



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

The Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP  
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Dear Sir George,

Thank you for your email dated 1 September, to the Rt Hon Priti Patel MP, Secretary of State for the Home Office, enclosing correspondence from your constituent, about animal testing for cosmetics. Your correspondence has been forwarded to this department and I am replying as this matter falls within my Ministerial portfolio.

Animal testing of cosmetics for the purposes of meeting the Cosmetics Regulation has been banned in the UK since 1998. No animal testing on finished cosmetic products, or ingredients or combinations of ingredients may take place in the United Kingdom to meet requirements of the UK Cosmetics Regulation 2009.

No animal tests have been carried out in the UK on cosmetics or their ingredients since 1998 for the purposes of meeting the Cosmetics Regulation. Cosmetic products cannot be sold in the UK if their final formulation or ingredients or combination of ingredients have been tested on animals anywhere in the world after the EU-wide ban came into effect (in 2013).

There is no exemption under the UK Cosmetics Regulations to allow testing of cosmetic products or their ingredients on animals under any circumstance, even if there is no validated non-animal alternative test available. There are no plans to change this position.

Thank you once again for taking the time to write. I hope you find this information useful when responding to

Yours ever,

**PAUL SCULLY MP**  
Minister for Small Business, Consumers & Labour Markets  
Minister for London