

**Submission
No 279**

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

Name: Mrs Claire Bridgman

Date Received: 11 July 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Banning the use of cages in the egg industry is the only right thing to do. There are many points that I could raise individually over the lack of space to move, wire floors that cut into their feet, cruel medical procedures put into practice to 'protect' the farmers investment, no natural light, no normal behaviours allowed, what it comes down to is that is both unnecessary and cruelly barbaric.

To allow a living creature to suffer every single day of their lives in order to produce a product which a) can be gained from less cruel practices and b) is not a necessary product for human consumption, there is no argument. If we see another animal suffering we have the responsibility to do something about it. This is the responsibility that legislation makers now need to stand up and take, as per their instructions from the people.

Although banning the cage would be a huge win for the ongoing wellbeing and welfare of these animals, I acknowledge the fact that all egg laying hens (be they "barn-laid", "free-range" or "caged"), suffer unnecessarily misery. Further, much of this treatment is legally endorsed and sanctioned by both the egg industry and government through currently weak and inadequate legislation, standards and practices.

I urge you to make a start to ceasing animal suffering by outlawing the cage immediately.