionby	J Ball.
R Gilmore	The hedge, Balton Park farm Wigton	R Gilmore
Patricia Gilmore	The hedge, Balton Park farm Wigton	P. Gilmore
Jenny Porter	April Cottage Red Kirk Greta	Jenny Porter.
J H Graham	Stanley House, Kirkcubbin, Nr Carlisle	J H Graham
M Graham	Stanley House Kirkcubbin Cumbria	M Graham