

Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation

A little bit about us...



**Conservative
Animal Welfare
Foundation**

Who we are

The Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation is an independent organisation which seeks to advance farm animal welfare and the lives of animals in the UK and around the world. Our small but impactful team is made up of leading experts in the field of animal welfare, research, politics and public affairs.

Lorraine Platt - Founder

Lorraine is one of the Founders of the Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation. She is former Vice Chairman of a leading animal welfare charity, and has received a variety of awards and recognition from leading animal welfare organisations, including the RSPCA and IFAW. Lorraine is the public face of the organisation's campaigning, providing strategic direction, and is responsible for directing the daily campaigns operations.

Chris Platt - Founder

Chris is one of the Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation's Founders. He is Vice President of a Surrey Conservative Party Association and the former Chairman. Chris worked in international finance before moving full time onto the Board of the Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation. Chris works on the daily operations of the organisation and provides strategic oversight to the campaigns and corporate management functions.

Ems Barr – Political Advisor

Ems is a former Special Adviser to the Transport Secretary Grant Shapps and Head of Communications for the Centre for Policy Studies and CCHQ Press Officer. Working with Westminster decision makers of all political persuasions, Ems supports the Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation's many high-profile campaigns which help to advance animal welfare, and offers advice and strategic guidance on key animal welfare issues.

Philip Mansbridge - Director of Programs

Philip is a well-known advocate for animals with extensive experience in the animal welfare sector. He has previously headed up organisations including the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW UK), Care for the Wild International and ProVeg UK, as well as working with many other leading animal charities. Philip specialises in working with stakeholders from all sides of the debate to find pragmatic solutions that advance animal welfare.

Sophia Stileman - Head of Communications

Sophia has worked as a political consultant for several years, first at Westbourne Communications and later at Atlas Partners. She is passionate about animal welfare and in 2019 she was awarded the PRCA's Best Young Political Consultant in the UK. Her involvement in Conservative politics stems from university, where she co-founded 'Generative Conservative', the youth contingent of the oldest conservative think-tank in the UK, the Bow Group.

Steve McCulloch - Head of Research

Steven is a Senior Lecturer in Human-Animal Studies, at the Centre for Animal Welfare at the University of Winchester. He specialises in animal health and welfare policy and is a qualified veterinary surgeon with a PhD in the political representation of sentient species. Steven is a diplomat of the European College of Animal Welfare and Behavioural Medicine and a recognised veterinary specialist in Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law.

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Thank you (Lorraine Platt) for everything you have done to transform the perception of animal welfare in the Conservative Party.

The Late Sir David Amess MP,
CAWF Patron

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...they (CAWF) have done an amazing job and they are pioneering some really important policy work.

Dominic Raab MP, Deputy Prime Minister, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice



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Our work

The Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation campaigns to advance animal welfare through raising awareness of key animal welfare related issues within Government and beyond. We produce a variety of highly regarded reports on such issues, and amplify our messages via traditional media and social media. We work with stakeholders across the board to raise animal welfare standards.



Reports

Our reports and briefings help inform MPs, Lords and other stakeholders about the animal welfare issues we campaign on. Highly regarded, they have featured in numerous media outlets including The Times, The Telegraph, The Guardian and many more, as well as trade publications.

In recent years, our reports have included:

- Ending Live Exports
- Ending Farrowing Crates (2020) and Ending Pig Farrowing Crates (2022)
- Banning Cages for Laying Hens and The Case for Ending Beak Trimming
- Fish Welfare, The Welfare of Farmed Fish at Time of Killing and Fish Sentience Briefing, The Case for Regular Inspections and Mandatory CCTV in Fish Slaughterhouses and Crustacean Sentience Briefing
- Cleaner Fish - the Millions of Hidden Casualties of the Salmon Industry
- Mandatory Labelling Research Report
- Non-stun Slaughter
- The Unpalatable Truth – Report on Industrial Animal Agriculture and Climate Change



Consultation and Evidence Submissions

We are a solution focused organisation and regularly contribute to written consultations and calls for evidence in our areas of expertise. We are mindful of all stakeholders and keen to ensure that the information we provide is pragmatic, scientific and accurate.

In recent years, we have submitted evidence and data to consultations including:

- Farming Investment Fund (Animal Health and Welfare Pathway)
- Joint Fisheries Strategy
- Gene Editing
- Cat and Dog Microchipping
- Ending Trophy Hunting Imports
- Welfare of Fish at the Time of Killing
- Banning Third Party Puppy Sales
- Ending Fur imports

We work closely with Conservative MPs to enhance their knowledge of topics of interest relating to animal welfare.

This includes issuing briefings, helping with amendments, sharing of reports, polling and new data, and 1-2-1 tailored advice and support as required. Additionally we hold events and receptions to brief about key animal related issues and challenges.

In recent years, this has included activities such as:

- Joint Parliamentary Reception with RSPCA and Humane League UK on Hen Caging (Prohibition) Bill (Beatrice's Bill)
- Joint Parliamentary Reception with Conservative Environment Network (CEN) on animal welfare opportunities post-Brexit
- Joint Parliamentary Reception with Stop Live Exports Petition Team and Compassion in World Farming on Live Exports.
- Supporting MPs with Amendments for the Kept Animals Bill
- Annual Party Conference Events and Receptions with speakers including Dominic Raab MP, Deputy Prime Minister and George Eustice MP, Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

“ I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Lorraine Platt for the work she has done through the Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation to campaign towards several of the measures that we are bringing forward here today.

George Eustice MP, Former Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on introducing the Animal Welfare (Kept Animals) Bill at Second Reading in the House of Commons



**Conservative
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Our Patrons

We are grateful to have a portfolio of passionate, committed and well-known Patrons, who help drive our campaigns forward and help advance the welfare of animals in the UK and beyond.

The Late Sir David Amess MP

Conservative MP and a leading champion for animal welfare within the Conservative Party.

The Rt Hon Lord Goldsmith

Minister of State, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and former Conservative MP; and Minister of State for the Pacific and the Environment.

The Rt Hon Theresa Villiers MP

Conservative MP and former Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

The Rt Hon Sir Roger Gale MP

Conservative MP and leading Conservative animal welfare and environment advocate.

Lady Suzy Gale

Animal Welfare Campaigner, Founder of Animals Worldwide.

Henry Smith MP

Conservative MP and Deputy Chairman of the All-Party Group on Vegetarianism and Veganism.

Carrie Johnson

Environmentalist and animal welfare campaigner.

The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP

Conservative MP and Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Minister for Intergovernmental Relations and former Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; Secretary of State for Justice; and Secretary of State for Education and Levelling Up.

John Flack

Former MEP and former Vice President of the European Parliament's Animal Welfare Intergroup.

Stanley Johnson

Former MEP, environmentalist and animal welfare campaigner.

Tracey Crouch CBE, MP

Conservative MP and former Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Sport, Heritage and Tourism; and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Sport, Civil Society and Loneliness.

Dame Caroline Dinenage DBE MP

Conservative MP and Minister of State for Digital and Culture; former Minister of State at the Department of Health and Social Care; Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Work and Pensions; and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Women, Equalities and Early Years.

Elise Dunweber

Former Chairman of Esher and Walton Conservative Women's Organisation, Director of AAA Animal Sanctuary, Marbella.

Chris Loder MP

Conservative MP and animal welfare advocate, having introduced the Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Act to Parliament in 2021.

Anna Firth MP

Conservative MP and animal advocate, former Barrister and Councillor.

