

**Question for written answer E-008707/2013**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**James Elles (ECR)**

Subject: Food and Veterinary Office

The Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) is the body designated to ensure that Union legislation on food safety, animal welfare and animal health is implemented and enforced. It has been understood that the FVO has no intention of carrying out inspections to check that EU Member States are complying with both the Pig Welfare Directive and the Welfare of Laying Hens Directive.

Is this understanding correct? If so, why is the FVO not fulfilling its mandate by not carrying out these essential checks?