



# **ANIMAL WELFARE MANIFESTO**

## **General election 2024**

# WELCOME



Animal welfare matters to voters. Indeed, **85%** of Naturewatch Foundation supporters told us they think animal welfare will influence how they vote.

The next general election is a fantastic opportunity for parties and candidates to show they're serious about protecting the animals we share our homes and natural world with.

The recommendations that follow outline the pledges that Naturewatch Foundation and its supporters want our future MPs and government to commit to. Let's make the next election a **#Win4Animals**.

*Sarah Carr*

CEO, Naturewatch Foundation

The UK is one of the biggest users of animals in research in Europe, carrying out millions of experiments on sentient beings every year. There is a better way that's more ethical and human-relevant.

We want the next government to deliver an ambitious strategy to phase out animal testing, and invest in the development and uptake of non-animal methods (NAMs).



# END ANIMAL TESTING

## General election 2024





It's time to stop treating wildlife like rubbish. Crimes against wildlife, such as horrific badger baiting and cruel hare coursing, are currently recorded by the police in the same category as littering. We don't think that's right. We want wildlife crimes to be notifiable so that we can properly protect British wildlife from persecution.

As proud members of the Time for Change coalition, we also want the Hunting Act 2004 to be strengthened to consign hunting with dogs to the history books, once and for all.



# MAKE WILDLIFE COUNT

## General election 2024



# BREAKING THE LINK

## General election 2024



Far too often, animal abuse is a sign of other serious criminality, including domestic abuse. The Link is well established in academic literature, but too often overlooked in practice, which leads to missed opportunities to stop offenders.

We want our criminal justice law and policy to acknowledge the link between animal abuse and abuse of people so that public protection services can safeguard all victims of violence and coercive control. Protect Animals. Protect People.

For many of us, our companion animals are family, but too many illicit pet traders exploit the love we have for dogs, cats and rabbits for their own financial gain.

We want our welfare laws to be strengthened to properly protect pets used for breeding and to end harmful designer pet trends that consign animals to a lifetime of suffering because of how they look.



**STOP EXPLOITATION OF PETS**  
**General election 2024**

# ENSURE JUSTICE FOR ANIMALS

## General election 2024



Animal protections must amount to more than words on a page. As we approach the twentieth anniversary of the Animal Welfare Act 2006, we support calls for enforcement arrangements for animals to be improved.

We want animal welfare law to be enforced by people with dedicated knowledge and expertise, and for neglected and abused animals who have been seized to be rehabilitated and rehomed quickly to help remove barriers to enforcement.



## WHO WE ARE

Naturewatch Foundation is a charity that has been speaking out on behalf of animals since 1991 by:

- Campaigning peacefully against animal abuse.
- Lobbying to improve animal protection legislation.
- Raising awareness through education.
- Coordinating the World Animal Day movement to raise the status of animals around the world.



**naturewatch foundation**

**ADVANCING ANIMAL WELFARE**

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