

Below are the minimum requirements i, & many other Australians, insist upon in order for our animals to be treated humanely & with care until LIVE EXPORTS STOP PERMANENTLY.

I hope live exports stop permanently soonest & am disappointed this hasn't happened to date.

This year, we've yet again seen the failure of the live export industry to protect Australian animals from abject cruelty on board ships. We've seen animals subjected to cramped, filthy environments, bogged down in their own faeces and without clear access to food and water.

The proposed ASEL Standards must do better for animal welfare – Australians will not stand for the cruelty of this industry to continue unchecked, and I'm writing to you to voice my concerns and my expectations for better treatment of animals within the new standards.

Below are the changes I am calling for to be made to the recommended Standards. Detailed evidence to support these changes is provided in the submissions put forward by RSPCA Australia and the Australian Veterinary Association.

#### **Sourcing and preparation of animals**

No cattle should be exported from southern ports across the equator during the high risk May to October period.

The upper weight limit for all cattle being exported should be set at 500 kg, not at 650 kg, with no exemptions.

Sheep must be rested for at least two clear days after shearing and prior to loading, to overcome the cumulative stress of road transport, handling and shearing and to ensure all shearing wounds are healed.

No sheep, whatever the breed, should be allowed on board a ship with more than 25mm of wool or hair.

#### **Space allowance for sheep and cattle**

The space allowances proposed in the draft Standards are still far too small and will force animals to 'time share' their space.

Space allowances must be increased to ensure all animals in a group are able to lie down comfortably at the same time and easily access feed and water, whether they are in a registered premises or on-board ship.