



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

Lord Douglas-Miller  
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30 January 2024

Dear Iain,

Thank you for your email of 19 December on behalf of your constituents about puppy smuggling. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area.

The Government takes the illegal importation of pets seriously. It is an abhorrent trade which causes suffering to animals.

The Government remains committed to delivering its manifesto commitment on puppy smuggling.

We are aware that Selaine Saxby MP has introduced a Private Members' Bill in the House of Commons on restricting the importation and non-commercial movement of pets.

The Government welcomes the Member's interest in improving animal welfare. In accordance with Parliamentary convention, the Government will set out its formal position on this Bill when it receives its second reading.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need further information.

Yours sincerely,

**LORD DOUGLAS-MILLER**