

Cross Party Group Details

Cross Party Group Title: Cross Party Group on Animal Welfare

Group membership and office holders

Name of Group Chair: Carolyn Thomas MS

Names of other Members of the Senedd:

Jayne Bryant MS

Jane Dodds MS

Luke Fletcher MS

John Griffiths MS

Mike Hedges MS

Vikki Howells MS

David Rees MS

Name of Secretary and Organisation:

Will Morton, League Against Cruel Sports

Names of other external members and organisations represented:

Teresa Amory - Gower Bird Hospital

Malcolm Eames - Greyhound Rescue Wales

Hannah Evans - Dogs Trust

Scott Fryer - Wildlife Trust Wales

Daryl Gordon - Cats Protection

Jessamy Korotoga - Animal Aid

Natalie Harney - Naturewatch Foundation

Jes Hooper - Badger Trust

Chris O'Brien - RSPCA Cymru

Fiona Pereira - Animal Aid

Madison Rogers - Companion Animal Welfare Group Wales

Bethan Sayed - CAWGW (Companion Animal Welfare Group Wales)

Rachel Sharp - Wildlife Trusts Wales

Rob Simkins - Dogs Trust

Ruth Tingay - Wild Justice

Billie-Jade Thomas – RSPCA Cymru

Vanessa Waddon - Hope Rescue

Other meetings of the Group since the last AGM

Meeting 1

Date of Meeting: 31/03/22

Attendees:

Carolyn Thomas MS (Chair), Jane Dodds MS, Luke Fletcher MS, Mike Hedges MS, Dan Rose (staff of Carolyn Thomas MS), Vikki Howells MS (represented by Robin Lewis), John Griffiths MS (represented by Andrew Bettridge), Andy Knott MBE (League Against Cruel Sports), Will Morton (Secretariat), Martin Sims (League Against Cruel Sports, Bethan Sayed (Companion Animal Welfare Group Wales), Billie-Jade Thomas (RSPCA Cymru), Emma Slawinski (RSPCA), Fiona Pereira (Animal Aid), Jessamy Korotoga (Animal Aid), Scott Fryer (Battersea), Madison Rogers (Cats Protection), Ed Hayes (The Kennel Club), Holly Conway (The Kennel Club), Hannah Evans (Dogs Trust), Teresa Amory (Gower Bird Hospital), Rachel Sharp (Wildlife Trusts Wales), Vanessa Waddon (Hope Rescue), Katie Harrison (League Against Cruel Sports), Jac Freeman (League Against Cruel Sports), Malcom Eames (Greyhound Rescue Wales), Mal Ingham (Expert witness).

Summary of the issues discussed:

The meeting was focussed on setting out priorities for the upcoming year. It also heard a report from Martin Sims about the impact of the shooting industry on animal welfare in Wales.

Meeting 2

Date of Meeting: 12/07/22

Attendees:

Carolyn Thomas MS (Chair), Mike Hedges MS, Dan Rose (staff of Carolyn Thomas MS), Luke Fletcher MS (represented by Yasmin Zahra), David Rees MS (represented by Stephanie Grimshaw), Andy Dunbobbin MBE (Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales), Will Morton (Secretariat), Billie-Jade Thomas (League Against Cruel Sports), Fiona Pereira (Animal Aid), Jessamy Korotoga (Animal Aid), Scott Fryer (Battersea), Rob Simkins (Dogs Trust), Teresa Amory (Gower Bird Hospital), Rachel Sharp (Wildlife Trusts Wales), Vanessa Waddon (Hope Rescue), Malcolm Eames (Greyhound Rescue Wales), Natalie Harney

(Naturewatch Foundation), Ruth Tingay (Wild Justice), Jes Hooper (Badger Trust).

Summary of the issues discussed:

The meeting discussed two topics. Firstly, a presentation by Animal Aid on their investigation into game bird breeding at Bettws Hall. Secondly, a discussion around greyhound racing and an overview of the evidence sessions held by the Senedd Petitions Committee on the matter.

Meeting 3

Date of Meeting: 05/12/22

Attendees:

Carolyn Thomas MS (Chair), Jane Dodds MS, Dan Rose (Staff of Carolyn Thomas), Sam Swash (Staff of Carolyn Thomas), Will Morton (League Against Cruel Sports), Billie-Jade Thomas (secretariat), Carl Lloyd (RSPCA Aberconwy), Nic de Brauwere (Redwings/Animal Welfare Network Wales), Rob Simkins (Dogs Trust), Claire Wilson-Leary (Dogs Trust), Daryl Gordon (Cats Protection), Scott Fryer (Battersea), Tim Doyle (Greyhound Rescue Wales), Vanessa Waddon (Hope Rescue), Peter Hambly (Badger Trust), Fiona Pereira (Animal Aid), Teresa Amory (Gower Bird Hospital), Chris Topping (Justice for Reggie).

Apologies:

Sioned Nikolic (RSPCA Cymru), Mal Ingham (Badger Trust).

Summary of the issues discussed:

The impact of the cost-of-living crisis on pet owners and the subsequent impact on animal welfare. The group also discussed policy around putting a stop to banning pets in rental properties. A discussion took place around developments at Valley Greyhounds in Ystrad Mynach. An update by the League Against Cruel Sports was provided on the ban on snares via the Agriculture (Wales) Bill and sentencing for animal welfare offences.

Meeting 4

Date of Meeting: 19/06/23

Attendees:

Carolyn Thomas MS (Chair), Jayne Bryant MS, Mike Hedges MS, Joyce Watson MS, Will Morton (Secretariat), Daniel Rose (Staff of Carolyn Thomas), Jac Freeman (League Against Cruel Sports), Jessamy Korotoga, Fiona Pereira, Billie-Jade Thomas, Russell Whiting, Alain Thomas, Natalie Harney, Daryl Gordon, Alex Findlow

Summary of the issues discussed:

Carolyn Thomas MS re-elected as chair of the CPG as well as the League Against Cruel Sports being appointed as secretariat. The RSPCA updated the CPG on a report which looks at the regulation of animal welfare establishments. A presentation was also given to the CPG on improving welfare of decapod crustaceans in Wales followed by a discussion on future priorities.

Professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations and charities the Group have met during the previous year.

[names of lobbyists/organisations/charities should be included as follows, e.g.]

N/A

Name of Organisation:

League Against Cruel Sports (ongoing support to the group as secretariat)

Other groups attend the meetings as observers but are not members or presenters.

Name of Group: Cross-Party Group on Animal Welfare

Annual Financial Statement

Cross Party Group Title: Cross Party Group on Animal Welfare

Date: 13/07/23

Name of Chair: Carolyn Thomas MS

Name of Secretary and Organisation:

Will Morton, League Against Cruel Sports

Title	Description	Amount
Group's Expenses	None	£0.00
Costs of all goods	No goods bought	£0.00
Benefits received by the group or individuals members from external bodies	No benefits received.	£0.00
Any financial support or other support.	No financial support was received.	£0.00
Total		£0.00

Services provided to the Group, such as hospitality.

All hospitality paid for [include the name of the group/organisation].

Date	Name and description of provider	Costs
		£0.00
Total		£0.00

