Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee

Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (Scotland) Bill

Written submission from Helen Jones

After a public consultation 3 yrs ago, asking “Should the use of wild animals in travelling circuses be banned in Scotland?” The results showed that 98% of Scots backed the ban.

Animals are kept in the most abhorrent conditions, from which they are permanently trapped. The cruelty to which they succumb in training and containing is barbaric and the service they provide, i.e. entertainment is so outdated now, that these animals are more subject to even more cruelty, as the circuses will not have the visitors they once did, which results in reduced revenue and less care and feed for the animals.

The animals are wild and angry, and whilst there is an option to have them re-homed voluntarily, it is perfectly clear that the circuses will hold onto them for as long as possible because they cannot accept they have been defeated.

Please move towards an enforcement of a permanent ban on Wild Animals Travelling in Circuses, and show the other UK countries how to be a leader in Animal Welfare for the sake of the animals. The pain they suffer is more that we could bare, every day, every week, every year, isolation an unnatural life in a cage the size of a double bed, for 20yrs or more.

Please help them.