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Animal Welfare Sentience Bill

- Currently in HoL
- Government introduces Bill to formally recognise animals as sentient beings
- Animal Sentience Committee will put animal sentience at heart of government policy
- Bill introduced as part of government's first of a kind [Action Plan for Animal Welfare](#)
- Vertebrate animals will be recognised as sentient beings

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Animal Welfare (Kept Animals) Bill

- Currently in HoC second reading
- Improve welfare standards across Great Britain
- Part of the action plan for animal welfare
- Will raise welfare in five key areas




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Puppy Smuggling

The Government will introduce new powers to tackle the unethical trade of puppy smuggling by reducing the number of pets (dogs, cats and ferrets) that can travel under pet travel rules. It will also include powers for the Government to bring in further restrictions on the movement of pets on welfare grounds, for example by increasing the minimum age of imported puppies and restricting the import of pregnant dogs and dogs with mutilations such as cropped ears and tails.



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Live Exports

Live animals can endure excessively long journeys during export, causing distress and injury. EU rules prevented any changes to these journeys, but the UK Government is now free to pursue plans which would see a ban on the export of live animals for slaughter and fattening. We will become the first European country to end this practice.

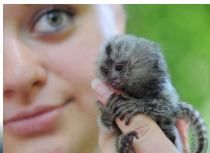


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Ban of keeping primates as pets

Primates are highly intelligent animals with complex needs and require specialist care. The Government will deliver on its manifesto commitment to introduce a ban on keeping them as pets, ensuring that all primates being kept privately in England are being kept at zoo-level standards and that those unable to meet the standards are phased out.




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Livestock Worrying

The Bill will give new powers to the police to provide greater protection to livestock from dangerous and out of control dogs. The Bill will also extend this protection to other species such as llamas, ostriches and game birds.




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Zoo Licensing

The Zoo Licensing Act will be amended to improve zoo regulations and ensure that zoos are doing more to contribute to conservation.




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The Animal Welfare (Service Animals) Bill


- 8th June 2019
- The Animal Welfare (Service Animals) Bill, known as 'Finn's Law', will prevent those who attack or injure service animals from claiming self-defence
- The law is named after Finn, a police dog who was stabbed whilst pursuing a suspect with his handler PC David Wardell. Finn sustained serious stab wounds to the chest and head, but only criminal damage charges could be brought against his attacker

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Animal Welfare Sentencing Bill


- Increased the maximum custodial penalty for animal cruelty offences for six months to five years
- 29th June 2021



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DEFRA Action Plan for Animal Welfare



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Other things on the animal welfare wish list

- Further protection for hares
- Penalty notice system for those being cruel to animals
- Ban import and export of detached shark fins
- Ban advertising of unacceptable practices abroad – i.e. elephant riding
- Further rules on fur importation
- Ban import and sale of foie gras
- Ivory act – bans dealing in elephant ivory of any age

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Other things on the animal welfare wish list

- Ban importation of hunting trophies from endangered species
- End export of animals for fattening or slaughter
- Welfare in transport – cutting length of time animals can be transported
- Improve farm animal health and welfare
- Improve food labelling
- Improve welfare at animal slaughter
- Tighter controls on livestock worrying


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Other things on the animal welfare wish list

- Reduce the number of pet dogs, cats and ferrets that can be moved under the pet travel rules which apply to non-commercial movements, in order to prevent unscrupulous traders from exploiting pet travel rules
- Increase the minimum age that dogs can be non-commercially moved or commercially imported into Great Britain
- Restrict the ability of unscrupulous traders to move heavily pregnant dogs into Great Britain both commercially and noncommercially
- Prohibit importation of dogs with ear cropping – tail docking


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Other things on the animal welfare wish list

- Set up a taskforce to investigate pet theft
- Compulsory cat microchipping
- Tuks Law – tightening up date held on microchipped animals - law that no healthy animal can be destroyed by a vet without first scanning the pet's microchip to confirm the person requesting euthanasia has the authority to do
- Licensing of animal sanctuaries, rescue and rehoming centres
- Changes to equine identification

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Other things on the animal welfare wish list


- Ban remote controlled electronic training collars
- Racing greyhounds – further protection
- Horse racing address fatality levels
- Dangerous dogs legislation updating
- Higher standards for animal testing in scientific or educational purposes
- Restrict use of glue traps used in pest control
- Tackle wildlife crime

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Other things on the animal welfare wish list

- Investigate restricting the use and/or sale of lead ammunition over all environments. Research suggests up to 100,000 wildfowl die each year due to lead poisoning from spent gunshot
- Launch a call for evidence on the use of snares. Some people consider that snares are an inhumane and unnecessary means of trapping wild animals




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Next

- New legislation coming through
- Animal Welfare (Sentience), Kept Animals, and Animals Abroad Bills




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Also

- Current voluntary registration of Ferrets / Stoats/ Weasels to become Mandatory registration through DEFRA for disease control through The Animal Health Act 1981.
- This may affect the selling of animals as pets legislation



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So to keep up to date

- IoL Animal Inspectors Course
- Level 3 BTEC
- Pearson
- 6 Units covering all aspects of animal licensing including DWA
- Not zoo's - separate two day course March 2022 at Bristol Zoo
- To date 170 delegates from 85 Local Authorities
- Remember you need to be qualified to do an inspection

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Animal Welfare course for Licensing Inspectors

"The IoL Animal Inspectors course provides interactive and informative training for licensing practitioners across animal licensing activities. The virtual online classroom lessons give expert tuition to help delegates get to grips with the current regulations and ultimately to obtain the mandatory inspectors professional qualification. The course includes practical and live working case studies for delegates to demonstrate their competence to regulate licensed operators and investigate animal welfare related complaints and allegations."

"As an experienced licensing officer taking on animal licensing responsibilities for the first time, I have learnt a great deal from the course and recommend it to anybody involved in animal welfare licensing."

"The informative Animal Inspectors Course from the Institute of Licensing provides inspecting officers with the knowledge and tools to ensure high animal welfare standards at their local licensable animal activities premises."

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Animal Welfare course for Licensing Inspectors

I saved the best for last :-

Both tutors are vastly experienced which shows with the examples of good and bad practice used to illustrate the different activities. And they encourage questions and sharing of experiences throughout.

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