



Open Letter regarding abuse at Far Marsh Farm, supplier to St Helen's Farm with links to Kavli Group

To:

Erik Volden, director of St Helen's Farm Limited and Kavli UK Limited; group CEO of Kavli Holding AS
Lynn Hayes, director of St Helen's Farm Limited and Kavli UK Limited
Paul Lewney, director of St Helen's Farm Limited, Kavli UK Limited and Yorkshire Dairy Goats
Sarah Hunt, director of Oak Farming and Yorkshire Dairy Goats (Far Marsh Farm)
Angus Wielkopolski, director of Oak Farming and Yorkshire Dairy Goats (Far Marsh Farm)
Kathleen Wielkopolska, director of Oak Farming and Yorkshire Dairy Goats (Far Marsh Farm)

Dear Erik et al.,

We, the signatories of this letter, are writing to you firstly to request that you release the goats at Far Marsh Farm into safe care; and secondly to transition the farm to oat farming or another type of stock-free farming, for which support is readily available in the UK.

This demand follows our [recent investigation into Far Marsh Farm](#), a supplier of goat milk to St Helen's Farms, which revealed the terrible conditions the goats live in and the widespread abuse to which they were subjected. As you are no doubt aware, the investigation has been reported on locally, nationally and internationally, and shared widely on various platforms, resulting in many major supermarkets withdrawing St Helen's products from their shelves indefinitely.

We know that the directors of Far Marsh Farm owner Yorkshire Dairy Goats have [openly stated how it may have to shut down soon](#) because its business has been cut off following this expose. Further, Angus Wielkopolski - a director of Yorkshire Dairy Goats and Oak Farming, who own Far Marsh Farm jointly with a UK-based subsidiary of St Helen's Farm's parent company Kavli Holding AS - [expressed doubts in national press about being able to ensure adequate standards](#) at all times.

Given that Far Marsh Farm is not simply a third-party supplier, but is part of the Kavli Group portfolio (via Kavli UK Limited and Kavli Investments Limited) and therefore impossible for St Helen's Farm to distance itself from, we ask that you consider our requests carefully. Further, we are aware that Paul Lewney is a director of both Kavli UK Limited and Yorkshire Dairy goats - two companies which combined represent the total ownership of Far Marsh Farm.

We ask you only to do the right thing - allow as many of the Far Marsh Farm goats as possible to be rehomed to sanctuaries, and transition Far Marsh Farm away from animal farming to ensure that no others will ever be abused there again.

To show you that public opinion around the world is overwhelmingly in support of our appeal, [we have launched a petition](#) asking you to release the goats and transition to stock-free, more sustainable farming practices. Over 45,000 people have signed the petition so far thanks to [further national press coverage](#).

We have already secured good, safe homes for almost 200 of the goats, and we are actively working on finding more with the help of sanctuaries and other organisations. We feel it would be hugely positive if we could work together on this, as we have no doubt that the public would like to see St Helen's Farm and Kavli Group place the best interests of the Far Marsh Farm goats, who have already been subjected to so much at the hands of Yorkshire Dairy Goats, first and foremost.

We are also more than willing to work with Oak Farming and Yorkshire Dairy Goats directors Angus Wielkopolski and Kathleen Wielkopolska to help transition Far Marsh Farm to the production of arable crops,



pulses and produce for human consumption, or to reforest and rewild their lands. We work closely with [Refarm'd](#) to help farmers transition from animal farming to oat milk production, and we would also put you in touch with indoor vertical farming companies that are on standby to work with farmers to turn their already existing infrastructure into vertical farming units.

Stock-free farming, oat milk and vertical farming, all create a source of sustainable income, whilst also positively benefiting the environment and eliminating animal suffering. We strongly urge St Helen's Farm, Kavli UK Ltd and Kavli Holding AS to think carefully about the future of your group - the farming we propose may be regarded as alternative today, but one day it will be the main form of agriculture, making best use of land and resources and addressing growing environmental pressures.

To find out more about how animal farms can transition, you can visit our recent ['Milk this is your moment'](#) campaign, which features a longer document directed at farmers, authored in consultation with leading experts and organisations. There you will also find an [open letter which we sent to the UK Government](#) - while it concerns cow farming, many of the same undeniable arguments apply, especially as Kavli is involved in the production of cows' milk products such as Primula cheese.

While we appreciate that Kavli Group is not a majority shareholder in Yorkshire Dairy Goats, Kavli holds a 25% stake whilst the rest is held by Oak Farming. As such we ask Kavli to exercise its voting rights and to influence further by never taking milk from Far Marsh Farm again. To the directors of Oak Farming, Angus and Kathleen Wielkopolski, who founded St Helen's Farm where your registered offices remain even to this day, now that you have lost a major customer in St Helen's, possibly your only customer, we implore you to put the best interests of the goats that you care for first, and we invite you to meet with us to discuss a new future for Far Marsh Farm.

Again, we are simply asking you to do the right thing by releasing as many of the goats as possible. The Surge team is open to working with you to transition to more sustainable farming practices, beginning with an in-person meeting to discuss our proposals in-depth at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Winters, Co-founder and Co-director Surge

Co-signatories:

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| Leona Lewis | Singer, Actress, Activist |
| Joaquin Phoenix | Actor, Activist |
| Rooney Mara | Actress, Activist |
| Kate Mara | Actress, Activist |
| Evanna Lynch | Actress, Activist |
| Alicia Silverstone | Actress, Activist |
| Alexandra Paul | Actress, Activist |
| Dotsie Bausch | Olympic Silver Medalist, Activist |
| Harley Quinn Smith | Actress, Musician, Activist |
| Lucy Watson | Actress, Model, Activist |
| Peter Egan | Actor, Activist |
| Chris Smalling | Footballer, Roma, Manchester Utd and England international |