



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Dear Caroline,

Thank you for your email of 20 July on behalf of your constituents about the welfare of farmed fish at the time of killing.

Legislation on the protection of animals at the time of killing requires that farmed fish are spared avoidable pain, distress or suffering during their killing and related operations.

Following publication in 2021 of the [Post Implementation Review of the Welfare of Animals at the Time of Killing \(England\) Regulations 2015](#), we are considering how the welfare of farmed fish at the time of killing could be improved.

Defra asked the Animal Welfare Committee to update its 2014 Opinion on the welfare of farmed fish at the time of killing and we expect their report to be published this summer. We will study their recommendations carefully to determine next steps.

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

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Mark Spencer MP