



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR

T 03459 335577  
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk  
[www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra)

The Rt Hon Fiona Mactaggart MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA



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29 October 2015

**The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP**  
Secretary of State

Dear Fiona,

Thank you for your email of 22 July on behalf of one of your constituents about the siting of CCTV in slaughterhouses. I am sorry for the delay in replying.

The Farm Animal Welfare Committee (FAWC) was commissioned by English, Welsh and Scottish Ministers to produce an independent assessment of the benefits of CCTV in slaughterhouses. The report was published in February 2015. FAWC concluded that CCTV can offer some real benefits but that it cannot replace the need for businesses to have proper monitoring procedures in place and did not recommend legislation. The Food Standards Agency (FSA) estimates that in Great Britain 94% of cattle, 96% of pig, 90% of sheep and 99% of poultry throughput now comes from slaughterhouses with CCTV in use which suggests that it is not necessary to legislate for change to happen. The Government is exploring ways to encourage take up in the remaining slaughterhouses.

Thank you again for your email.

Best wishes,

**Elizabeth Truss MP**  
Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

