



BIENNIAL REPORT

Spanning 2022-2023



WWW.ALAW.ORG.UK





BETTER DEAL FOR ANIMALS

SUPPORTING AN ALLIANCE OF ANIMAL GROUPS.

Over the past five years, we have provided legal and secretariat support to the #Better Deal for Animals alliance of around 70 animal protection organisations and campaigners.

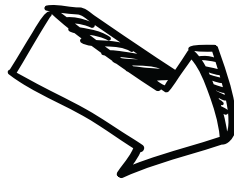
We have supported in areas such as trophy hunting, glue traps, sentience legislation and trade.

SUPPORTED BY LUSH



BREXIT REVIEW

In 2023 we collaborated with animal advocacy groups to publish a thorough, analytical report monitoring the progress with Brexit promises. Read the report by clicking the picture below.



Brexit Barometer Results

Our report, reviewing the impact of Brexit on animal welfare across the UK, finds risk to animal welfare law advancement across all sectors, with the dial of risk at amber to red across all four areas studied.



Wildlife and
Countryside

LINK



TRADE AND ANIMAL WELFARE MEMBER OF THE TRADE AND ANIMAL WELFARE COALITION

The UK Centre for Animal Law is a member of the Trade and Animal Welfare Coalition (www.tawcuk.org).

With the help of funding from LUSH, we have been able to support animal advocacy groups press for better animal welfare in trade deals. We have been able to secure expert input to inform submissions on UK/Australia Free Trade Agreement and for other strategic support for animal welfare, trade and sustainability objectives.



EUROGROUP FOR ANIMALS

EUROGROUP FOR ANIMALS ANIMAL LAW MEMBERS' GROUP

A-LAW's chairperson, Paula Sparks, is chair of the Animal Law Members' Group. We are working with Eurogroup for Animals on a number of legal strategies supporting better enforcement of EU animal welfare law and legal strategies to achieve animal welfare objectives.

A-LAW volunteers are supporting the Eurogroup for Animals team with legal research in various areas, including non stun slaughter.



TROPHY HUNTING

WILDLIFE LAW WORKING GROUP

The UK Centre for Animal Law's Wildlife Working Group, lead by Co-chair Rob Espin, published a report examining the proposals and legal issues surrounding hunting trophies.

The Wildlife Working Group has published a paper on the current law in the UK regarding hunting trophies and proposed reforms, which can be read here:

<https://www.alaw.org.uk/publications/>, under policy papers.



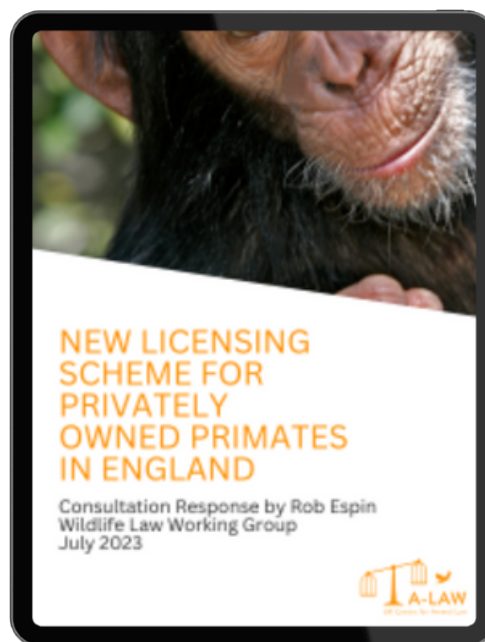


PRIMATES AS PETS

WILDLIFE WORKING GROUP

UK Centre for Animal Law's Wildlife Law Working Group submitted detailed responses to the UK Government's consultation on the proposed licensing regime to restrict the keeping of primates as "pets" in private captivity outside of zoos.

This response follows work by Rob Espin (co-chair, of the Wildlife Law Working Group) providing advice and guidance to an alliance of groups, coordinated by Wild Futures on the legal aspects of the proposals.



EXTREME CONFORMATION IN DOGS

LEGAL ADVISORY GROUP

The aim of this working group is to use the law to promote the breeding, purchasing, ownership and advertising only of dogs with innate good health, thereby reducing or preventing the suffering that arises due to conformational extremes or inherited conditions at every stage of a dogs' life.

Visit A-LAW's [website](#), to learn more about the work of this new and exciting multi-disciplinary working group, comprised of lawyers, legal academics, veterinary professionals and animal welfare and behaviour scientists.

The group has already provided significant policy input, participated in a dynamic podcast on extreme conformations and collaborated on a stakeholder meeting with leaders in the field of animal welfare.



SCOTLAND STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE EVENTS

In autumn 2022, we hosted an online seminar series on **animal welfare law** for the Scottish Young Lawyers' Association.

Presented on **wildlife law** to the Public Policy Exchange seminar Raising the Standards of Animal Welfare in November 2022.

Hosted a seminar on **Animal Welfare Law in Scotland** in October 2023 and presented at the UFAW/ALAW conference on **companion animal law in Scotland** in the same month.



SCOTLAND STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

CONSULTATIONS AND PAPERS

Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill lodged by Christine Grahame MSP Witness session – we were invited to **give evidence on the Bill** to the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee – September 2023.

Licensing of Activities Involving Animals – we responded to this consultation covering licensing of activities involving animals – September 2023.

Responded to **Ban on Snaring and Increasing Scottish SPCA Powers** consultation – September 2023.

Contributed to joint briefing with the Wild Animal Welfare Committee for MSPs for debate on **international consensus principles for ethical wildlife control** - May 2022.



MAKING THE LAW WORK FOR ANIMALS

We are actively working on better laws for animals in the following areas:

- Enforcement of animal welfare legislation.
- Sentencing and post conviction powers.
- Implementation of international law.
- Extreme conformation in dogs
- Animal experimentation
- Intensive farming and in particular pig welfare.

ANIMAL LAW TV

Our YouTube channel, Animal Law TV continues to flourish with a wealth of resources and training videos about animal law.

2,493 views in 2023

493 subscribers

46 videos



52 hours watched

TOP VIDEO

A-LAW Bitesize Animal Law Episode 5 - The Animal Welfare Act 2006 by Mike Radford OBE



Animal Law TV by A-LAW

@AnimalLawTVbyALAW · 493 subscribers · 46 videos

This is the YouTube Channel of the UK Centre for Animal Law (A-law). We are the UK's leadi... >

alaw.org.uk and 3 more links

 **Subscribed** 

TALKING ANIMAL LAW

Over the past two years, we have talked animal law with expert guests on topics spanning law and veganism to fish and farrowing crates.

We have released 25 episodes, have seen over 7,000 downloads, and our podcast has attracted 5-star reviews.

Topics include animal rights, fish welfare, pigs and farrowing crates, vegan legal rights, cosmetics testing and more.



Customer Reviews

5.0 out of 5

12 Ratings



★★★★★

LauraMMK, 17/07/2023

Brilliant podcast

This is such an insightful podcast that I have learnt so much from. I recommend it to anyone interested in animal law!

★★★★★

Helena4004, 18/10/2021

Excellent episode on non-stun slaughter
Really fascinating episode on a challenging issue.

★★★★★

KonnieW95, 20/08/2021

A-Law's podcast

Brilliant podcast! Very informative and so useful to have a platform of this kind in the UK, keeping me up to date with what's going on in the Animal law world through some [more](#)

LEGAL SKILLS LABS

Launch

In 2023 our Animal Lawyers' Network launched the legal skills lab for animal advocates. Bringing free training to members in law making and political advocacy.

Leaders in the legal community share their wisdom, teaching and upskilling the next generation of animal advocates. 2023 brought labs on Parliament and Government procedure and advocacy.



Spotlight on Legal Skills Labs for Animal Advocates

Animal advocates, join our network and learn skills that will help you advocate for animals. Our Animal Lawyers' Network runs an online Legal Skills Lab. This free course for members of the network will provide legal skills in important areas such as law making, political advocacy and more.



ANIMALAW: VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE - 5 DAY CONFERENCE 2022

We marked the bicentennial anniversary of Martin's Act 1822 (the first national legislation intended specifically to make cruelty to animals an offence).



We brought together 40 speakers from across the globe to discuss animal law, past, present and future.

The conference challenged existing legal paradigms and explored alternative approaches to achieving robust legal protections for animals.



ANIMAL LAW DAY LAUNCHED IN 2023

Following the success of our 2022 ‘Animalaw: Visions for the Future’ conference, marking the anniversary of Martin’s Act 1822, we decided to keep the anniversary alive by launching Animal Law Day on 22 July, the date Martin’s Act became law.

Lawyers and animal advocacy groups across the UK got involved to raise awareness about animal law. Visit our website to learn more about our national Animal Law Day and how animal advocates and lawyers helped mark it - <https://www.alaw.org.uk/animal-law-day/>



Animal Law Week is the lead up to
#ALawDay

It is officially Animal Law Week, ending on 22 Saturday, July, which is #ALawDay! Read our press release.

[Read Here](#)

EVENTS IN 2022

A-LAW collaborated with the **Scottish Young Lawyers' Association** to bring two webinars 'Spotlight on Animal Law.' (Feb 2022) and Wildlife Law in Scotland (Nov 2022) and our Animal Lawyers' Network hosted two virtual gatherings for **junior lawyers** interested in animal law.

Additionally, we hosted webinars on:

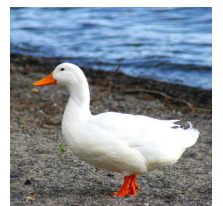
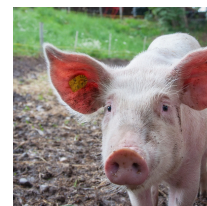
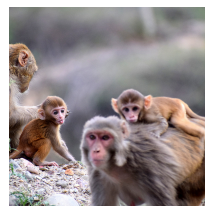
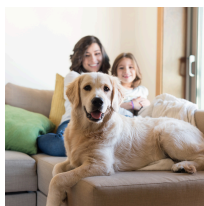
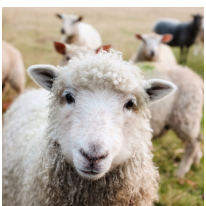
Activists Rights (with barrister Alan Robertshaw),

Four Paws UK with Emily Wilson, Head of Programmes from FOUR PAWS UK

Protecting Animal Dignity (with Katerina Stoykova from Tier im Recht).

A Deep Dive: Exploring the facts behind UK Fish and Crustacean Welfare (Culum Brown, Jonathan Birch, Paula Sparks and Amro Hussain).

We hosted the finals for our **Cecilia Moot** in 2022. This was a hugely popular event amongst students keen to put their advocacy to the test and learn animal law.



EVENTS IN 2023

Our **Animal Lawyers' Network** (previously the Young Animal Lawyers' Network) held a virtual event for junior lawyers and launched the **Legal Skills Lab** programme.

We hosted a **careers webinar** with Danielle Duffield and Rob Espin, who discussed incorporating animal law into a mainstream legal career.

"The Future of Animal Rights Law" event at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies.

Our **Scotland** Committee held a morning seminar on animal law in Scotland.

In collaboration with law firm, Bindmans LLP, we co-hosted a webinar about **'Environment and Planning Law and Impact on Animals.'**

Oct 2023 A-LAW collaborated with the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) to present a one day **Animal Law and Policy Conference**.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS 2022-23

Our chairperson, **Paula Sparks** was invited to speak at external events including:

- Natural Health Pet Summit (March)
- Humane Canada's Summit for Animals (May)
- Cambridge Centre for Animal Rights Law (May).
- British Library: panel discussion at "The Fight for Animal Rights: Kim Stallwood in Conversation," (May)
- 42BR Barristers webinar on Prospective Animal Welfare Legislation (May)
- Naturewatch Foundation panellist at conference on violence to humans and other animals (June).
- Public Policy Exchange conference (Nov).

In March 2022, our Policy Officer, **Alan Bates** joined a panel of legal experts at 'Beyond Human Rights', the University of Law's largest legal ethics society, careers event.



Please help us make the law work for animals by supporting our work!

We are volunteer led

Our lawyers collectively donate hundreds of hours each year to run the charity and support our work

We have no premises

Our lawyers collectively donate hundreds of hours each year to run the charity and support our work

We are a registered charity
Registered Charity
No. 1113462



Support us here!



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