



UK ANIMAL LAW CONFERENCE 2025

4-5 JUNE 2025

**The UK's
National
Animal Law
Conference for
Academics,
Lawyers, NGOs
and Students**

Hosted by the UK Centre for Animal Law &
the Animals, Nature, & Society Research
Group at Birmingham City University

PROGRAMME

UK ANIMAL LAW CONFERENCE 2025

TIME

EVENT

9:00-9:30

Day 1 - 4 June 2025

Registration: Tea & Coffee (Atrium)

9:30-10:00

Welcome: **Iyan Offor and Alan Bates**

Room: C192

10:00-10:45

Keynote Speaker:

Justin Marceau: Beyond Cages, Revisited: New Critiques and Alternatives to Carceral Animal Law

Chair: Iyan Offor

Room: C192

10:45-11:00

Break (Atrium)

11:00-12:00

First Panel Session



Animal Interests and Agency

Chair: Iyan Offor

Room: C192

Michelle Strauss:

Including animals in decision making processes – why it should be done and how we can start to facilitate it

Anna Caramuru Pessoa Aubert:

A phenomenological approach to considering animals' interests from their own standpoints

Animal Law Education

Chair: Natalie Harney

Room: C456

Maureen O'Sullivan and Marianne Walsh:

Ireland's First Undergraduate Module in Animal Law

Julie M. Palais:

Introducing Animal Law to a New Generation of Law Students in Nepal

Wildlife and Environmental Protection

Chair: Love Alfred

Room: C459

Deborah Legge:

Water regulation what does it mean for wildlife, people and the planet

Maya Pardo:

Challenging Animal Agriculture and Protecting Wild Animals with Ecocide Law



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12:00-12:15

12:15-13:15

EVENT

Break (Atrium)

Second Panel Session

Insects

Chair: Michelle Strauss
Room: C192

Shreya Padukone:

Insects as Stakeholders,
Recognizing non-human
interests in legal policy
(Trigger Warning)

Animal Legal Theory

Chair: Love Alfred
Room: C456

Ankita Shanker:

Legal Approaches to Animal
Protection: Instrumentalism,
Welfarism, or
Abolitionism?

Daniel Clark:

"He would be living":
Conjugating animal rights

Marine Mammals

Chair: Sam Hazle
Room: C459

Robert Allen:

Legal Personhood for
Whales

Bethan Smith:

Cultural Identity,
Biocentrism, and Making
Marine Animal Hunts Illegal
in the Nordic Region (Trigger
Warning)

13:15-14:15

14:15-15:15

Lunch - Room: C087

Third Panel Session

Animal Rights and Posthumanism

Chair: Claire Lathwell
Room: C192

Marina Baptisa Rosa:

Progressive Realisation of
Animal Rights: A Legal and
Conceptual Framework

Animals in Sport and Entertainment

Chair: Sam Hazle
Room: C456

Leanne Townsend:

A modern approach to
prosecuting and preventing
hare coursing (Trigger
Warning)

Pet Tenants

Chair: Love Alfred
Room: C459

Demi Mullen and Rachel Gaffey:

Lease or Leashed:
The Impact of Rental Pet
Policies on Tenants and
Animal Welfare



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14:15-15:15

EVENT

Third Panel Session Continued

Daijah Valentine: Beyond Systemic Anthropocentrism: A Posthumanist Approach to Factory Farming's Implications for Nonhuman Animal Welfare

Swesthiga Kumar:
The Unseen Struggle: Animal Welfare in the Entertainment Spotlight (Trigger Warning)

Amber-Louise Lundie:
The Blanket Pet Ban: Are there some areas of the UK more willing to accept pet tenants living in private rental homes compared to other areas of the UK? (Trigger Warning)

15:15-15:30

Break (Atrium)

15:30-16:30

Fourth Panel Session

Companion Animal Regulation

Chair: Natalie Harney
Room: C192

Alicia Bennett:

Recent developments in Queensland companion animal welfare regulation: a study of regulatory delegitimacy and flawed animal welfare protection (Trigger Warning)

Natalie Powdrill-Wells:

Owner demographic characteristics and their association with awareness of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 amongst companion animal owners in the United Kingdom

Animal Law in Ireland

Chair: Michelle Strauss
Room: C456

Niamh Guiry:

Opportunities and Ongoing Obstacles to Addressing Wildlife Crime in Ireland (Trigger Warning)

Stephanie O'Flynn:

Using the Law to Advocate for Effective Animal Protection: Recent Developments in Irish Law and Future Prospects

Animals in Culture and Religion

Chair: Mo Esan
Room: C459

Gabriella Miller:

The Morality of Consuming Flesh: Cultural and Religious Influences on Eating Animals (Trigger Warning)

Alois Aldridge Mugadza:

Potential conflicts between cultural heritage preservation and pangolin legal protection in Zimbabwe

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TIME	EVENT
16:30-16:45	Break (Atrium)
16:45-17:30	Keynote Speaker: Chris Packham: Nothing but the truth a recorded talk exploring aspects of his campaigning, animal and environmental work
	Chair: Michelle Strauss Room: C192
17:30-18:00	Drinks & Networking (Atrium)
19:00	Conference Dinner (BAHA Vegan)



Sponsored by:



Crabs, lobsters, and prawns feel pain – but remain excluded from most animal welfare laws. Crustacean Compassion is an award-winning organisation campaigning to change that. Through bold advocacy, legal reform, industry accountability, and public engagement, we're reshaping how the legal system treats these sentient yet overlooked animals. Be part of the movement closing the gap in animal protection.

One of the cruellest practices still permitted in the UK is boiling animals alive. Our new campaign is calling for a clear legal ban on this inhumane method of slaughter. Join us and add your voice and help end this needless suffering. It's 2025, time to ban boiling alive.

Thank you to our 2025 UK Animal Law Conference sponsor, Crustacean Compassion

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EVENT

9:00-9:30

Day 2 - 5 June 2025

Registration: Tea & Coffee (Atrium)

9:30-10:00

Plenary Address:

**Ankita Shanker: Protecting
Animal Rights
through Theory and Practice:
Academic
Research, Vocational Training,
and Interdisciplinarity**



Chair: Iyan Offor
Room: C192

10:00-10:45

Keynote Speaker:

**David Thomas: The Law: An Essential Part
of the Animal Campaigner's Armoury**

Chair: Iyan Offor
Room: C192



10:45-11:00

Break (Atrium)

11:00-12:00

Workshops

Workshop 1: Promoting Animal Protection in Public Body Decision- Making Processes:

Philip Rule KC & Jessica Allen

Chair: Michelle Strauss
Room: C192

Workshop 2: Wildlife Crime Status and the Need for Reform:

Kate Allberry, Jim Clark, Craig Fellowes
MBE, Helga Hegny, & Angus Nurse

Chair: Mo Esan
Room: C456



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Break (Atrium)

12:15-13:15

Workshops

**Workshop 1 Continued:
Promoting Animal Protection in Public
Body Decision-Making Processes:**

Philip Rule KC & Jessica Allen

Chair: Michelle Strauss

Room: C192

**Workshop 2 Continued:
Wildlife Crime Status and the Need for
Reform:**

Kate Allberry, Jim Clark, Craig Fellowes MBE,
Helga Hegny, & Angus Nurse

Chair: Mo Esan

Room: C456

13:15-14:15

Lunch

Room: C455/457

14:15-15:15

Fifth Panel Session

Recognising Animals

Chair: Michelle Strauss

Room: C192

Yann Prisner-Levyne:

Laws of the jungle: For the
legal recognition of laws and
customs of the Animal
Kingdom

Iyan Offer:

Critical Animal Studies Have
Arrived! The Evolution of
Animal Law's Theoretical
Basis

Animals in Research

Chair: Claire Lathwell

Room: C456

Jessie Hellier:

Genetically altered animals
in research – past, present,
and future concerns

Rosa María Cajiga:

Limitations of the 3Rs in
the legislation on the
protection of animals used
in research: A comparative
legal analysis of the EU
and Switzerland

Companion Animal Species

Chair: Mo Esan

Room: C459

Helen Tedds:

Using AI to investigate the
unregulated online sales of
pet herptiles across
England

Katherine Hannigan:

XL Bullies in Care
Proceedings



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15:30-16:30

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Break (Atrium)

Sixth Panel Session

Innovative Legal Avenues for Animal Protection

Chair: Sam Hazle

Room: C192

Mariia Domina:

2024 – How can corporate social responsibility of commercial companies improve the lives of animals

Saba Pipia:

Hate Speech against Animals

One Medicine and Behaviour Change

Chair: Love Alfred

Room: C456

Lisa Sinnott:

Human Behaviour Changes
– Big Welfare Change for Animals

Iva Hauptmannova and Andrea Short:

Development of an Ethical Framework to Support One Medicine: A PGIE Consensus Approach

Animal Justice and Enforcement

Chair: Iyan Offor

Room: C459

Kiran Chand:

Access to Justice for Animals
– Access to justice, legal profession, law enforcement

Liz Crocker and Nadia Hards

The RSPCA: Prevention or Promotion?

15:30-16:30

Closing remarks

Room: C192

Co-hosted by:



BIRMINGHAM CITY
University



The views expressed during the conference are those of the speakers and participants and do not necessarily represent those of The UK Centre for Animal Law or Birmingham City University.