



World Society for the Protection of Animals

## FARMING

### **Q: Will you oppose gigantic, intensive indoor dairy farms, like the proposed Nocton Dairies farm in Lincolnshire?**

Plans are underway to create a huge, industrial dairy farm – the first of its kind in the UK. The Nocton Dairies application is for an indoor farm to contain 8,100 cows, producing a daily total of 250,000 litres of milk. This production-line approach has the potential to seriously compromise the cows' health and well-being. The cows will spend most of their lives indoors in sheds, only allowed outside to graze for a limited period, if at all, following each 300-day lactation period. WSPA supporters want to buy milk products sourced from dairy farms where cows can graze in pasture, breathe fresh air and have the freedom to behave naturally. These industrial 'super farms' also pose a serious threat to traditional dairy farmers, who won't be able to compete.

## BEAR BILE

### **Q: Will you press the new Government for a public statement renewing the UK's support for an end to cruel bear bile farming in Asia?**

Our current Government has demonstrated its commitment to this issue, raising UK concerns about bear bile farming with relevant Asian government officials – a real boost for WSPA's work to end this cruel practice. More than 12,000 bears are enduring unnecessary, repeated pain and trauma under desperately cruel conditions in Asia's bear farms, confined in tiny cages so bile can be extracted from their gall bladders and sold for use in traditional Asian medicines.

## WHALING

### **Q: What will your party do to ensure the commercial whaling ban is upheld?**

The International Whaling Commission (IWC) will meet at the end of June. The EU has to vote as one at this meeting, so anti-whaling countries within the EU – like the UK – must work hard to make sure they are heard. The list of pro-whaling countries is thankfully short (Denmark, Sweden and Finland) but if the EU countries can't agree, they won't be able to vote. This makes it very likely that commercial whaling will force its way back into existence. This would be an animal welfare and conservation catastrophe in the eyes of the British public. The new Government will need to do everything in its power to ensure the UK's anti-whaling stance translates into an anti-whaling vote from the EU. It will be a tragedy if this ban slips; too many whales are already dying every year.