

YOUR TEAM IS GOING TO RESEARCH

# Brexit

and speak **for and against** whether Brexit is good for animal welfare

This brief has been produced as part of the **RSPCA's Animal Welfare: The Great Debate** and is a starting point for the research you will need to do into the subject in order to ensure a successful debate. The points for or against a subject may not be RSPCA policy and represent some of the wider thinking around the subject.

- The UK voted to leave the European Union (EU) in a referendum in 2016. From 29 March 2019, the UK will no longer be a member.
- This means that EU law, which currently covers lots of key areas like rights for workers and protecting the environment, will no longer apply in the UK.
- A lot of law relating to animal welfare is made by the EU. We will now have to make our own choices to replace it and whether we strengthen our standards, weaken them, or leave them as they are.

## FOR

Here are some reasons why Brexit **is good** for animal welfare – what other points can you find?

- Brexit is an opportunity to strengthen animal welfare protection in the UK.
- The EU has stopped us taking action that would have improved animal welfare in some cases. Now we can press on and make these improvements on our own.
- We will have new powers to make our own trade deals – on what and how we buy from and sell to other countries. We can use these powers to make other countries strengthen their animal welfare standards to match ours.

## AGAINST

Here are some reasons why Brexit **is not good** for animal welfare – can you find any more?

- Brexit is such a huge and complicated process, animal welfare could be forgotten and standards allowed to slip.
- Trade deals are a threat to animal welfare. Other countries could sell the UK animal products where the animals have been raised to lower welfare standards, and because these products would be cheaper they would financially harm British farmers too.
- The fact is Brexit is full of things we don't know. How can we be certain what will happen to animals?

## Information you may want to find out

- How much animal welfare law currently comes from the EU? Which animals will be affected?
- What is the Welsh Government proposing in relation to this topic? What laws has it passed or proposed already?
- How do trade deals work? Why are they so important?

## Potential sources of information

- RSPCA website: [www.rspca.cymru](http://www.rspca.cymru)
- Political Animal website: [www.politicalanimal.wales](http://www.politicalanimal.wales)
- RSPCA facts and figures: <http://media.rspca.org.uk/media/facts>
- Welsh Government website: [www.gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside](http://www.gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside)



## MAE EICH TÎM YN MYND I YMCHWILIO I

# Brexit

a siarad **o blaid ac yn erbyn** a yw Brexit yn dda i les anifeiliaid ai peidio

Mae'r briff hwn wedi'i lunio fel rhan o **Ddadl Fawr yr RSPCA: Lles Anifeiliaid ac mae'n fan cychwyn i'r ymchwil y bydd angen i chi ei wneud i'r pwnc er mwyn cael dadl lwyddiannus.**  
**Mae'n bosibl na fydd rhai pwyntiau o blaid neu yn erbyn pwnc yn bolisi gan yr RSPCA, a'r pwyntiau yn cynrychioli peth o'r meddylfryd ehangach am y pwnc.**

- Pleidleisiodd y Deyrnas Unedig i adael yr Undeb Ewropeaidd (UE) mewn refferendwm yn 2016. O 29 Mawrth 2019, ni fydd y Deyrnas Unedig bellach yn aelod.
- Mae hyn yn golygu na fydd cyfraith yr UE, sydd ar hyn o bryd yn cwmpasu llawer o feysydd allweddol megis hawliau i weithwyr a diogelu'r amgylchedd, bellach yn berthnasol yn y Deyrnas Unedig.
- Mae llawer o gyfraith sy'n ymwneud â lles anifeiliaid yn cael ei llunio gan yr UE. Bydd yn rhaid i ni nawr wneud ein dewisiadau ein hunain i'w disodli ac a ydym am gryfhau ein safonau, eu gwanhau, neu eu gadael fel y maent.

### O BLAID

- Dyma rai rhesymau pam fod Brexit **yn dda** ar gyfer lles anifeiliaid – pa bwyntiau eraill allwch chi eu canfod?
- Mae Brexit yn gyfle i gryfhau'r diogelu ar les anifeiliaid yn y Deyrnas Unedig.
  - Mae'r UE wedi ein stopio rhag cymryd camau a fyddai wedi gwella lles anifeiliaid mewn rhai achosion. Nawr gallwn ni fwrw ymlaen a gwneud y gwelliannau hyn ar ein pen ein hunain.
  - Bydd gennym bwerau newydd i wneud ein cytundebau masnach (*trade deals*) ein hunain – o ran beth a sut rydym yn prynu ac yn gwerthu i wledydd eraill. Gallwn ddefnyddio'r pwerau hyn i wneud i wledydd eraill gryfhau eu safonau lles anifeiliaid i gyd-fynd â'n rhai ni.

### Gwybodaeth y byddech o bosibl am chwilio amdani

- Faint o gyfraith lles anifeiliaid sy'n dod o'r UE ar hyn o bryd? Pa anifeiliaid fydd yn cael eu heffeithio?
- Beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei gynnig mewn perthynas â'r pwnc hwn? Pa gyfreithiau maen nhw wedi eu pasio neu eisoes wedi'u cynnig?
- Sut mae cytundebau masnach yn gweithio? Pam maen nhw mor bwysig?

### Ffynonellau posibl i gael gwybodaeth

- Gwefan yr RSPCA: [www.rspca.cymru](http://www.rspca.cymru)
- Gwefan Political Animal: [www.politicalanimal.wales](http://www.politicalanimal.wales)
- Ffeithiau a ffigyrâu'r RSPCA: <http://media.rspca.org.uk/media/facts>
- Gwefan Llywodraeth Cymru: [www.gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/?lang=cy](http://www.gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/?lang=cy)

