

A suggested timeframe and options for implementation

The phase-out must begin and end **as soon as possible**. Every delay means more sheep subjected to inexcusable suffering – from the daily stresses of sea transport to fully conscious slaughter in importing countries.

The fact that sheep are bred, raised and slaughtered to feed humans, does not mean they are any less sentient creatures, that they suffer any less from cruel live export, than our pets, would in these circumstances.

If you think of a beloved pet, then substitute a sheep, you will know that live export must end now.

There is always the danger that Labor may not be re-elected and if a coalition government should resurface, this would be a

significant setback.

Potential ways to support the transition, including but not limited to consideration of markets, processing facilities and other opportunities

Farmers support is crucial to the success of this phase-out.

This could be an opportunity to support more plant-based agriculture.

It could also be an opportunity to support farmers preserving their land and wildlife, eco-tourism, farm to plate and so on. There are many farmers already doing this successfully. Restoring their land and increasing prosperity for everyone.

Other matters as appropriate.

Australia's international reputation as a humane society and our ranking in terms of World Animal Protection's official rankings is at stake.

New Zealand's recent ban is an example of how a civilised country should behave toward animals and respect the views of the general public over a few vested interests.

Furthermore, most Australians, as I do, find live export abhorrent. And we want certainty that the phase-out of this trade will begin and end as soon as possible; in this term of parliament.

It is equally important that there is a ban on live export of cattle, for exactly the same reason that live export of sheep is abhorrent.

