Call for evidence

Animal Welfare (Sentience) Bill

The proposed terms of reference for such an inquiry are:

1. Will the Animal Welfare (Sentience) Bill ensure that animal sentience is properly taken into account in both new and existing Government policy in England?

2. Are there sufficient safeguards to ensure that the proposed Animal Sentience Committee will be (a) independent (b) have the necessary expertise and (c) have the necessary powers to be effective?

3. Are the proposed requirements on the Government to respond to an Animal Sentience Committee's report sufficient?

4. How does the proposed Animal Sentience Committee compare to similar bodies, such as the Scottish Animal Welfare Commission?

5. Is the Government correct to limit the scope of the Bill to vertebrate animals?