

Course aims and objectives

The course aims to introduce solicitors, trainee solicitors, legal executives, barristers, pupil barristers, judges and legal academics to the work and goals of the Association of Lawyers for Animal Welfare. We are a new organisation, about to distribute our first publication: the *Journal of Animal Welfare Law*.

As an association we will:

- Take part in consultations and monitor developments in Parliament, the EU and other relevant international institutions;
- Highlight areas of animal welfare law in need of reform;
- Disseminate information about animal welfare law, including through articles, conferences, training and encouraging the establishment of tertiary courses.
- Through its members provide advice to NGOs and take appropriate test cases.
- Provide mutual support and information exchange for lawyers engaged in animal protection law.

The most obvious areas of practice in which lawyers' training and expertise could be used to promote the cause of animal welfare are those of criminal litigation, civil liberties and human rights. Other, perhaps less obvious, areas in which lawyers could make a valuable contribution include constitutional law, environmental health, planning, freedom of information, civil litigation, media law, associations and corporations, charities and so forth.

This seminar aims, therefore, to show members of the legal profession how they can contribute to animal protection.