

Guide to Lobbying Your Local Council: Frequently Encountered Objections

These are some common objections that organisations give when asked to go cage-free and suggested responses to them.

Objection: We have signed a contract with a food supplier that only offers battery eggs.

Response: It should be possible to ask your food supplier to source cage-free eggs for you. If your supplier won't supply you with cage-free eggs, can you pledge that when your contract has ended with your supplier, you will source cage-free eggs only?

Objection: Animal welfare is not our priority. Our priority is meeting the needs of the residents of our borough/ county/ city.

Response: Animal welfare is a strong concern of the British public (Quote information from the leaflet). Because local government is funded by taxes paid by the British public, it is reasonable to expect that your spending reflects the public's concerns.

Objection: We don't have the budget available to spend more on food.

Response: It has been estimated that it costs the farmer 1.8p more to produce a free-range egg compared to a battery egg. The selling price that suppliers charge varies. However, the amount per egg is small. Many people believe it's a price worth paying.

Further help

If your council offers an objection that isn't discussed here and you are not sure how to respond, please contact Supporter Services on 01483 521 953 or supporters@ciwf.org.uk