

**Submission
No 143**

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF BATTERY CAGES FOR HENS IN
THE EGG PRODUCTION INDUSTRY**

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I keep chickens and they are beautiful creatures. They do not deserve a life of extreme confinement, misery, forced moulting by withholding food and water, ill-health and death when they can no longer produce eggs. As a society, once we become aware of the cruelty of the battery hen production line, how can we allow this to be legal and not protect the health and short life of a species. There should be some base protection, and real protection, not the meaningless and fluid RSPCA definitions, set into place to prevent such extreme cruelty on such a large scale. And if being humane means people can't make a living out of the egg industry so be it. The cheap price and bountifulness of caged eggs or so called free range eggs which are actually not free range come at too high a cost. We can't keep turning a blind eye to cruelty just so we can buy cheap eggs.