



# EQUINE WELFARE INDICATORS

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#### RSPCA Cymru

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# Foreword

## ALUN DAVIES AM, MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND FOOD

I am delighted to be asked to provide the foreword to this report on equine welfare indicators. The plight of many of the equines in Wales was evident to me long before my appointment to this Ministerial post and as such I have made it a key priority to introduce new legislation to aid those organisations tackling the problem on the ground.

I am acutely aware that both local authorities and charities including the RSPCA have been struggling to cope with the large numbers of equines that have appeared in public places without lawful authority or on other land without consent. Having made Welsh Government funding of £150,000 available to local authorities to assist them in taking forward prosecution cases I am pleased to see that this has resulted in a number of successful prosecutions by both local authorities and the RSPCA which sends a very clear message that we in Wales will not tolerate this nuisance or the associated animal cruelty. I am aiming to introduce new legislation that will make those individuals who fly graze horses and ponies accountable for their actions, and address the unacceptable nuisance of fly grazing that causes social, public safety, economic and environmental harm, and places financial burdens on individuals and the taxpayer. This legislation will provide local authorities across Wales with the tools to enable them to seize, impound and dispose of horses as appropriate and where circumstances dictate.

I am very encouraged by the ongoing partnership work that is taking place in respect of equines however this RSPCA report is very timely and highlights the need for a continuation of cooperative working to improve the welfare standards of horses and ponies in Wales. In Government we are committed to a range of proposals including working with key stakeholders to encourage responsible ownership as part of a long term sustainable future for equines in our countryside in Wales where they are adequately protected from suffering. I welcome this report by the RSPCA and I look forward to continuing working with them and others in protecting equines in Wales.



## STEVE CARTER, RSPCA NATIONAL DIRECTOR FOR WALES

As the lead Director for equine issues (across England and Wales) I am particularly delighted the RSPCA has produced the first set of equine welfare indicators for Wales. It is especially timely as this is the year the Welsh Government has brought forward proposals to tackle the problems facing equines. Wales was the first country in the UK to introduce a Code of Practice for Equines, which is an essential tool in our everyday work to educate equine owners. It is also an important document for establishing acceptable standards, of course, when all else has failed and it is, unfortunately, necessary to take a prosecution.

In June 2012 RSPCA Cymru hosted, with the Welsh Government and our equine partners, the first equine summit for all interested stakeholders, following which we produced the report *Left on the verge*, see: [www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion](http://www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion). Then in April 2013 we ran an innovative web-based campaign which saw an additional 500 responses to the Welsh Government's consultation on fly-grazing and abandonment of horses. More about the solutions to those problems can be read in our response (also at the address above) and in the pages of this report, which is also aiming to be a snapshot of what is happening with regard to equine welfare in Wales today.

We are honoured that the Minister has been kind enough to write a foreword for the report. It is indicative, we believe, of the good working relationship we have with the Welsh Government and the importance he places on equine issues. We are equally proud of our partnerships with Assembly Members, local authorities, as well as many other statutory partners and NGOs. Such networks are essential to resolve large-scale animal welfare problems and also in the context of this report they are essential in the collection of data so that we might obtain the truest picture. Our work together to improve standards of animal welfare is as important now as it has ever been.



# RSPCA Cymru statistics

## IMPORTANT FACTS AND FIGURES ON THE RSPCA'S WORK IN WALES IN 2012

**FOURTEEN**

RSPCA branches  
covering  
all of Wales

**THREE**

animal centres<sup>1</sup>

**ONE**

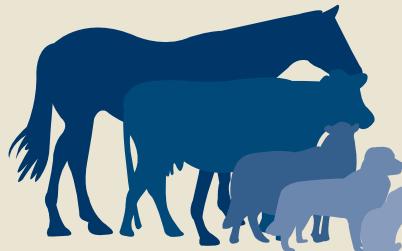
purpose built  
clinic in Merthyr Tydfil



**46,000**  
calls received  
which is **one in  
66 people**



**346** teacher-training  
students educated on how  
to include animal welfare  
education in their teaching



**8,847**

total animals collected, rescued,  
seized or signed over

**24/7**  
cover by

**28** Inspectors  
**Seven** Animal  
Collection Officers  
**Four** Animal Welfare  
Officers  
**Three** Chief Inspectors  
**One** Superintendent

**74 cases**  
reported to RSPCA  
Prosecutions

**20%**  
on 2011

**288 people**  
reported to RSPCA  
Prosecutions<sup>2</sup>

**31%**  
on 2011

**61 people**  
cautioned

**20%**  
on 2011

**248 court convictions**  
secured<sup>3</sup>

**4%**  
on 2011

## EQUINES IN WALES 2012

**COMPLAINTS**  
**2,207**

incidents/complaints  
involving a total of  
14,890 horses

**ABANDONED**  
**397**

abandoned  
equines  
responded to

**AWARENESS**  
**700**

copies of the  
Code of Practice issued  
by RSPCA Inspectors<sup>4</sup>

**COSTS**  
**£600**

can be the cost per day  
for the care of horses in  
multiple horse prosecutions

**HANDED**  
**374**

equines collected, rescued,  
signed over or seized by  
RSPCA Inspectors

<sup>1</sup>One is the separately registered charity RSPCA Branch Llys Nini.

<sup>2</sup>122 people reported but no prosecution or caution issued due to public interest and/or evidential tests not met.

<sup>3</sup>Two defendants had all offences dismissed after evidence.

<sup>4</sup>A total of 3,500 copies have been issued since 2008.

# Introduction

**Equine Welfare Indicators brings together for the first time a collection of indicators that provide an insight into the welfare of equines in Wales. This follows in the series which includes 2011's Animal Welfare Indicators Wales<sup>5</sup> report which looked at a broader range of species and issues, and 2012's Dog Welfare Indicators<sup>6</sup> which tracked the status of key issues affecting the welfare of dogs in Wales.**

## Measuring animal welfare

This collection of indicators is a mere snapshot of some of the important equine welfare issues in Wales and it suffers, as any index will do, at the hands of the data. The RSPCA has long recognised the importance of measuring animal welfare but challenges remain in obtaining, mining and therefore analysing data from other sources. The Welsh Government's Companion Animal Welfare Enhancement Scheme which, amongst other excellent work, gathered baseline data, is sorely missed and should be reconsidered in future Government budgets. We would also wish to see equines included within the Government's future household surveys. Currently, calculating the numbers of horses in Wales is fraught with difficulties unlike other companion animals where estimates can be derived through pet food sales, amongst other methods. The British Horse Industry Federation's 2006 Strategy for the Horse Industry in England and Wales<sup>7</sup> estimated that at that time the horse population was between 600,000 and one million. The joint equine welfare NGO report *Left on the verge*<sup>8</sup> calculates, that of these, 7,000 horses are at risk, with 3,000 of those situated in Wales. Facts and figures, such as these, and those elsewhere in this report, will play a pivotal role if improvements are to be made to the lives of animals, because we live in a society that requires problems to be evidenced, and it is for this reason that we hope to see a return of the aforementioned Government scheme and a greater coordination regarding data between NGOs and statutory bodies.

## Facts and figures

Often reports such as these are expected to communicate only bad news, however there are instances of more encouraging developments. In June 2013, Wales' most prolific horse breeder was jailed for cruelty to horses in a prosecution by the RSPCA<sup>9</sup>. Parallel investigations and prosecutions were pursued by local authorities and the police surrounding anti-social behaviour and breaches of equine identification rules.

Also good news is the introduction of targeted projects designed to work with horse owners to encourage responsible ownership. In 2012 the Animal Welfare Network for Wales (AWNW)<sup>10</sup> brought together RSPCA Cymru, Dogs Trust and Cats Protection to run a series of projects in communities around Wales aimed at owners of pet dogs, cats and small furries. Each owner can have their animal health-checked, neutered, chipped, wormed and flea-treated for £10 and in 2013 these projects were also opened up to horse owners. In October, RSPCA Cymru, Redwings, World Horse Welfare, HorseWorld and the British Horse Society joined a Swansea Protect Your Pet & Horse event to offer a health-check, passport, wormer and microchip per horse for £10. We are hopeful these projects can be extended to areas where they are most needed across Wales.

Projects such as these are essential given the substantial problems in standards of equine welfare in Wales as the pages of this report will demonstrate. In an effort to tackle this, the RSPCA has issued 3,500 copies of the Code of Practice for Equines in Wales since its introduction to, arguably, those

owners most in need of education. We would like to see other equine welfare organisations and breeders mirroring this to ensure no equine is sold or rehomed without a copy. It is also important that owners are educated about the costs of owning a horse. *Equine World*<sup>11</sup> estimates this to be between £3,000 and £10,000 per year depending on livery, and this excludes the one-off or occasional costs such as euthanasia/carcass disposal, tack, transportation, yard equipment, stables, lessons or the initial purchase/adoption price – the average life expectancy of a horse is between 25 and 30 years. The cost of microchipping a horse (which must, by law, be carried out by a vet) varies but can be free or very low cost e.g. £10 at Protect Your Pet & Horse events if the owner meets the criteria set by the participating charities. If they do not qualify for that service or choose to have it carried out by their vet, the BHS<sup>12</sup> estimate that it will cost approximately £20–£25 plus VAT and vet call-out fee.

From our work on the frontline the RSPCA is firmly convinced that a range of measures are needed to tackle the rising equine crisis – these will be discussed in the pages to follow. We are encouraged that the Welsh Government has indicated it is minded to bring forth new legislation designed to tackle some of these issues. Also encouraging is the 57 percent of Assembly Members who responded to a summer 2013 RSPCA Cymru survey related to equine problems. Responses confirmed that tackling equine issues forms a central part of the workload of many AMs. Whilst the volume varies considerably, many highlighted how equine issues dominate to perhaps form over 80 percent of their animal welfare casework, with 38 percent of AMs highlighting fly-grazing as the biggest problem. Support for new legislation, more education and an increase in enforcement, along with collaborative working, were high among responses.

## The Indicators

Each of the indicators in this report identifies the welfare concerns and the current situation as well as recommendations for improvements. We have sought to use all relevant and most recently available data, which in itself highlights an issue. More is needed to truly understand the scale and depth of the problem. We urge government and stakeholders to coordinate further so trends can be identified, and the effectiveness of 'solutions' fairly monitored.

A publication of this nature intends to not only benchmark and demonstrate 'where we are' with animal welfare in Wales, but aims to be thought provoking, encourage change and make recommendations as to how improvements can be made. It is important for many reasons, not only from an animal protection perspective, and is essential for informing government both national and local, other stakeholders and the Welsh public. It is hoped this can be a valuable guide to what is happening in Wales with regard to equine welfare and means that problems can be identified and addressed, solutions established, and positive learning replicated across different issues.

<sup>5</sup>[www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion](http://www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion)

<sup>6</sup>Ibid.

<sup>7</sup>[www.bhic.co.uk/downloads/full-strategy-report.pdf](http://www.bhic.co.uk/downloads/full-strategy-report.pdf)

<sup>8</sup>[www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion](http://www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion)

<sup>9</sup>[www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-22915233](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-22915233)

<sup>10</sup>[www.awnwales.org](http://www.awnwales.org)

<sup>11</sup>[www.equine-world.co.uk/buying\\_horses/cost\\_horse.asp](http://www.equine-world.co.uk/buying_horses/cost_horse.asp)

<sup>12</sup>[www.bhs.org.uk/-/media/BHS/Files/PDF%20Documents/The%20Cost%20of%20Keeping%20a%20Horse%20or%20Pony.ashx](http://www.bhs.org.uk/-/media/BHS/Files/PDF%20Documents/The%20Cost%20of%20Keeping%20a%20Horse%20or%20Pony.ashx)



Photo: Joe Murphy/RSPCA Photolibrary

# Public awareness

## AWARENESS OF THE EQUINE PROBLEM, THE NATURE OF IT, WHAT THE SOLUTIONS MAY BE AND WHO TO CONTACT

### ANIMAL WELFARE CONCERN

For a number of years there has been an increasing debate surrounding the concern that large numbers of horses are experiencing poor standards of care in Wales. Many of these debates have been taking place at a political and stakeholder level due to the increasing burden and costs experienced by those involved in coping with the problems. It was not known before this poll<sup>13</sup> was conducted if there is a widespread recognition of equine issues amongst the general public. Suspicions were indeed reflected in the results of the poll which saw 39 percent agree there is a welfare problem with horses in Wales, only eight percent disagreed with that statement, however the majority, some 54 percent, didn't know.

### THE CURRENT SITUATION

The nature of the problem as experienced by the responders (statutory and NGO) will be discussed elsewhere in this report – this section is concerned with the public's knowledge. From those polled that agreed there is a welfare problem for equines in Wales, the highest rated equine issue was abandonment (79 percent). The question asked for the top three welfare problems to be reflected in the response and as such it is perhaps of no surprise that fly-grazing<sup>14</sup> (62 percent), cruelty (54 percent) and welfare (50 percent) came in as second, third and fourth. What was surprising is that overpopulation (14 percent) was not seen as a major issue to those who believe that there is an equine welfare crisis. This could mean that the extensive media coverage and recent public debates about the problem have not effectively communicated to the public that the statutory bodies and welfare organisations have been overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of horses; are over their individual capacities; and that they effectively cannot take any more animals.

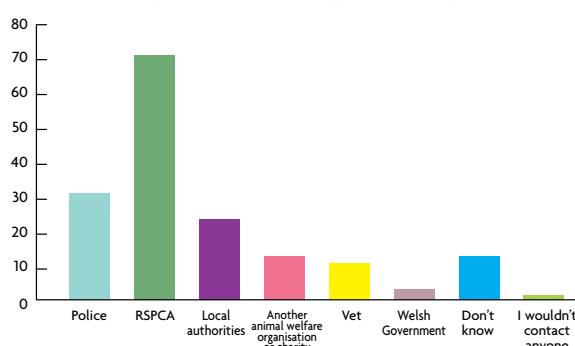
The top three solutions rated by responders who think there is a horse/equine welfare problem in Wales in order are: stricter rules on ownership (34 percent), stricter sentencing (28 percent), and more enforcement (21 percent), whereas changes in the law (three percent) and education (seven percent) had very low results. In a separate question members of the public were asked, if there was no alternative option for dealing with the large numbers of abandoned/unwanted horses, would they support a cull – only 26 percent supported this measure and 45 percent opposed it, which perhaps correlates with the lack of understanding as to the scale of the crisis facing welfare organisations.

Members of the public were also asked who they would contact regarding an equine welfare situation, and again they were asked to tick all those that apply. The RSPCA (71 percent) was more than twice as likely as other bodies to be called. Given the RSPCA's role and profile, this is perhaps to be expected.

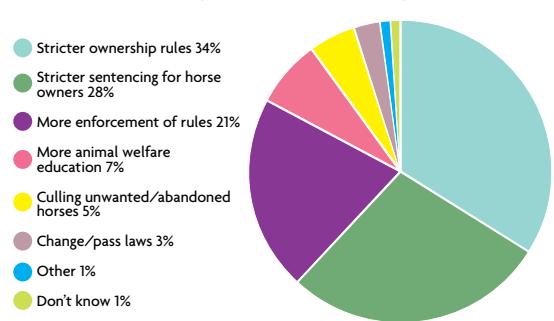
### » RSPCA recommendation

It would appear that the general public is not as aware of the scale of the problem as had been hoped. This in turn means that there are natural difficulties in comprehending the immense pressure on local authorities and animal welfare charities. For those that are aware of the equine crisis there is evidence that they know who to contact; however a public awareness campaign by all stakeholders is clearly needed about the scale of the problem in Wales.

**Who would the public contact to report a horse problem?**



**Which solutions the public believe may help**



<sup>13</sup>All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 1,012 Welsh adults. Fieldwork was undertaken between 18–22 July 2013. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all Welsh adults (aged 18+).

<sup>14</sup>Leaving horses on private land without permission.

Welsh Pony and Cob Society  
Cymdeithas a Hwylod o'r Cofod Ewropeig

SMOKEY

000000000000000000000000

23rd Feb 2005

DOCUMENT OF DESC

000000000000000000000000

## Equine Passport

### RECORD OF EQUINE VACCINATION

#### DOCUMENT OF DESC

For the identification of VEHICLES & VEHICLE PARTS, EQUIPMENT, PERSONAL PROPERTY AND COMMERCIAL INVENTORY. NOT FOR USE AS A PASSPORT.

06.11.2007

Lot 101

Auction House Stock Sale

PROCTION (GB)

21st May 2005

Maytown, Northern IRELAND

BY

AUCTION HOUSE (GB)

BY

FREIGHT (GB)

BY TRAILER (GB)

Photo: Joe Murphy/RSPCA Photolibrary

# Identification

## THE PERMANENT IDENTIFICATION AND TRACEABILITY OF HORSES

### ANIMAL WELFARE CONCERN

The animal welfare concerns regarding the identification of horses may not be initially apparent. Mandatory identification came first in the form of horse passports in Wales in 2005 and it wasn't until 2009 that a horse and its passport must be linked via a microchip (only for foals born after 1 July 2009 or those horses issued with their first passport after this date). These measures were introduced by the EU entirely as a means of safeguarding the human food chain and excluding any equines that may have had particular drugs administered. Only certain microchips have been authorised for use and they must be implanted by a vet, which incurs a cost. There are clearly other benefits from having the mandatory identification of equines, such as being able to trace owners quickly to resolve any welfare concerns, preventing theft and reuniting stray animals with their owners.

### Legislation

Equine Identification (Wales) Regulations 2009.

### Context

Following the 2013 horsemeat scandal where unauthorised and illegal horsemeat was discovered in the UK's human food chain, the EU Commission has issued a five-point action plan which identified equine ID as an area for review including the measures that Member States use to enforce the rules on horse passports. Included in the Commission's proposals is a requirement for all Member States to put in place a central equine database.

### THE CURRENT SITUATION

In 2012 Defra ceased to fund the National Equine Database (which also served the devolved nations) and as such there is no longer a central collection of all equine data despite the fact that they must be identifiable under the law. As such we have no data on how many equines there are in Wales, and what the levels of compliance are. This situation is further complicated by there being more than 70 horse Passport Issuing Organisations in the UK which has led to a total lack of consistency in both their format, issuance and compliance.

In Wales the enforcement of equine passport legislation falls to local authorities, however it is not a mandatory requirement that they respond to calls on this issue nor actively seek to detect non-compliant owners, and often they lack the resources in both funding and expertise to do so. When local authorities do respond, they often cannot trace an owner because the horse is not microchipped. Once the local authority pays a significant sum of money to make the horse legal to comply with ID regulations, the owner often appears to claim the horse, having circumvented the law and placing the financial burden on the public purse.

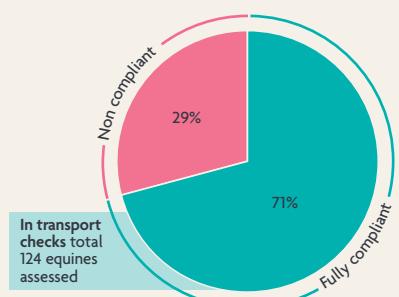
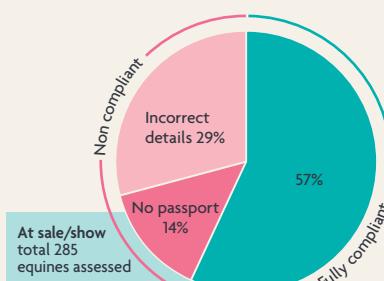
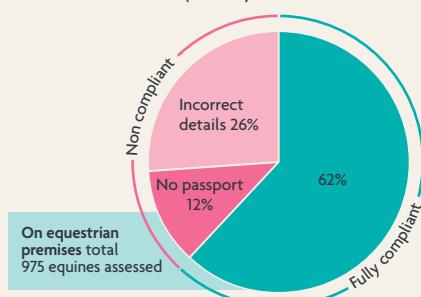
During 2013 a number of equine welfare groups including RSPCA Cymru combined their efforts under the banner of the Animal Welfare Network for Wales by extending their Protect Your Pet<sup>15</sup> projects to horse owners. These will mirror similar projects in England (called Link), which have been successful in targeting particular communities to have their horses health-checked, wormed and microchipped/passported at a massively reduced cost.

### » RSPCA recommendation

The reinstatement of the National Equine Database by Defra is clearly central to the efficacy of any system for traceability. Improvements to the legislation at EU level must also result in a single passport issuing body within the UK. All such measures must be accompanied by a sufficient amount of resources and funding from the Welsh Government for local authorities to reasonably enforce the legislation.

#### Passport compliance

North East Wales Equine Project<sup>16</sup>, Special Project Report, Welsh Government's Companion Animal Welfare Enhancement Scheme (CAWES)



Issues with passport compliance were also witnessed during the Pembrokeshire County Council Companion Animal Welfare Enhancement Scheme special project<sup>17</sup>, particularly amongst the larger transporters and in the travelling community. The project also identified a problem for enforcers in that there is often a lack of unloading facilities and a danger to staff when checking large shipments of horses.

<sup>15</sup>[www.awn.wales.org/protectyourpet](http://www.awn.wales.org/protectyourpet)

<sup>16</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/111215cawesrexhamen.pdf>

<sup>17</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/111215cawespemberton.pdf>



Photo: Joe Murphy/RSPCA Photolibrary

# Stray horses

## FIGURES ON LOOSE, ABANDONED AND FLY-GRAZED HORSES RESPONDED TO BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES

### ANIMAL WELFARE CONCERN

Stray horses in Wales are the sole responsibility of the police if they are on the highways, due to the possible danger to the public. However, local authorities are usually the lead in all other situations, but they are not obligated to respond. Due to the problems defining the specific horse problem, and a lack of clarity in law, the equine welfare charities are sometimes also called, particularly where poor welfare or cruelty is suspected.

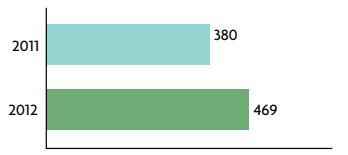
The total estimated costs for all enforcement authorities in Wales (police, local authorities, RSPCA and the Fire Service) since November 2011 amounts to some £1.2 million<sup>18</sup>. More detail regarding calls to the RSPCA are in the 'Neglect and irresponsible ownership' section of this report. This indicator tries to examine – where possible within the data – the specific issue of fly-grazing and straying animals at local authority level. Such animals can quickly become a concern in welfare terms because of their environment and nourishment.

### THE CURRENT SITUATION

A BBC Wales Freedom of Information (FOI) request in April 2013 found that incidents of abandoned and fly-grazed horses attended by local authorities in Wales had increased by 23 percent between 2011 and 2012, the worst affected area being Blaenau Gwent which had 34 incidents in 2011, followed by 148 in 2012. Neither Cardiff County Council nor Merthyr Tydfil were able to provide comparative figures and the Vale of Glamorgan failed to respond, which is very unfortunate as it is suspected there are significant hotspots in each of these areas. Some local authorities had very low figures or had seen a significant drop in calls but changes such as these – and even increases – could be as a result of changes in resourcing/funding as much as trends in the horse crisis.

Where individual owners have been deemed to be causing a significant problem, multi-agency partnerships – which have included the Welsh Government, police, local authority and RSPCA – have been effective in tackling the issue. This was summed up by Steve Thomas from the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA): "There is a clear commitment and a willingness from all the agencies involved to work together to deal with this problem. Fly grazing raises a number of serious concerns around animal welfare, the protection of public and private property, and also public safety. With the costs associated with legal and veterinary fees, livery costs, security, transportation and rehoming now spiralling, we look forward to the continuation of a coordinated response to this problem."<sup>19</sup>

**Number of incidents local authorities in Wales attended regarding loose, abandoned and fly-grazed horses**



Source: BBC Wales Freedom of Information Request. April 2013. 21 Councils responded, however Cardiff and Merthyr Tydfil were unable to provide a comparison and so were excluded from the above. The Vale of Glamorgan didn't respond.

### » RSPCA recommendation

A revision of legislation to incorporate the local Acts to make them applicable to the whole of Wales should improve the tools available to local authorities but alone it cannot be a panacea to the equine crisis. More multi-agency partnership working could be brokered by the Welsh Government and other schemes encouraged such as 'Gate Safe' in the Vale of Glamorgan – which helps enforcers contact landowners quickly – and guidance for landowners and enforcers alike would be welcomed.

### Legislation

- Animals Act 1971
- Animal Welfare Act 2006
- Code of Practice for Equines 2008
- Welfare of Animals Transport Order 2007
- Equine Identification (Wales) Regulations 2009
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Highways Act 1980 (section 155)
- \*Mid Glamorgan County Council Act 1987
- \*West Glamorgan Act 1987
- \*Cardiff City Council Act 1984
- \*local Act only applicable within a geographically-defined area

### Political situation

In January 2013 the Welsh Government made a grant of £150,000 available to help tackle fly-grazing problems through prosecutions and during March and April 2013 the Government ran a consultation on the issue of abandoned and fly-grazed equines. RSPCA Cymru ran a successful public awareness campaign of the consultation amongst our supporters that led to an additional 500 responses from supportive individuals.

An announcement in response, to include legislative measures, has been made by Welsh Ministers.



<sup>18</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/consultation/130716flygrazingconsultationresponsesen.pdf>

<sup>19</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/newsroom/environmentandcountryside/2013/7174074/?lang=en>



Photo: Joe Murphy/RSPCA Photolibrary

# Neglect and irresponsible ownership

## FIGURES ON COMPLAINTS TO THE RSPCA OF HORSE PROBLEMS

### ANIMAL WELFARE CONCERN

As has previously been discussed, there are inherent difficulties in all available data and as such some reports of an equine situation may be made to several agencies, both statutory and non-statutory. Cross reporting and duplication are therefore hazards that must be acknowledged but that cannot be overcome. However, this does not undermine the significance of some of the available statistics. As the poll on a previous page showed, the RSPCA is the natural choice for the majority of those wishing to report a welfare problem with a horse. Given the RSPCA's purpose and history, this is expected and to be encouraged. Such calls vary but the vast majority are regarding the neglect of an animal, with abandonment and flooding issues significant, but lesser reported. Much smaller numbers of improper killing, beatings and mutilations are also reported each year.

### Legislation

Animal Welfare Act 2006  
Code of Practice for Equines 2008  
Equine Identification (Wales) Regulations 2009

### THE CURRENT SITUATION

During 2012 the RSPCA received 2,207 complaints regarding a staggering 14,980 horses<sup>20</sup> with 13,845 of those being reports of neglect. Welfare issues were identified in 539 incidents that related to 4,585 individual horses and 34 incidents proceeded to a caution or court case regarding 604 animals. Many situations were deemed inconclusive or remained under further monitoring but only in 139 incidents involving 484 horses was it decided that there was no cause for concern.

Interestingly the complaints received by the RSPCA by county area do not mirror the results revealed by the BBC FOI discussed earlier, where Blaenau Gwent had the most significant figures. Indeed the RSPCA received the highest number of equine complaints from within the Swansea area, followed by Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire. However, in terms of the total number of equines affected per incident the Vale of Glamorgan came top followed by Bridgend and Carmarthenshire.

### » RSPCA recommendation

The RSPCA exists to respond to situations such as these reported each year. The causes for each of these individual cases is too complex to discuss when it is in respect of thousands of horses. The overpopulation and levels of irresponsible ownership can clearly be seen to have reached such a scale as to be declared a crisis. Across England and Wales the RSPCA has the capacity to care for 100 horses but currently has more than 800 in its care, which is a tremendous additional financial burden and cannot be sustained. Identical capacity problems are currently being suffered by all equine charities. It is hoped the multi-agency All Wales Equine Task Force (established November 2012) led by the Welsh Government to include all operational responders – WLGA, Police Authority, Fire and Rescue Service and RSPCA – can continue to facilitate the sharing of intelligence to bring those responsible to account and also be instrumental in bringing forth a comprehensive education, awareness and prevention package.

### RSPCA's number of equines involved in different types of incidents in Wales

Incident sub-type	Total
Abandonment	397
Beating	66
Damaged habitat	1
Disqualified from keeping animals	28
Fighting	2
Flooding	420
Heat exposure	18
Improper killing	107
Mutilation	6
Neglect	13,845

### Complaints received by RSPCA per local authority area

Local authority	No. of incidents	Total equines
Blaenau Gwent	61	135
Bridgend	90	2,733
Caerphilly	86	295
Cardiff	135	212
Carmarthenshire	207	1,577
Ceredigion	69	757
Conwy	48	81
Denbighshire	53	198
Flintshire	133	404
Gwynedd	84	349
Isle of Anglesey	70	193
Merthyr Tydfil	47	120
Monmouthshire	83	503
Neath Port Talbot	74	344
Newport	84	229
Pembrokeshire	157	1,060
Powys	95	437
Rhondda Cynon Taff	84	208
Swansea	261	1111
Vale of Glamorgan	180	3,568
Torfaen	49	169
Wrexham	57	207

<sup>20</sup>Unfortunately due to a change in reporting methods a comparative figure for 2011 is not available.



Photo: Philip Toscano/RSPCA Photolibrary

# Prosecutions

## NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS UNDER THE ANIMAL WELFARE ACT 2006

### ANIMAL WELFARE CONCERN

The Animal Welfare Act 2006 (AWA) significantly updated the Protection of Animals Act 1911 and, most importantly, introduced a welfare offence. This imposes a duty of care on a person responsible for an animal to take reasonable steps to ensure the needs of that animal are met to the extent required by good practice. Codes of Practice, to promote animal welfare, have been subsequently introduced for dogs, as well as rabbits, cats and equines. Even though horses in Wales are now more protected than ever before, especially with the introduction of the welfare offence, there are still times when prosecution is required when offences have been committed.

Prosecutions involving equines, often in large numbers, are extremely expensive. One such recent example in Wales has to date cost the RSPCA more than £221,000 in relation to the welfare and boarding of 59 horses. The case is still ongoing so the final costs, including the legal fees, have yet to be determined. This cost is somewhat exacerbated by the reluctance of some courts to use s20 of the Animal Welfare Act. This provision, when granted by the court, gives the prosecuting body the ability to dispose of the animals concerned before the court case is heard, and it is used where there are commercial and/or very large numbers of animals involved. The prosecuting body is not overburdened with the cost of boarding and rehabilitating those animals and also the animals can be found new homes and be placed in a far better environment – sometimes many months earlier than without using s20 – thus ensuring their welfare. There is some evidence that local authorities have had limited success in securing an s20, however the RSPCA's experience has not been so successful and indeed two were made in the court case mentioned above, to no avail.

### THE CURRENT SITUATION

Of the 46,000+ telephone calls received from Wales by the RSPCA's cruelty line in 2012, 10,493 were subsequently investigated as complaints with 2,207 of these being related to equines. In total 374 equines were collected, rescued, signed over or seized by RSPCA officers in Wales, which interestingly is nearly 30 percent of the Society's collections across England and Wales despite Wales having only six percent of that population.

In the context of these figures it may be surprising that there were only 31 convictions for cruelty and welfare offences in Wales in 2012 under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 as a result of prosecutions taken by the RSPCA and that this was a significant reduction on the previous year (see table below). It is also in stark contrast with prosecutions brought regarding other species<sup>21</sup>, however this perhaps serves to illustrate very clearly the difficulties with these types of cases and that often no owner can be traced in order to proceed with a prosecution. Another contributing factor is the use of improvement notices<sup>22</sup> (warning notices are also given out alongside the Code of Practice for Equines of which the RSPCA has issued 3,500 since 2008 in Wales). Whilst these notices are not statutory they are entered in evidence in court should an offender wish to ignore the advice contained within them. Fortunately in over 90 percent of situations where these notices are served the owners comply and the welfare of the animal is improved. It is also important to note that it is believed that very large numbers of equines (where there have been the majority of welfare problems) are owned by just a small number of people and as such it is significant as to precisely who is prosecuted rather than large numbers of prosecutions. In June 2013 one such high-profile offender was successfully prosecuted and was imprisoned after being found guilty on 57 charges of animal welfare and cruelty offences<sup>23</sup>.

### Legislation

Animal Welfare Act 2006  
Code of Practice for Equines 2008

### Context

The RSPCA (and others) are able to take prosecutions under various pieces of animal welfare legislation. In equine cases the majority of prosecutions and subsequent convictions are taken under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 and by the RSPCA, although some local authorities in Wales have also prosecuted under this legislation.

### » RSPCA recommendation

In an ideal world, neglect and cruelty to animals would not occur therefore investigations into animal cruelty and breaches of animal welfare, plus any subsequent convictions, wouldn't be necessary. Realistically, this will never be the case and whilst the RSPCA actively advocates education and prevention to stop suffering occurring, there will always be times when prosecution is required. Ideally the number of convictions for breaches of animal welfare legislation in Wales would fall each year.

RSPCA's number of equines involved in different types of incidents in Wales

Year	Total convictions (all species) Animal Welfare Act	Total equine	Equine cases s4 (cruelty)	Equine cases s9 (welfare)
2010	172	26	14	12
2011	239	64	36	28
2012	248	31	15	16

<sup>21</sup>[http://www.rspca.org.uk/webContent/staticImages/Flipbooks/prosecutions\\_review\\_2012/index.html](http://www.rspca.org.uk/webContent/staticImages/Flipbooks/prosecutions_review_2012/index.html)

<sup>22</sup>RSPCA warning notices mirror the provisions of section 10 of the Animal Welfare Act.

<sup>23</sup>[www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-22915233](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-22915233)



Photo: Joe Murphy/RSPCA Photolibrary

# Tethering

## FIGURES OF REPORTS OF HORSES TETHERED

### ANIMAL WELFARE CONCERNS

Tethering is not specifically illegal in itself, however tethering is not recommended as a viable way to keep a horse. Under the Animal Welfare Act owners have a legal duty of care to meet the five welfare needs of their horses at all times. Those who tether a horse could be in breach of the Act if it means that the animal's basic needs are not being met. If a horse needs to be tethered in order to have access to grazing, it must only be for short periods of time. For the remainder of the day the horse should have access to shelter, and a space to run free and interact freely with other horses. The Code of Practice for Equines has a specific section (Appendix 1) on tethering – which was developed after the Animal Welfare Act repealed the Protection Against Cruel Tethering Act 1988 – and this sets out the guidance regarding the practice. It is recognised that under the Highways Act it is an offence to allow horses to stray onto public roads and as such this must be prevented. However the welfare problems associated with tethering are complex, shelter such as trees can cause animals to become entangled but open ground offers no protection from the sun or flies. A horse's natural behaviour of walking long distances to graze cannot be reproduced and they are not able to enjoy the natural company of other horses.

### Legislation

Animal Welfare Act 2006

Code of Practice for Equines 2008

Highways Act 1980 (section 155)

Equine Identification (Wales) Regulations 2009

### THE CURRENT SITUATION

There are certain areas of Wales where the practice of tethering horses is commonplace. Also common in these areas are significant welfare problems related to tethering. One of the most common situations RSPCA Inspectors face is horses that have been tethered on uneven ground where they can sometimes hang themselves. Water buckets are also often knocked over and the grass quickly becomes non-existent. Sadly attacks on tethered horses by dogs and people is also becoming more common. These issues were confirmed in the findings of a special report Operation Mustang<sup>24</sup>, by the University of Bristol, which was commissioned as part of the Welsh Government's Companion Animal Welfare Enhancement Scheme 2008–2011.

Reports to the RSPCA of welfare problems associated with tethered horses rose in 2012 to 313 from 152 in 2011, which is an increase of 106 percent. The vast majority of these reports are in South Wales, with South West Wales – and specifically the areas around Swansea – experiencing higher incidents.

### » RSPCA recommendation

The significant increase in reports of the welfare of horses compromised due to their tethering, would suggest that the Code of Practice with its section regarding tethering is not effective. It may be necessary to conduct a project to examine more stringent guidance or perhaps whether a change in legislation is needed. A multi-agency public awareness campaign of the dangers associated with tethering is certainly required to aid the prevention of such cases.

#### Reports to the RSPCA of horses tethered with welfare problems

2011	Total	North & Mid Wales	South West Wales	South East Wales
	152	13	97	42
2012	Total	North & Mid Wales	South West Wales	South East Wales
	313	19	171	123



This is a good example of a typical situation for many tethered horses. The RSPCA Inspector called to this situation in the Swansea area during 2011 found the pony had not been moved in some time and it was not being properly cared for.

<sup>24</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/110914mustangen.pdf>



Photo: Jo Bowling/RSPCA

# Flooding

## INCIDENTS REPORTED TO THE RSPCA OF HORSES ENDANGERED BY FLOODING

### ANIMAL WELFARE CONCERNs

With weather patterns changing, more animals kept outside are in danger from flooding. The RSPCA is equipped to respond to emergencies such as these, with equipment and fully flood and swift-water trained RSPCA Inspectors, often also rescuing owners who have become stranded after refusing to leave their pets behind in an evacuation. Of course some floods happen with little warning, offering owners no chance to reach their horses, however in most cases responsible owners have ensured that where any potential risk of high water exists the animals have higher ground which they can easily reach. Animals that are grazed or kept in areas with frequent flooding need to be constantly monitored. Whilst horses can swim, they will usually remain still in the water until it reaches over their heads, but this will often be too late for any younger animals or foals with them, who frequently drown, particularly in tidal estuaries.

### Legislation

Animal Welfare Act 2006  
Code of Practice for Equines 2008  
Equine Identification (Wales) Regulations 2009

### THE CURRENT SITUATION

Reports to the RSPCA of horses that have fallen victim to flooding rose from 49 in 2011 to 154 in 2012, which is a 214 percent increase. It is difficult to know if this is because there is more awareness of the problem which is leading to an increase in reporting, or if the weather has resulted in more flooding or indeed if there is an increase in irresponsible ownership leading to animals left to suffer in high water. Some additional reports may not show in these figures either, as they will go directly to, and be responded to by, the Fire and Rescue Service and not involve the RSPCA.

Some of the reports to the RSPCA also relate to tidal estuaries, for instance in Loughor outside Swansea, calls from the public regarding problems with the equines kept on the mudflats of the River Loughor estuary rose from two in 2011 to 20 in 2012. After a multi-agency effort the owner was traced and the animals moved to a more suitable location. In Penclawdd however there has been a long-term problem with horses left on the salt marshes during very high tides which has resulted in a number of horses, and particularly foals, drowning. Calls from the public to the RSPCA's cruelty line have been increasing and thus solutions involving locating the owners are actively being sought. Farmers have used the land to graze sheep for many years with no welfare issues because the animals are removed at high tides. Unfortunately this is not mirrored by some of the local horse owners.

### » RSPCA recommendation

Responsible owners will check the Natural Resources Wales website<sup>25</sup> for up-to-date weather reports and will remove the horses from land that is at risk of flooding during vulnerable times. Unfortunately where these animals appear to be of lower commercial value there appears to be less incentive for irresponsible owners to do the same. Often these owners are also flouting the passport regulations and so tracing the perpetrators becomes impossible. Improvements to the mandatory identification of horses will be an important factor for tracing the owners and ensuring that horses are removed from danger in future.



Report to the RSPCA of welfare of horses at risk due to floods

Year	Total	North & Mid Wales	South West Wales	South East Wales
2011	49	13	12	24
2012	154	49	23	82

<sup>25</sup><http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk>



Photo: Joe Murphy/RSPCA Photolibrary

# Livery yards and sanctuaries

## NUMBER OF EQUINE ESTABLISHMENTS THAT ARE UNREGULATED

### ANIMAL WELFARE CONCERN

Both livery yards and sanctuaries remain unregulated and as such there is no way of knowing the standards of care horses are kept in. In recent years the RSPCA and local authorities have been forced to take action against premises that have advertised themselves as sanctuaries. In these situations the intelligence has come to light only after the animals have suffered considerably and over a period of time. Such cases can prove extremely costly because they often involve large numbers of animals. Without legislation to provide for annual and spot inspections there is no way of preventing such suffering. Where horses are hired out for riding or used for riding instruction it is an offence not to have an annual licence. However where horses are kept by animal sanctuaries or by their owners at livery yards, there are no requirements for a license and as such the standards on the premises are never subject to inspection by the authorities.

### Legislation

Animal Welfare Act 2006  
Code of Practice for Equines 2008  
Riding Establishments Acts 1964 and 1970

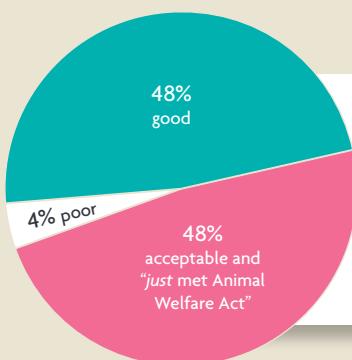
### Context

The Welsh Government has the means to introduce a scheme to regulate both livery yards and animal sanctuaries under s12 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006. Local authorities cannot currently access either such premises without first applying for a warrant that must be based on evidence and sufficient cause for concern, but it can be impossible to obtain such evidence without access. This is despite most such premises operating as open to the public. For many horse owners without sufficient land of their own, livery yards are essential and many sanctuaries in Wales provide a much-needed service for the long-term care, rehabilitation and rehoming of animals, but there is currently no way of preventing the suffering in either form of premises if they fall below the legal standards of care for animals.

## THE CURRENT SITUATION

The Welsh Government's Companion Animal Welfare Enhancement Scheme (CAWES)<sup>26</sup> 2008–2011 recorded 88 sanctuaries in Wales. Due to the lack of a recognised definition and also the problems associated with recording consistent data across the participating local authorities, this figure could be much higher, but we don't know which have equines. The Animal Welfare Network for Wales (AWN), which represents a selection of animal welfare related organisations across Wales, currently has 11 member organisations that have self-defined as being involved with equines and running sanctuaries. The AWN presented a comprehensive report<sup>27</sup> to the Welsh Government on the case for regulation of Animal Welfare Establishments or 'Sanctuaries' in Wales, which included consulting all relevant stakeholders as well as taking written and oral evidence from such parties. CAWES also reported a total of 319 livery yards<sup>28</sup> discovered in Wales, with a further 125 licensed and three unlicensed riding schools.

The North East Wales Equine Project<sup>29</sup> (CAWES Special Project) Report identified and inspected three sanctuaries with equines within its area, one was found to be good standard, one acceptable and one very poor with significant knowledge and standard practice problems. The project also identified and inspected 46 livery yards with a total of 685 equines – 447 of these were kept at DIY livery, 57 at part-livery (where the owner does some of the work) and 181 at full livery. The report details only six complaints of equine-related issues however a total of 48 percent of premises were deemed acceptable and "only just met the standards set by the Animal Welfare Act" plus four percent did not meet acceptable standards. The report concluded this subject by declaring that "...meeting the criteria set by the Animal Welfare Act 2006 is not adequate to be the minimum standard for a commercial equestrian premise".



### Animal welfare standard of 46 livery yards inspected in the North East Wales Equine project<sup>25</sup>

If these percentages were applied to the total livery yards found in Wales this could mean 13 premises could be found to contravene the Animal Welfare Act and 153 could be operating to the bare minimum standard.

### » RSPCA recommendation

Legislation is needed in order to ascertain the suitability of both the premises and the skill sets of the staff on site in order to protect all animals kept at such premises. With a licensing scheme that is fully cost-recoverable for the local authorities, there is the ability to ensure annual risk-based inspections, to include a veterinary expert, as well as provisions for spot-checks. The RSPCA believes such measures are crucial to protecting the welfare of animals in sanctuaries and livery yards.

<sup>26</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/110915cawesbaselineen.pdf>

<sup>27</sup>[www.awnwales.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/AWE-report-final.pdf](http://www.awnwales.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/AWE-report-final.pdf)

<sup>28</sup>Livery yards - was given a wide definition, from land rented for horse keeping to fully-serviced establishments.

<sup>29</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/111215caweswrexhamen.pdf>

# Stablau hurio a llochesau

## NIFER Y SAFLEOEDD CEFFYLAU HEB EU RHEOLEIDDIO

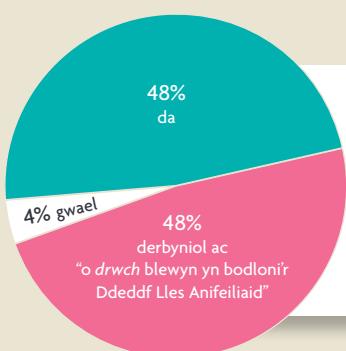
### PRYDERON LLES ANIFEILIAID

Mae stablau hurio a llochesau yn parhau i beidio â bod angen trwydded ac felly nid oes modd gwybod beth yw'r safonau gofal y cedwir y ceffylau ynddynt. Yn y blynnyddoedd diweddar, mae'r RSPCA ac awdurdodau lleol wedi eu gorfodi i weithredu yn erbyn lleoliadau sydd wedi hysbysebu eu hunain fel llochesau. Yn y sefyllfaoedd yma, ni ddaeth y wybodaeth i'r golwg hyd nes bod yr anifeiliaid eisoes wedi dioddef yn sylweddol a thros gyfnod o amser. Gall achosion fel hyn fod yn gostus dros ben gan eu bod yn aml yn ymwneud â nifer fawr o anifeiliaid. Heb ddeddfwriaeth a fydd yn amodi archwiliadau blynnyddol a hapwiriadau, nid oes unrhyw fodd o arbed dioddefaint o'r math hwn. Pan gaiff ceffylau eu llogi ar gyfer marchogaeth neu eu defnyddio ar gyfer hyfforddiant marchogaeth, mae'n drosedd peidio â chael trwydded flynyddol, ond pan gedwir ceffylau gan llochesau anifeiliaid neu gan eu perchnogion mewn stablau hurio, nid oes unrhyw ofynion am drwydded ac felly nid yw'r awdurdodau byth yn gwirio safonau ar y safleoedd hyn.

### Y SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL

Yn ôl data Cynllun Gwella Lles Anifeiliaid Anwes (CAWES) Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer 2008-2011<sup>26</sup>, cofnodwyd 88 lloches yng Nghymru. Oherwydd diffyg diffiniad cydnabyddedig yn ogystal â'r problemau ynglŷn â chofnodi data cyson ledled yr awdurdodau lleol perthnasol, gallai'r ffugwr hwn fod lawer yn uwch, ac ni wyddom pa rai ohonynt sydd â cheffylau. Mae Rhwydwaith Lles Anifeiliaid Cymru (AWNW) yn cynrychioli detholiad o sefydliadau a mudiadau sy'n ymwneud â lles anifeiliaid ledled Cymru, ac ar hyn o bryd mae gan y Rhwydwaith 11 o sefydliadau sy'n aelodau a'r rhain wedi diffinio eu hunain eu bod yn ymwneud â cheffylau ac yn rhedeg llochesau. Cyflwynodd y Rhwydwaith adroddiad cynhwysfawr<sup>0</sup> i Lywodraeth Cymru yn dadlau dros reoleiddio Sefydliadau Lles Anifeiliaid neu 'Lochesau' yng Nghymru, a'r adroddiad wedi cynnwys ymgynghori â'r holl randdeiliaid perthnasol a chael dystiolaeth ysgrifenedig a llafar ganddynt. Adroddodd CAWES hefyd fod cyfanswm o 319 o stablau hurio<sup>27</sup> wedi'u darganfod yng Nghymru, ynghyd â 125 o ysgolion marchogaeth trwyddedig a thair heb drwydded.

Lluniwyd adroddiad gan Brosiect Ceffylau Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru<sup>28</sup> (Prosiect Arbennig CAWES) ac ynddo archwiliwyd tair lloches â cheffylau yn ei ardal; cafwyd bod un o safon dda, un yn dderbyniol ac un yn wael iawn a chanddi grym broblemau o ran gwybodaeth ac arferion safonol. Nododd ac archwiliodd y prosiect hefyd 46 o stablau hurio oedd â chyfanswm o 685 o geffylau – cadwyd 447 o'r rhain mewn stablau hurio lle gwnâi'r perchnogion yr holl waith, 57 mewn stablau rhannol (lle mae'r perchenog yn gwneud peth o'r gwaith) a 181 mewn stablau hurio llawn. Dim ond am chwe chwŷn yn ymwneud â cheffylau y mae'r adroddiad yn manylu amdanynt, er hynny ystyrwyd fod cyfanswm o 48% o safleoedd yn dderbyniol ac "o drwch blewyn yn bodloni'r safonau a osodwyd gan y Ddeddf Lles Anifeiliaid" yn ogystal â phedwar y cant nad oedd ynt yn bodloni'r safonau derbyniol. Caeodd yr adroddiad ben y mwdwl ar y pwnc hwn drwy ddatgan "...nad yw bodloni'r mein prawn a osodwyd gan Ddeddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006 yn ddigonol fel y safon isaf ar gyfer safleoedd ceffylau masnachol."



#### Safon lles anifeiliaid mewn 46 o stablau hurio a archwiliwyd gan brosiect Ceffylau Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru<sup>29</sup>

O gymhwysor canranau hyn i gyfanswm y stablau hurio a ddarganfuwyd yng Nghymru, gallai hyn olygu y byddai 13 safle yn mynd yn groes i'r Ddeddf Lles Anifeiliaid a gallai 153 fod yn gweithredu i'r safonau gofynnol isaf posibl.

### Deddfwriaeth

Deddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006

Cod Ymarfer er lles  
Ceffylau 2008

Deddfau Sefydliadau  
Marchogaeth 1964 a 1970

### Cyd-destun

Mae gan Lywodraeth Cymru'r modd i gyflwyno cynllun i reoleiddio stablau hurio a llochesau anifeiliaid o dan Adran 12 Ddeddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006. Ar hyn o bryd, ni all awdurdodau lleol gael mynediad i safleoedd o'r fath heb yn gyntaf wneud cais am warant a rhaid i'r warant honno fod yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth ac achos pryder digonol, ond gall fod yn amhosibl cael gafael ar dystiolaeth o'r fath heb gael mynediad. Mae hyn er gwaethaf y ffaith fod sawl lle yn agored i'r cyhoedd. I nifer o berchnogion ceffylau heb ddigon o dir eu hunain, mae stablau hurio yn hanfodol ac mae amryw o llochesau yng Nghymru yn darparu gwasanaeth mawr ei angen ar gyfer gofal hirdymor ac i adfer ac ailgartrefu anifeiliaid, ond ar hyn o bryd nid oes unrhyw ffordd o atal dioddefaint mewn lleoliadau o'r fath os nad ydnt yn cyrraedd y safonau cyfreithiol o ran gofal i anifeiliaid.

### » Argymhelliaid yr RSPCA

Mae angen deddfwriaeth er mwyn canfod pa mor addas yw lleoliadau a sgiliau'r staff sydd yn gweithio ynddynt er mwyn amddiffyn pob anifail a gedwir mewn lleoliadau fel hyn. Drwy gael cynllun awdurdodau lleol, byddai modd sicrhau archwiliadau trwyddedu lle byddai modd adfer yr holl gostau i'r blynnyddol yn seiliedig ar risg, a fyddai'n cynnwys ar gyfer hapwiriadau. Cred yr RSPCA fod mesurau o'r fath yn hanfodol er mwyn amddiffyn lles anifeiliaid mewn llochesau a stablau hurio.

<sup>26</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/110915cawesbaselineen.pdf>

<sup>27</sup>[www.awnwales.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/AWE-report-final.pdf](http://www.awnwales.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/AWE-report-final.pdf)

<sup>28</sup>Rhoddwyd diffiniad eang i stablau hurio (livery yards), o dir a rentwyd i gadw ceffylau i sefydliadau a gwasanaethau llawn.

<sup>29</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/111215cawesrexhamen.pdf>



Llun: Joe Murphy/Llyfrgell Lluniau'r RSPCA

# Lifogydd

## ACHOSION O'R RSPCA YN CAEL GWYBOD AM GEFFYLAU MEWN PERYGL O LIFOGYDD

### PRYDERON LLES ANIFEILIAID

Gan fod patrymau tywydd yn newid, mae mwy fyth o anifeiliaid sy'n cael eu cadw y tu allan mewn perygl o lifogydd. Mae gan yr RSPCA yr offer i ymateb i argyfyngau fel y rhain, ac mae Arolygwyr yr RSPCA wedi'u hyfforddi'n llawn ar gyfer lifogydd a dŵr cyflym, ac maent hefyd yn aml yn achub perchnogion sydd wedi mynd yn sownd ar ôl gwrthod gadael eu hanifeiliaid anwes. Wrth gwrs, mae rhai lifogydd yn digwydd heb fawr o rybudd, gan roi dim cyfle i berchnogion gyrraedd eu ceffylau, ond yn y rhan fwyaf o achosion mae perchnogion cyfrifol wedi sicrhau bod gan eu hanifeiliaid dir uwch y gallant ei gyrraedd yn hawdd os oes unrhyw risg posibl o ddŵr uchel. Mae gofyn cadw llygad cyson ar anifeiliaid sy'n cael eu pori neu eu cadw mewn ardaloedd sy'n gorlifo'n aml. Er y gall ceffylau nofio, byddant fel arfer yn aros yn llonydd heb symud yn y dŵr hyd nes ei fod yn cyrraedd dros eu pennau, ond bydd hyn yn aml yn rhy hwyr i unrhyw anifeiliaid iau neu ebolion sydd gyda nhw, a'r rheiny yn aml yn boddi, yn enwedig mewn aberoedd â llanw.

### Y SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL

O edrych ar yr adroddiadau i'r RSPCA am geffylau sydd wedi dioddef mewn lifogydd, mae'r nifer codi o 49 yn 2011 i 154 yn 2012, sef cynnydd o 214 y cant. Mae'n anodd gwybod a yw hyn oherwydd bod yna fwy o ymwybyddiaeth o'r broblem sydd wedyn yn arwain at gynnnydd mewn rhoi gwybod i'r RSPCA, ynteu a yw'r tywydd wedi arwain at fwy o lifogydd ynteu yn wir a oes cynnydd wedi bod mewn perchnogion anghyfrifol yn gadael i anifeiliaid ddioddef mewn dŵr uchel. Mae'n bosibl fod achosion eraill nad ydynt yn dangos yn y ffugyrau hyn, gan y byddant wedi mynd yn uniongyrchol i'r Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub, a hwythau'n ymateb iddynt, ac ni fyddai'r RSPCA yn gysylltiedig â hwy.

Mae rhai o'r adroddiadau i'r RSPCA hefyd yn ymwneud ag aberoedd â llanw, er enghraift yng Nghasllwchwr tu allan i Abertawe, cododd nifer y galwadau gan y cyhoedd ynglŷn â phroblemau â cheffylau a gedwin ar draethellau lleidiog aber Afon Llchwchwr o ddwy alwad yn 2011 i 20 yn 2012. Ar ôl ymdrech aml-asiantaethol daethpwyd o hyd i'r percheneg a symudwyd yr anifeiliaid i leoliad mwy addas. Ym Mhenclawdd fodd bynnag ceir problem hirdymor yn ymwneud â cheffylau wedi'u gadael ar y morfeidd heli yn ystod llanw uchel iawn gan arwain at nifer o geffylau, yn enwedig ebolion, yn boddi.

Mae galwadau gan y cyhoedd i linell creulondeb yr RSPCA wedi bod yn cynyddu ac felly rhaid chwilio am atebion i fedru canfod y perchnogion yn gyflym. Mae ffermwyr wedi defnyddio'r tir i bori defaid ers nifer o flynyddoedd heb unrhyw faterion lles oherwydd cai'r anifeiliaid eu symud ar adeg llanw uchel. Yn anffodus, nid yw rhai o'r perchnogion ceffylau lleol yn gwneud yr un fath.



### Adroddiadau i'r RSPCA ynghylch lles ceffylau mewn perygl oherwydd lifogydd

Blwyddyn	Cyfanswm	Gogledd a Chanolbarth Cymru	De Orllewin Cymru	De Ddwyrain Cymru
2011	49	13	12	24
2012	154	49	23	82

### Deddfwriaeth

Deddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006  
Cod Ymarfer er lles Ceffylau 2008  
Rheoliadau Adnabod Ceffylau (Cymru) 2009

### » Argymhelliaid yr RSPCA

Bydd perchnogion cyfrifol yn edrych ar wefan Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru<sup>25</sup> i gael yr wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y tywydd, gan wedyn symud ceffylau o dir sydd mewn perygl o lifogydd ar adegau pan all llifogydd ddigwydd. Yn anffodus, pan ymddengys nad oes fawr o werth masnachol i'r anifeiliaid hyn anghyfrifol wneud hynny. Yn aml, mae'r perchnogion hyn hefyd yn diystyrur rheoliadau pasbort ac felly mae olrhain y troseddwyr yn mynd yn amhosibl. Bydd gwelliannau yn y dulliau gorfodol o adnabod ceffylau yn ffactor pwysig wrth olrhain y perchnogion a sicrhau y caiff ceffylau eu symud rhag perygl yn y dyfodol.



Llun: Jo Bowling/RSPCA

# Clymu ceffylau

## FFIGYRAU YNGHYLCH ADRODDIADAU AM GEFFYLAU WEDI'U CLYMU

### PRYDERON LLES ANIFEILIAID

Nid yw clymu ynddo'i hun yn benodol yn anghyfreithlon, ond er hynny nid argymhellir bod clymu yn ffordd ymarferol o gadw ceffyl. O dan y Ddeddf Lles Anifeiliaid, mae gan berchnogion ddyletswydd gofal cyfreithiol i ddiwallu pump o anghenion lles eu ceffylau ar bob adeg. Mae'n bosibl fod pobl sy'n clymu ceffyl yn torri'r Ddeddf os yw'n golygu nad yw anghenion sylfaenol yr anifail yn cael eu diwallu. Os oes angen rhoi tennyn ar geffyl er mwyn iddo fedru cael tir i bori arno, rhaid i hynny ddigwydd am gyfnodau byr o amser yn unig. Am weddill y dydd dylai'r ceffyl gael mynediad at loches, a lle i redeg yn rhydd ac ymwneud yn rhwydd â cheffylau eraill. Mae adran benodol (Atodiad 1) ar glymu i'w chael yn y Cod Ymarfer er lles Ceffylau, wedi'i ddatblygu ar ôl i'r Ddeddf Lles Anifeiliaid ddiddymur Ddeddf Diogelu Rhag Clymu Creulon 1988 – ac mae'r Cod Ymarfer yn nodi'r canllawiau ar gyfer clymu ceffylau. Cydnabyddir ei bod yn drosedd o dan y Ddeddf Prifyrdd i ganiatâu i geffylau grwydro ar ffyrdd cyhoeddus ac felly mae'n rhaid atal hyn. Fodd bynnag, mae'r problemau lles sy'n gysylltiedig â chlymu yn gymhleth, gall cysgod, megis coeden, achosi i anifeiliaid glymu eu hunain yn sownd ond nid yw tir agored yn cynnig unrhyw amddiffyniad rhag yr haul na phryfed. Nid oes modd ail-greu ymddygiad naturiol ceffylau i gerdded pellteredd hir i bori ac nid ydynt yn gallu mwynhau cwmni naturiol ceffylau eraill.

### Deddfwriaeth

Deddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006  
Cod Ymarfer er lles Ceffylau 2008  
Deddf Prifyrdd 1980 (adran 155)  
Rheoliadau Adnabod Ceffylau (Cymru) 2009

### Y SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL

Ceir rhai ardaloedd yng Nghymru lle mae'r arfer o glymu ceffylau yn gyffredin. Hefyd yn gyffredin yn yr ardaloedd hyn mae problemau lles sylweddol sy'n gysylltiedig â chlymu. Un o'r sefyllfaoedd mwyaf cyffredin y mae Arolygwyr yr RSPCA yn ei wynebu yw ceffylau wedi'u clymu ar dir anwastad lle gallant weithiau grogi eu hunain. Mae bwcedi dŵr hefyd yn aml yn cael eu taro drosodd ar glaswellt yn gyflym yn peidio â bodoli. Gwaetha'r modd, mae ymosodiadau ar geffylau wedi'u clymu gan gŵn a phobl hefyd yn dod yn beth mwy cyffredin. Cadarnhawyd y problemau hyn yng nghanhfyddiadau adroddiad arbennig gan Ymgrych Mustang<sup>24</sup> gan Brifysgol Bryste a gomisiynwyd fel rhan o Gynllun Gwella Lles Anifeiliaid Anwes Llywodraeth Cymru 2008–2011.

O ran nifer yr adroddiadau i'r RSPCA am broblemau lles sy'n gysylltiedig â cheffylau wedi'u clymu, cododd y nifer yn 2012 i 313, o'i gymharu â 152 yn 2011, sef cynydd o 106 y cant. Mae mwyafrif helaeth yr adroddiadau hyn yn Ne Cymru, yn arbennig yn y de-orllewin – ac yn benodol yn yr ardaloedd yng Nghymru.

### » Argymhelliaid yr RSPCA

Oherwydd y cynydd sylweddol mewn adroddiadau am berygl i les ceffylau yn sgil eu clymu a'u rhwymo, ceir yr awgrym nad yw'r Cod Ymarfer a'i adran ar glymu yn effeithiol. Mae'n bosibl fod angen cynnal prosiect i ystyried canllawiau mwy llym neu efallai ymchwilio a oes angen newid mewn deddfwriaeth. Yn sicr ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd am y peryglon sy'n gysylltiedig â chlymu i helpu i atal achosion o'r fath.

#### Adroddiadau i'r RSPCA am geffylau wedi'u clymu sydd â phroblemau lles

2011	Cyfanswm	Gogledd a Chanolbarth Cymru	De Orllewin Cymru	De Ddwyrain Cymru
	152	13	97	42
2012	Cyfanswm	Gogledd a Chanolbarth Cymru	De Orllewin Cymru	De Ddwyrain Cymru
	313	19	171	123



Dyma engraffft dda o sefyllfa gyffredin i lawer o geffylau sydd wedi'u clymu. Pan alwodd Arolygydd yr RSPCA i weld y ferlen hon yn ardal Abertawe yn ystod 2011 darganfu nad oedd y ferlen wedi ei symud ers peth amser ac nid oedd wedi cael y gofal priodol

<sup>24</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/110914mustangen.pdf>



Llun: Joe Murphy/Llyfrgell Lluniau'r RSPCA

# Erlyniadau

## NIFER Y COLFARNAU O DAN DDEDDF LLES ANIFEILIAID 2006

### PRYDERON LLES ANIFEILIAID

Aeth Deddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006 ati yn arwyddocaol iawn i ddiweddarau Deddf Diogelu Anifeiliaid 1911, gan yn bwysicach na dim gyflwyno trosedd lles. Mae hyn yn rhoi dyletswydd gofal ar unigolyn sy'n gyfrifol am anifail i gymryd camau rhesymol i sicrhau fod anghenion yr anifail yn cael eu diwallu yn ôl yr hyn a ddisgwylir o fewn arfer da. Ers hynny hefyd cyflwynwyd codau ymarfer i hyrwyddo lles anifeiliaid, gan gynnwys ar gyfer cŵn, cwningod, cathod a cheffylau. Er bod ceffylau yng Nghymru yn awr wedi'u diogelu yn fwy nag erioed o'r blaen, yn enwedig yn sgil cyflwyno'r drosedd lles, mae adegau yn parhau pan fo'n rhaid erlyn oherwydd troseddu.

Mae erlyniadau yn ymneud â cheffylau, sy'n aml yn golygu niferoedd mawr ohonynt, yn eithriadol o ddrud. Mae un engraifft ddiweddar yng Nghymru hyd yn hyn wedi costio mwy na £221,000 i'r RSPCA mewn perthynas â lles a lletya 59 o geffylau. Mae'r achos yn parhau felly nid yw'r costau terfynol, gan gynnwys ffioedd cyfreithiol, wedi'u pennu eto. Caiff y gost hon ei dwysáu i raddau gan amharodwydd rhai llysoedd i ddefnyddio adran 20 yn y Ddeddf Lles Anifeiliaid. Mae'r ddarpariaeth hon, pan y'i caniateir gan y llys, yn rhoi'r gallu i'r corff sy'n erlyn gael gwared ar yr anifeiliaid dan sylw cyn cynnal yr achos llys, ac fe'i defnyddir pan ymdrinnir â niferoedd masnachol ac/neu nifer fawr iawn o anifeiliaid. Golyga hyn nad yw'r corff erlyn wedyn wedi'i orlethu â chost lletya ac adsefydlu'r anifeiliaid hynny a hefyd gellir dod o hyd i gartrefi newydd i'r anifeiliaid a'u rhoi mewn amgylchedd llawer gwell – weithiau fisodd lawer yn gynharach na fyddai'n digwydd pe na ddefnyddir adran 20 – a thrwy hynny sicrheir eu lles. Mae rhyw faint o dystiolaeth fod awdurdodau lleol wedi cael peth llwyddiant wrth geisio sicrhau a20, ond nid yw profiad yr RSPCA wedi bod mor llwyddiannus ac yn wir gwnaed dau gais yn yr achos llys a grybwyllywd uchod, ond yn ofer.

### Y SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL

O'r 46,000+ o alwadau ffôn a ddaeth o Gymru i linell creulondeb yr RSPCA yn 2012, ymchwilwyd i 10,493 ohonynt fel cwynion gyda 2,207 o'r rhain yn ymneud â cheffylau. Cafodd cyfanswm o 374 o geffylau eu casglu, eu hachub, eu trosglwyddo neu eu hatafaelu gan swyddogion yr RSPCA yng Nghymru, ac yn ddiddorol iawn dyma bron i 30% o gasgliadau'r RSPCA ledled Cymru a Lloegr er mai dim ond chwech y cant o'r boblogaeth sydd yng Nghymru.

Yng nghyd-destun y ffigyrâu hyn, syndod effallai yw mai dim ond 31 o euogfarnau am droseddau creulondeb a lles a gafwyd yng Nghymru yn 2012 o dan Ddeddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006 o ganlyniad i erlyniadau a wnaed gan yr RSPCA, sef gostyngiad sylweddol ar y flwyddyn flaenorol (gweler y tabl isod). Mae hefyd mewn gwrthgyferbyniad llwy'r âr erlyniadau a wnaed ynghylch rhywogaethau eraill<sup>21</sup>, ond effallai fod hyn yn dangos yn eglur iawn yr anawsterau sydd ynghlwm ag achosion o'r math hwn ac yn aml ni ellir olrhain y perchnennog er mwyn medru erlyn. Ffactor perthnasol arall yw ddefnyddio rhybuddion gwella<sup>22</sup> (rhoddir copi o'r Cod Ymarfer er lles Ceffylau wrth roi rhybudd, ac ers 2009 mae'r RSPCA wedi dosbarthu 3,500 o'r Cod Ymarfer yng Nghymru). Er nad yw'r rhybuddion hyn yn statudol, fe'u cofnodir fel tystiolaeth yn y llys os yw troseddwr yn dymuno anwybyddu'r cyngor sydd ynddynt. Mewn dros 90 y cant o sefyllfaodd lle rhoddir y rhybuddion hyn mae'r perchnogion yn ffodus yn cydymffurfio a chaff lles yr anifail ei wella. Pwysig hefyd yw nodi y credir bod nifer fawr iawn o geffylau (lle cafwyd y rhan fwyaf o'r problemau lles) yn eiddo i nifer fach iawn o bobl ac felly'r hyn sy'n arwyddocaol yw pwy sy'n cael ei erlyn yn hytrach na nifer yr erlyniadau.

Ym Mehefin 2013 cafodd un troseddwr uchel ei broffl ei erlyn yn llwyddiannus ac fe'i carcharwyd ar ôl ei gael yn euog am 57 o gyhuddiadau yn ymneud â lles a chreulondeb i anifeiliaid<sup>23</sup>.

**Collfarnau'r RSPCA a sicrhawyd mewn Llysoedd Ynadon, 2010–2012 gan ddangos pob achos ac achosion yn ymneud â cheffylau yng Nghymru**

Blwyddyn	Cyfanswm collfarnau (pob rhywogaeth) Deddf Lles Anifeiliaid	Cyfanswm cefylau	Achosion cefylau adran 4 (creulondeb)	Achosion cefylau adran 9 (lles)
2010	172	26	14	12
2011	239	64	36	28
2012	248	31	15	16

<sup>21</sup>[http://www.rspca.org.uk/webContent/staticImages/Flipbooks/prosecutions\\_review\\_2012/index.html](http://www.rspca.org.uk/webContent/staticImages/Flipbooks/prosecutions_review_2012/index.html)

<sup>22</sup>Mae rhybuddion yr RSPCA yn cyd-fynd â darpariaethau adran 10 y Ddeddf Lles Anifeiliaid.

<sup>23</sup><http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/dragon/23197054>

### Deddfwriaeth

Deddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006  
Cod Ymarfer er lles  
Ceffylau 2008

### Cyd-destun

Gall yr RSPCA ac eraill erlyn troseddwr o dan rannau amrywiol deddfwriaeth yn ymneud â lles anifeiliaid. Mewn achosion yn ymneud â cheffylau, yr RSPCA sy'n gwneud y rhan fwyaf o erlyniadau, a chael collfarnau wedi hynny, a hynny o dan Ddeddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006, er bod rhai awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru hefyd wedi erlyn o dan y ddeddfwriaeth hon.

### » Argymhelliaid yr RSPCA

Mewn byd delfrydol, ni fyddai esgeulustra a chreulondeb i anifeiliaid yn bodoli, ac ni fyddai a phedio â gofalu am les anifeiliaid, heb sôn am hyn byth yn digwydd, ac er bod yr RSPCA yn parhau ar ddioddefaint, bydd yr angen i erlyn yn dal yn angenrheidiol ar adegau. Yn ddefnyddiol, byddai nifer y collfarnau am dynnu'n groes i ddeddfwriaeth lles anifeiliaid yn gostwng yng Nghymru bob blwyddyn.



Llun: Philip Toscano/Llyfrgell Lluniau'r RSPCA

# Esgeulustod a Pherchnogaeth Anghyfrifol

## FFIGYRAU YN YMWNEUD Â CHWYNION I'R RSPCA YNGHYLCH PROBLEMAU Â CHEFFYLAU

### PRYDERON LLES ANIFEILIAID

Fel y trafodwyd yn flaenorol, mae anawsterau anochel yn yr holl ddata sydd ar gael ac fel y cyfryw mae'n bosibl fod nifer o asiantaethau, yn statudol ac anstatudol, yn cael eu hysbysu am sefyllfa ceffyl penodol. Mae croes-adrodd a dyblygu yn beryglon y mae'n rhaid eu cydnabod ond ni ellir eu goresgyn. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hyn yn tanseilio arwyddocâd yr ystadegau hynny sydd ar gael. Fel y dengys yr arolwg barn ar y dudalen flaenorol, yr RSPCA yw'r dewis naturiol i ran fwyaf y bobl sydd am roi gwybod am broblem lles gyda cheffyl. O ystyried pwrras a hanes yr RSPCA, mae hyn i'w ddisgwyl ac i'w annog. Mae galwadau o'r fath yn amrywio ond mae'r mwyaf llithol yn ymwneud ag esgeuluso anifeiliaid, gydag adroddiadau yngylch problemau gadael ceffylau a llifogydd yn digwydd yn llai aml. Rhoddir gwybod bob blwyddyn hefyd am niferoedd llawer llai o ladd amhriodol, curo ac anffurfio.

### Deddfwriaeth

Deddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006

Cod Ymarfer er lles  
Ceffylau 2008

Rheoliadau Adnabod  
Ceffylau (Cymru) 2009

### Y SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL

Yn ystod 2012 fe wnaeth yr RSPCA dderbyn 2,207 o gwynion yngylch y swm syfrdanol o 14,980 o geffylau<sup>20</sup> gyda 13,845 o'r rheiny yn rhoi gwybod am esgeulustod. Nodwyd problemau lles mewn 539 o achosion a oedd yn ymwneud â 4,585 o geffylau unigol ac arweiniiodd 34 achos at rybudd neu achos llys yn ymwneud â 604 o anifeiliaid. Ystyriwyd bod llawer o sefyllfaoedd yn rhai amhendant neu eu bod yn parhau i gael eu monitro ymhellach ond dim ond mewn 139 o achosion yn ymwneud â 484 o geffylau y penderfynwyd nad oedd unrhyw achos i bryderu.

Yn ddiddorol nid oedd y cwynion a dderbyniwyd gan yr RSPCA yn ôl sir yn cyfateb i'r canlyniadau a ddatgelwyd gan gais Rhyddid Gwybodaeth y BBC y trafodwyd yn gynharach, lle cafwyd y ffigyrâu mwyaf sylwedol ym Mlaenau Gwent. Yn wir,

derbyniiodd yr RSPCA y nifer uchaf o gwynion yn ymwneud â cheffylau o ardal Abertawe, ac wedyn o Sir Gaerfyrddin a Sir Benfro. Fodd bynnag, o ran cyfanswm nifer y ceffylau yr effeithir arnynt fusel achos, Bro Morgannwg ddaeth i'r brig ac yna Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Sir Gaerfyrddin.

### » Argymhelliaid yr RSPCA

Mae'r RSPCA yn bodoli i ymateb i sefyllfaoedd fel y rhain y rhoddir gwybod amdanwyd bob blwyddyn. Mae'r thesymau dros bob achos unigol yn rhy gymleth i'w trafod pan fo'n ymwneud â miloedd o geffylau. Mae lefelau gorbologl a pherchnogaeth anghyfrifol yn amlwg wedi cyrraedd y fath raddfa nes medru ei alw yn 100 o geffylau, ond ar hyn o bryd mae mwy na 800 dan ei ofal, a hyn yn faich ariannol ychwanegol aruthrol nad oes modd ei gynnal. Mae'r holl elusennau ceffylau yn cael yr un problemau capaciti ar hyn o bryd. Mae'r Tasglu Ceffylau aml-asiantaeth ar gyfer Cymru Gyfan (a sefydlwyd ym mis Tachwedd 2012) dan arweiniad Llywodraeth Cymru yn cynnwys yr holl ymatebwyr gweithredol i sefyllfaoedd, sef Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, Awdurdod yr Heddlu, y Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub a'r RSPCA. Gobeithir y bydd y Tasglu hwn yn gallu parhau i hwylusor broses o rannu gwybodaeth er mwyn gwneud y bobl hynny sy'n gyfrifol yn atebol, yn ogystal â bod yn allweddol wrth fynd ati i gyflwyno pecyn cynhwysfawr ar gyfer addysgu, codi ymwybyddiaeth ac atal.

### Nifer y ceffylau yn ôl mathau gwahanol o ymchwiliadau gan yr RSPCA yng Nghymru

Math o ymchwiliad	Cyfanswm
Gadael	397
Curo	66
Cynefin wedi'i ddifrodi	1
Gwaharddiad rhag cadw anifeiliaid	28
Ymladd	2
Llifogydd	420
Perygl gwres	18
Lladd amhriodol	107
Anffurfio	6
Esgeuluso	13,845

### Cwynion a dderbyniiodd yr RSPCA yn ôl ardal awdurdod lleol

Awdurdod lleol	Nifer y digwyddiadau	Cyfanswm ceffylau
Abertawe	261	1,111
Blaenau Gwent	61	135
Bro Morgannwg	180	3,568
Caerdydd	135	212
Caerfili	86	295
Casnewydd	84	229
Castell-nedd Port Talbot	74	344
Ceredigion	69	757
Conwy	48	81
Gwynedd	84	349
Merthyr Tudful	47	120
Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr	90	2,733
Powys	95	437
Rhondda Cynon Taf	84	208
Sir Benfro	157	1,060
Sir Ddinbych	53	198
Sir Fynwy	83	503
Sir Gaerfyrddin	207	1,577
Sir y Flint	133	404
Torfaen	49	169
Wrecsam	57	207
Ynys Môn	70	193

<sup>20</sup>Yn anffodus, oherwydd newid yn y dulliau adrodd, nid oes ffigwr cymharol ar gyfer 2011 ar gael.



Llun: Joe Murphy/Llyfrgell Lluniau'r RSPCA

# Ceffylau strae

## FFIGYRAU AR ACHOSION O GEFFYLAU WEDI'U GOLLWNG YN RHYDD, WEDI'U GADAEL AC YN PORI'N ANGHYFREITHLON Y MAE AWDURDODAU LLEOL WEDI YMATEB IDDYNT

### PRYDERON LLES ANIFEILIAID

Cyfrifoldeb llwyr yr heddlu yw ceffylau strae yng Nghymru os ydynt ar y priffyrrd, oherwydd y perygl posibl i'r cyhoedd. Fodd bynnag, fel arfer yr awdurdodau lleol sy'n arwain ym mhob sefyllfa arall, ond nid oes reidrwydd arnynt i ymateb. Oherwydd anawsterau diffinio'r broblem ceffylau yn benodol, a diffyg eglurder yn y gyfraith, gelwir hefyd weithiau ar yr elusennau lles ceffylau, yn enwedig pan fo amheuaeth ynghylch lles gwael neu greulondeb.

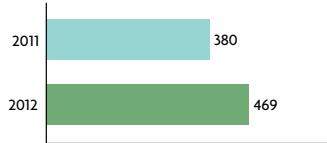
Amcangyfrifwyd bod cyfanswm y gost ar gyfer yr holl awdurdodau gorfodi yng Nghymru (yr heddlu, awdurdodau lleol, yr RSPCA a'r Gwasanaeth Tân) ers mis Tachwedd 2011 yn cyfateb i tua £1.2 miliwn<sup>18</sup>. Mae rhagor o fanylion ynghylch galwadau i'r RSPCA yn yr adran 'Esgelustod a Pherchnogaeth Anghyfrifol' yn yr adroddiad hwn. Mae'r dangosydd hwn yn ceisio ystyried - lle y bo'n bosibl o fewn y data - y broblem benodol o borri anghyfreithlon ac anifeiliaid yn crwydro ar lefel awdurdod lleol. Gall anifeiliaid o'r fath yn gyflym ddod yn destun pryer o ran lles oherwydd eu hamgylchedd a'r maeth iddynt.

### Y SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL

Gwnaeth BBC Wales gais Rhyddid Gwybodaeth ym mis Ebrill 2013 a darganfod bod yr awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru wedi delio â mwy o achosion o geffylau yn cael eu gadael ac yn pori'n anghyfreithlon, sef cynnydd o 23 y cant rhwng 2011 a 2012. Yr ardal yr effeithiwyd arni waethaf oedd Blaenau Gwent gan fod â 34 digwyddiad yn 2011, ac yna 148 yn 2012. Nid oedd Cyngor Sir Caerdydd na Merthyr Tudful wedi gallu darparu ffigyrâu cymharol ac nid oedd Bro Morgannwg wedi ateb, ac mae hyn yn drueni gan y tybir bod yna ardaloedd â phroblemau sylweddol ym mhob un o'r awdurdodau hyn. Roedd gan rai awdurdodau lleol ffigyrâu isel iawn neu roedd yng nifor y galwadau ond gallai newidiadau fel y rhain - a hyd yn oed cynnydd - fod o ganlyniad i newidiadau mewn adnoddau/cyllid cymaint ag i duediadau yn yr argyfwng ceffylau.

Pan ystyri'r bod percheneg unigol yn achosi problem sylweddol, mae partneriaethau aml-asiantaeth - sydd wedi cynnwys Llywodraeth Cymru, yr heddlu, yr awdurdod lleol a'r RSPCA - wedi bod yn llwyddiannus wrth fynd i'r afael â'r achos. Cafodd hyn ei grynhau gan Steve Thomas o Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru: "Mae'r holl asiantaethau wedi rhoi ymrwymiad clir a dangos parodrwydd i weithio gyda'i gilydd i ddelio â'r broblem. Mae pori anghyfreithlon yn creu problemau ynghylch lles anifeiliaid, amddiffyn eiddo preifat a chyhoeddus a diogelwch y cyhoedd. Gan fod ffioedd cyfreithiol a milfeddygol a chostau stablu, diogelwch, cludiant ac aiglar-trefu yn codi'n uwch ac yn uwch, rydym yn disgwyl ymlaen at barhau i ymateb ar y cyd i'r broblem hon."<sup>19</sup>

Nifer yr achosion o geffylau wedi'u gollwng yn rhydd, wedi'u gadael ac yn pori'n anghyfreithlon y mae awdurdodau lleol wedi ymateb iddynt



Ffynhonnell: Cais Rhyddid Gwybodaeth gan BBC Wales, Ebrill 2013. Atebodd 21 o gynghorau, ond nid oedd Caerdydd a Merthyr Tudful wedi gallu darparu data y gellid ei gymharu ac felly nid ydynt wedi'u cynnwys yn yr uchod. Nid ateboedd Bro Morgannwg.

### » Argymhelliaid yr RSPCA

Byddai diwygio deddfwriaeth i gynnwys y Deddfau lleol er mwyn eu gwneud yn berthnasol i Gymru gyfan yn gwella'r dulliau sydd ar gael i awdurdodau lleol, ond ar ei ben ei hun nid yw'n gallu bod yn ateb i bob problem yn yr argyfwng ceffylau. Gallai Llywodraeth Cymru drefnu mwy o weithio aml-asiantaeth mewn partneriaeth ac annog cynlluniau eraill megis 'Gatiau Diogel' ym Mro Morgannwg (sy'n helpu gorfodwyr i fedru cysylltu â thirfeddianwyr yn gyflym), a byddai croeso mawr i ganllawiau ac arweiniad ar gyfer tirfeddianwyr a gorfodwyr fel ei gilydd.

### Deddfwriaeth

- Deddf Anifeiliaid 1971
- Deddf Lles Anifeiliaid 2006
- Cod Ymarfer er lles Ceffylau 2008
- Gorchymyn Lles Cludo Anifeiliaid 2007
- Rheoliadau Adnabod Ceffylau (Cymru) 2009
- Deddf Diogelu'r Amgylchedd 1990
- Deddf Troedd ac Anhrefn 1998
- Deddf Prifyrdd 1980 (adran 155)
- \*Deddf Cyngor Sir Morganwg Ganol 1987
- \*Deddf Gorllewin Morganwg 1987
- \*Deddf Cyngor Dinas Caerdydd 1984
- \*Deddf leol sydd ond yn gymwysadwy i ardal ddaearyddol benodol

### Sefyllfa wleidyddol

Ym mis Ionawr 2013 rhyddhaodd Llywodraeth Cymru grant o £150,000 i helpu i fynd i'r afael â phroblemau pori anghyfreithlon trwy erlyniadau ac yn ystod mis Mawrth a mis Ebrill 2013 cynhaliodd y Llywodraeth ymgynghoriad ynghylch ceffylau yn cael eu gadael ac yn pori'n anghyfreithlon. Cynhaliodd RSPCA Cymru ymgyrch lwyddiannus i godi ymwybyddiaeth am yr ymgynghoriad ymhlieth ein cefnogwyr ac arweiniodd hyn at 500 o ymatebion ychwanegol gan unigolion cefnogol. Yn eu hynateb cafwyd datganiad gan Weinidogion Cymru, a hwnnw'n cynnwys mesurau deddfwriaethol.



<sup>18</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/consultation/130718flygrazingconsultationresponsescy.pdf>

<sup>19</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/newsroom/environmentandcountryside/2013/7174074/?skip=1&lang=cy>



Llun: Joe Murphy/Llyfrgell Lluniau'r RSPCA

# Dulliau Adnabod

## ADNABOD AC OLRHAIN CEFFYLAU YN BARHAOL

### PRYDERON LLES ANIFEILIAID

Mae'n bosibl nad yw adnabod ceffylau yn amlwg yn syth fel mater sy'n ymwneud â phryderon lles anifeiliaid. Y dull adnabod gorfodol cyntaf oedd ar ffurf pasbort ceffylau yng Nghymru yn 2005 ac roedd hi'n 2009 hyd nes bod yn rhaid i geffyl a'i basbort gael eu cysylltu drwy ficrosglodyn (dim ond ar gyfer ebolion a anwyd ar ôl 1 Gorffennaf 2009 neu geffylau y rhoddiwyd eu pasbort cyntaf iddynt ar ôl y dyddiad hwn). Cyflwynwyd y mesurau hyn gan yr UE yn gyfan gwbl fel modd o ddiogelu'r gadwyn fwyd ddynol ac i eithrio unrhyw geffylau a allai fod wedi cael cyffuriau penodol. Awdurdodwyd defnyddio rhai microsglodion penodol yn unig a rhaid oedd i filfeddyg eu mewnbannu, gan felly olygu tâl. Mae'n amlwg fod manteision eraill o gael dull adnabod gorfodol ar geffylau, megis gallu olrhain perchnogion yn gyflym i ddatrys unrhyw bryderon lles, atal lladradd ac aduno anifeiliaid strae gyda'u perchnogion.

### Y SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL

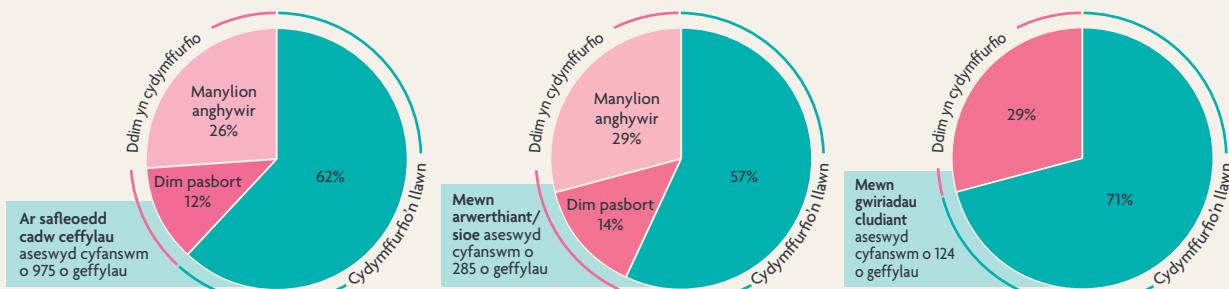
Yn 2012 rhoddodd Defra y gorau i ariannu'r Gronfa Ddata Ceffylau Genedlaethol (a oedd hefyd yn gwasanaethu'r gwledydd datganoledig) ac o'r herwydd nid oes bellach gasgliad canolog o'r holl ddata ar geffylau er gwaethaf yffaith bod yn rhaid medru eu hadnabod o dan y gyfraith. Fel y cyfryw nid oes gennym unrhyw ddata ar faint o geffylau sydd yng Nghymru, a beth yw'r lefelau cydymffurfio. Mae'r sefyllfa hon wedi'i chymhlethu ymhellach gan yffaith bod yna fwy na 70 o gyrff yn rhoi pasbortau i geffylau yn y Deyrnas Unedig a hyn wedi arwain at ddiffyg cysondeb llwyr yn eu fformat, eu cyhoeddi a'r elfen cydymffurfio.

Yng Nghymru, cyfrifoldeb awdurdodau lleol yw gorfodi'r ddeddfwriaeth yngylch pasbort ceffylau, fodd bynnag nid yw'n ofyniad gorfodol eu bod yn ymateb i alwadau ar y mater hwn nac eu bod yn mynd ati i chwilio am berchnogion nad ydynt yn cydymffurfio, ac yn aml nid oes ganddynt yr adnoddau o ran cyllid ac arbenigedd i wneud hynnyn. Pan fydd awdurdodau lleol yn ymateb, maent yn aml yn methu â dod o hyd i bercheneg oherwydd nad oes gan y ceffyl ficrosglodyn. Ar ôl i'r awdurdod lleol dalu swm sylwedol o arian i wneud y ceffyl yn gyfreithiol i gydymffurfio â rheoliadau adnabod, yn aml mae'r percheneg wedyn yn dod i'w golwg i hawlwr y ceffyl, ar ôl osgoi'r gyfraith a gosod y baich ariannol ar y pwrs cyhoeddus.

Yn ystod 2013, cyfunodd nifer o grwpiau lles ceffylau, gan gynnwys RSPCA Cymru, eu hymdrehchion o dan faner Rhwyaitha Lles Anifeiliaid Cymru drwy ymestyn eu prosiectau Diogelwch eich Anifail Anwes<sup>15</sup> i gynnwys perchnogion ceffylau. Bydd y rhain yn cyfateb i brosiectau tebyg yn Lloegr (o'r enw Link) sydd wedi bod yn llwyddiannus wrth dargedu cymunedau penodol i gael archwilio iechyd eu ceffylau, rhoi triniaeth llyngyr iddynt a gosod microsglodyn/rhoi pasbort iddynt am bris gryn dipyn yn llai na'r arfer.

### Cydymffurfio â rheolau pasbort

Prosiect Ceffylau Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru<sup>16</sup>, Adroddiad Prosiect Arbennig, Cynllun Gwella Lles Anifeiliaid Anwes (CAWES) Llywodraeth Cymru



Sylwyd ar broblemau yn ymwneud â chydymffurfio â rheolau pasbort hefyd yn ystod prosiect arbennig Cynllun Gwella Lles Anifeiliaid Anwes Cyngor Sir Penfro<sup>17</sup>, yn enwedig ymhlihyd y cludwyr mwy o faint a'r gymuned teithwyr. Hefyd, nododd y prosiect fod y diffyg cyfleusterau dadlwytho yn aml yn problem i orfodwyr ynghyd a'r perygl i staff wrth wirio llwythi mawr o geffylau.

### Deddfwriaeth

Rheoliadau Adnabod  
Ceffylau (Cymru) 2009

### Cyd-destun

Yn dilyn sgandal cig ceffyl 2013 pan ddarganfuwyd cig ceffyl anawdurdodedig ac anghyfreithlon yn y gadwyn fwyd ddynol yn y Deyrnas Unedig, mae Comisiwn yr UE wedi cyhoeddi cynllun gweithredu sydd â phum pwnt iddo ac yn y cynllun hwn nodir fod dull adnabod ceffylau yn faes i'w adolygu gan gynnwys y mesurau y mae aelod-wladwriaethau yn eu defnyddio i orfodi'r rheolau ar basbortau ceffylau. Gofyniad sydd wedi'i gynnwys yng nghynigion y Comisiwn yw bod pob aelod-wladwriaeth yn mynd ati'n ganolog i sefydlu cronda ddata ceffylau.

### » Argymhelliaid yr RSPCA

Mae ailsefydlu Cronfa Ddata Ceffylau Genedlaethol gan Defra yn amlwg yn ganolog i effeithiolwydd unrhyw system er mwyn gallu olrhain. Rhaid i welliannau i'r ddeddfwriaeth ar lefel yr UE hefyd arwain at un corff rhoi pasbort yn y Deyrnas Unedig. Rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru roi digon o adnoddau a chyllid i gyd-fynd ag unrhyw fesurau o'r fath er mwyn i'r awdurdodau lleol fedru'n rhesymol orfodir ddeddfwriaeth.

<sup>15</sup>[www.awnwales.org/protectyourpet](http://www.awnwales.org/protectyourpet)

<sup>16</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/111215caweswrexhamen.pdf>

<sup>17</sup><http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/111215cawespembporten.pdf>

Welsh Pony and Cob Society  
Cymdeithas yr Awdurdod o'r Cwpan Ffwrdd

SMOKEY

000000000000000000000000

23rd Feb 2005

DOCUMENT OF DESC

000000000000000000000000

## Equine Passport

### RECORD OF EQUINE VACCINATION

#### DOCUMENT OF DESC

For the identification of HORSES & YOUNGLINGS, BREEDERS, PRODUCERS,  
SELLERS AND PURCHASERS OF HORSES FOR SALE

06.11.2007

Lot 101

Auction House Stock Sale

PROCTION (GB)

21st May 2005

Maythorn, The New Valley

Wales

by AUCTION HOUSE (GBA)

2005.05.21. FREIGHT (GB)

by Freight ELEP ABROAD

Llun: Joe Murphy/Llyfrgell Lluniau'r RSPCA

# Ymwybyddiaeth y Cyhoedd

**YMWYBYDDIAETH AM Y BROBLEM CEFFYLAU, EI NATUR, BETH YW'R ATEBION  
POSIBL A PHWY I GYSYLLTU Â HWY**

## PRYDERON LLES ANIFEILIAID

Mae dadl wedi bod ar gynnydd ers sawl blwyddyn bellach ynghylch y pryder fod nifer fawr iawn o geffylau yn dioddef safonau gofal gwael yng Nghymru. Cafwyd llawer o'r trafodaethau hyn ymysg gwleidyddion a rhanddeiliaid oherwydd fod y baich a'r costau ar y rhai sy'n gorfol delio â'r problemau wedi codi'n arthrol. Nid oedd yn hysbys cyn cynnal yr arolwg barn hwn<sup>13</sup> faint yr oedd y cyhoedd yn gyffredinol yn ymwybodol ohono ynghylch problemau yn ymwneud â cheffylau. Adlewyrchwyd yr amheuon yng nghanhaniadau'r arolwg wrth i 39 y cant gytuno bod problem lles o ran ceffylau yng Nghymru, anghytunai wyth y cant â'r datganiad hwnnw, ond nid oedd y mwyafrif, tua 54 y cant, yn gwybod.

## » Argymhelliaid yr RSPCA

Ymddengys nad yw'r cyhoedd mor ymwybodol o faint y broblem ag y gobeithiwyd. Mae hyn yn ei dro yn golygu bod anawsterau naturiol wrth amgyffred y pwysau enfawr ar awdurdodau lleol ac elusennau lles anifeiliaid. O ran y bobl hynny sydd yn ymwybodol o'r argyfwng ceffylau, mae tystiolaeth eu bod yn gwybod pwy i gysylltu â hwy; fodd bynnag mae'n gwbl amlwg fod angen ymgrych gan yr holl ranndeiliaid i godi ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd ynghylch graddfa'r broblem yng Nghymru.

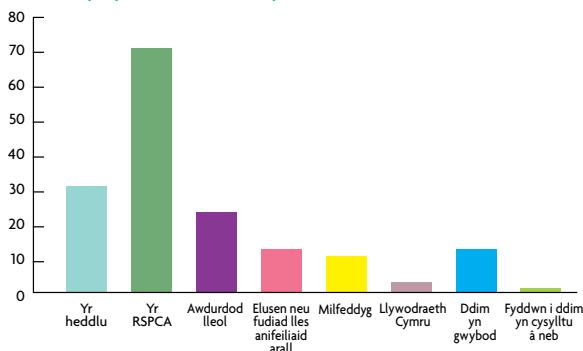
## Y SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL

Trafodir natur y broblem yn ôl profiad cyrff statudol ac anlywodraethol sy'n ymateb i achosion mewn man arall yn yr adroddiad hwn – mae'r adran hon yn ymwneud â gwybodaeth y cyhoedd. O'r rhai a holwyd a oedd yn cytuno bod problem lles i geffylau yng Nghymru, y broblem a gafodd y sgôr uchaf oedd gadael ceffylau (79 y cant). Gofynnai'r cwestiwn i'r tair problem fwyaf gael eu dangos yn yr ateb ac fel y cyfrwy effalai nad yw'n syndod mai pori anghyfreithlon<sup>14</sup> (62 y cant), creulondeb (54 y cant) a lles (50 y cant) ddaeth yn ail, trydydd a phedwerydd. Syndod oedd gweld nad ystyrid bod gorboblogi (14 y cant) yn fater pwysig i'r rhai a gredai fod yna argyfwng lles ceffylau. Gall hyn olygu nad yw'r sylw helaeth yn y cyfryngau a'r trafodaethau cyhoeddus diweddar am y broblem wedi cyfleo'n effeithiol i'r cyhoedd bod cyrff statudol a sefydliadau lles yn cael eu llethu gan nifer anferthol y ceffylau, a bod y cyrff a'r sefydliadau hyn wedi mynd y tu hwnt i'w capasiti unigol ac na allant yn effeithiol dderbyn mwy o anifeiliaid.

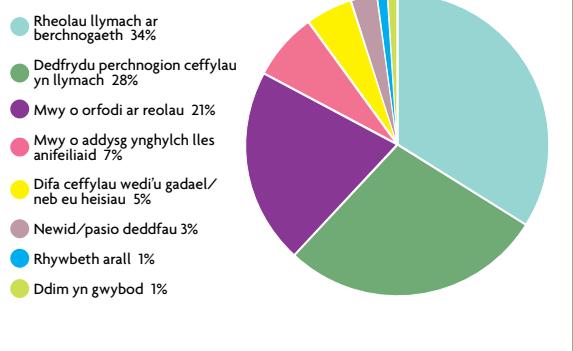
I'r atebwyr a gredai fod yna broblem lles ceffylau yng Nghymru, dyma'r tri datrysiaid gorau a nodwyd ganddynt: rheolau llymach ar berchnogaeth (34 y cant), dedfrydu llymach (28 y cant), a mwy o orfodaeth (21 y cant), tra mai isel iawn oedd y canlyniadau ar gyfer newidiadau yn y gyfraith (tri y cant) ac addysg (saith y cant). Mewn cwestiwn ar wahân, gofynnwyd iaelodau'r cyhoedd po'n fyddai unrhyw opsiwn arall ar gyfer delio â'r nifer enfawr o geffylau wedi'u gadael a neb eu heisiau, a fyddent yn cefnogi difa – dim ond 26 y cant a gefnogai'r mesur hwn ac roedd 45 y cant yn ei wrthwnebu, sydd o bosibl yn cyd-fynd â'r diffyg dealltwriaeth ynghylch maint yr argyfwng sy'n wynebu sefydliadau lles.

Gofynnwyd hefyd i aelodau'r cyhoedd pwy fyddent yn cysylltu â hwy ynghylch sefyllfa yn ymwneud â lles ceffylau, ac unwaith eto gofynnwyd iddynt dicio pob ateb perthnasol. Roedd yr atebwyr ddwywaith yn fwy tebygol o ffonio'r RSPCA (71 y cant) na chyrrff eraill. O ystyried rôl a phroffil yr RSPCA, mae hyn i'w ddisgwyl o bosibl.

### Pwy fyddai'r cyhoedd yn cysylltu â hwy i roi gwybod am broblem yn ymwneud â cheffyl?



### Pa atebion y mae'r cyhoedd yn credu allai helpu



<sup>13</sup>Daw'r holl ffifyrâu, oni nodir yn wahanol, o YouGov Plc. Cyfanswm maint y sampl oedd 1,012 o oedolion o Gymru. Gwnaethpwyd y gwaith maes rhwng 18 a 22 Gorffennaf 2013. Cynhalwyd yr arolwg ar lein. Mae'r ffifyrâu wedi'u pwysoli ac maent yn gynrychiadol o holl oedolion Cymru (18 oed +).

<sup>14</sup>Sef gadael ceffylau ar dir preifat heb ganiatâd (fly-grazing).



Llun: Joe Murphy/Llyfrgell Lluniau'r RSPCA

# Cyflwyniad

**Mae Dangosyddion Lles Ceffylau yn dwyn ynghyd am y tro cyntaf gasgliad o ddangosyddion sy'n taflu goleuni ar les ceffylau yng Nghymru. Mae hwn yn ddilyniant mewn cyfres sy'n cynnwys yr adroddiad Dangosyddion Lles Anifeiliaid Cymru 2011<sup>5</sup> a ystyriai ystod ehangach o faterion a rhywogaethau, a Dangosyddion Lles Cŵn 2012<sup>6</sup> a oedd yn ystyried y prif faterion sy'n effeithio ar les cŵn yng Nghymru.**

## Mesur lles anifeiliaid

Cipolwg yn unig yw'r casgliad hwn o ddangosyddion i rai o'r materion pwysig sy'n ymwnneud â lles ceffylau yng Nghymru ac mae'n dioddef, fel y gwna unrhyw fynegai, dan ddylo'r data. Mae'r RSPCA ers tro byd wedi cydnabod pwysigrwydd mynd ati i fesur lles anifeiliaid ond mae heriau yn parhau o ran cael gafael ar ddata, cloddio amdano a dadansoddi data o ffynonellau eraill. Mae colled aruthrol ar ôl Cynllun Gwella Lles Anifeiliaid Anwes (CAWES) Llywodraeth Cymru gan fod hwnnw, ymyst gwaith gwych arall, wedi casglu data gwaelodlin, a dylid ailystyried sefydlur cynllun hwnnw yng nghyllidebau'r Llywodraeth yn y dyfodol. Hoffem hefyd weld ceffylau wedi'u cynnwys yn arolygon y Llywodraeth ar gartrefi. Ar hyn o bryd, mae cyrif nifer y ceffylau yng Nghymru yn llawn anawsterau; yn wahanol i anifeiliaid anwes eraill niid oes modd amcangyfrifo eu nifer drwy ddata gwerthu bwyd anifeiliaid anwes, ymyst dulliau eraill. Yn ôl Strategaeth i'r Diwydiant Ceffylau yng Nghymru a Lloegr 2006 gan Ffederasiwn Diwydiant Ceffylau Prydain<sup>7</sup> ar adeg llunio'r strategaeth honno amcangyfrwyd bod y boblogaeth ceffylau rhwng tua 600,000 a miliwn. Mewn adroddiad ar y cyd gan gyrrf anllywodraethol ar les ceffylau, sef *Left on the verge*<sup>8</sup> cyfrifwyd bod 7,000 o'r boblogaeth geffylau hon mewn perygl, a 3,000 o'r rheiny wedi'u lleoli yng Nghymru. Mae ffeithiau a ffigyrâu fel y rhain, a'i gweddill sydd mewn manau eraill yn yr adroddiad hwn, yn hanfodol bwysig os ydym i wella bywydau anifeiliaid, a hynnyn oherwydd ein bod yn byw mewn cymdeithas sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol cael dystiolaeth o broblemau, ac am y rheswm hwn gobeithiwn weld cynllun y Llywodraeth y soniwyd amdano uchod yn dychwelyd a chael mwy o gydlynau parthed data rhwng cyrff anllywodraethol a chyrrf statudol.

## Ffeithiau a ffigyrâu

Yn aml, disgwylir i adroddiadau fel y rhain roi newyddion gwael yn unig, ond mae yna engrheiftiau o ddatblygiadau mwy calonogol. Ym mis Mehefin 2013, cafodd bridiwr ceffylau mwyaf toreithiog Cymru ei garcharu am greulondebi i geffylau yn sgil erlyniad gan yr RSPCA<sup>9</sup>. Cynhaliodd yr awdurdodau lleol a'r heddlu ymchwiliadau ac erlyniadau cyfochrog yngylch ymddygiad gwrth-gymdeithasol a thorri rheolau adnabod ceffylau.

Newyddion da hefyd yw cyflwyno prosiectau sydd wedi'u targedu a'u cynllunio i gydwethio gyda pherchnogion ceffylau ei mwyn annog perchenogaeth gyfrifol. Yn 2012, aeth Rhwydwaith Lles Anifeiliaid Cymru (AWNW)<sup>10</sup> ati i ddwyn ynghyd RSPCA Cymru, yr Ymddiriedolaeth Cŵn a Cats Protection i gynnal cyfres o brosiectau mewn cymunedau ledled Cymru wedi'u hanelu ar berchnogion cŵn anwes, cathod ac anifeiliaid blewog bach. Cafodd pob perchenog gynnig archwiliad iechyd i'w hanifail, eu sbaddu, rhoi microsglodyn ynddynt, rhoi triniaeth llyngyr a chwain iddynt am £10 ac yn 2013 agorwyd y prosiectau hyn hefyd i berchnogion ceffylau. Ym mis Hydref ymunodd RSPCA Cymru, Redwings, Lles Ceffylau Byd, HorseWorld a Chymdeithas Ceffylau Prydain a'r digwyddiad 'Diogelwch eich Ceffyl a'ch Anifail Anwes' yn Abertawe i gynnig archwiliad iechyd, pasbort, triniaeth llyngyr a microsglodyn am £10 y ceffyl. Gobeithiwn y gallir ymestyn y prosiectau hyn i'r ardaloedd hynny sydd eu hangen fwyaf arnynt ledled Cymru.

Mae prosiectau fel y rhain yn hanfodol o ystyried y problemau sylweddol sy'n gysylltiedig â safonau lles ceffylau yng Nghymru fel y dengys tudalenau'r adroddiad hwn. Mewn ymdrech i fynd i'r afael â hyn, mae'r RSPCA wedi rhoi 3,500 copi o'r Cod Ymarfer er lles Ceffylau

ying Nghymru i'r perchnogion hynny, y gellid dadlau, sydd fwyaf ei angen arnynt. Hoffem weld bridwyr a mudiadau lles ceffylau eraill yn efelychu hyn er mwyn sicrhau nad oes yr un ceffyl yn cael ei werthu na'i aiglartrefu heb gael copi o'r Cod Ymarfer hwn. Mae hefyd yn bwysig fod perchnogion yn cael eu haddysgu yngylch y costau sydd ynglwm â bod yn berchen ar geffyl. Amcangyfrifa *Equine World*<sup>11</sup> fod hyn rhwng tua £3,000 a £10,000 y flwyddyn yn dibynnu ar y stablau, ac nid yw'r swm hwn yn cynnwys costau sy'n codi unwaith neu'n achlysurol megis ethanasia/gwaredu carcasau, cyfrwy a harnais, cludiant, offer iard, gwersi na'r pris prynu/mabwysiadu cychwynnol – y disgyliaid oes cyfartalog ar gyfer ceffyl yw rhwng 25 a 30 mlynedd. Amrywio y mae cost gosod microsglodyn ar geffyl (a rhaid gwneud hyn, yn ôl y gyfraith, gan filfeddyg), ond gall fod am ddim neu am bris isel iawn, e.e. £10 mewn digwyddiadau Diogelwch eich Ceffyl a'ch Anifail Anwes os bydd y perchenog yn bodloni'r meinu prawf a osodwyd gan yr elusennau sy'n cymryd rhan. Os nad ydynt yn gymwys ar gyfer y gwasanaeth hwnnw neu os dewisant i'w milfeddyg ei wneud, amcangyfrifa Cymdeithas Ceffylau Prydain<sup>12</sup> y byddai'n costio tua £20-£25 y ceffyl yn ogystal â TAW a ffi'r milfeddyg.

Yn sgil ein gwaith ar y rheng flaen, mae'r RSPCA yn llwyr argyhoedddeg fod angen ystod o fesurau i fynd i'r afael ag argyfwng cynyddol y ceffylau – trafodir y rhain ar y tudalenau sy'n dilyn. Mae'n galonogol bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi dweud ei bod yn awyddus i gyflwyno deddfwriaeth newydd a gynlluniwyd i fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion hyn. Calonogol hefyd yw bod 57 y cant o Aelodau'r Cynulliad wedi ymatebi arolwg haf 2013 RSPCA Cymru yn ymwnneud â phroblemau ceffylau. Cadarnhaodd eu hymatebion fod mynd i'r afael â phroblemau ceffylau yn rhan ganolog o lywth gwaith llawer o Aelodau. Er bod swm y gwaith hwn yn amrywio'n sylweddol, nododd llawer o'r Aelodau fod materion ceffylau yn dominyddu os nad yn ffurfio dros 80 y cant o'u gwaith achosion lles anifeiliaid, gyda 38 y cant ohonynt yn dweud mai pori anghyfreithlon yw'r broblem fwyaf. Mae cymorth ar gyfer deddfwriaeth newydd, mwy o addysg a chynnydd mewn gorfodi, ynghyd â chydweithio, yn uchel ymrys yr atebion.

## Y Dangosyddion

Mae pob un o'r dangosyddion yn yr adroddiad hwn yn nodi pyderon lles, y sefyllfa bresennol ac argymhellion ar gyfer gwella. Rydym bob amser wedi ceisio defnyddio'r data mwyaf perthnasol a mwyaf diweddar sydd ar gael, ac mae hyn yn dddo'i hun yn amlwg problem. Mae angen mwy o ddata i wir ddeall pa mor eang a dwys yw'r broblem. Anogwn y llywodraeth a rhanddeiliaid i gydlynu ymhellach er mwyn gallu nodi tueddiadau, a monitro effeithiolrwydd 'datrysiau' yn deg.

Yn ogystal â meincnodi a dangos 'lle rydym' o ran lles anifeiliaid yng Nghymru, bwriad cyhoeddiad o'r natur hwn yw ceisiau procio'r meddwl, annog newid a gwneud argymhellion ar sut y gellir gwneud gwellianau. Mae'n bwysig am nifer o resymau, nid yn unig o safbwyt diogelu anifeiliaid, ac mae'n hanfodol ar gyfer hysbysu llywodraeth (yn genedlaethol ac yn lleol), rhanddeiliaid eraill a'r cyhoedd yng Nghymru. Y goibaith yw y gall fod yn ganllaw gwerthfawr i'r hyn sy'n digwydd yng Nghymru o ran lles anifeiliaid, gan arwain at adnabod a delio â phroblemau, sicrhau atebion, ac ailadrodd dysgu cadarnhaol ledled gwahanol faterion.

<sup>5</sup>[www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion](http://www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion)

<sup>6</sup>Ibid.

<sup>7</sup>[www.bhic.co.uk/downloads/full-strategy-report.pdf](http://www.bhic.co.uk/downloads/full-strategy-report.pdf)

<sup>8</sup>[www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion](http://www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion)

<sup>9</sup><http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/23197054>

<sup>10</sup>[www.awnwales.org](http://www.awnwales.org)

<sup>11</sup>[www.equine-world.co.uk/buying\\_horses/cost\\_horse.asp](http://www.equine-world.co.uk/buying_horses/cost_horse.asp)

<sup>12</sup>[www.bhs.org.uk/-/media/BHS/Files/PDF%20Documents/The%20Cost%20of%20Keeping%20a%20Horse%20or%20Pony.ashx](http://www.bhs.org.uk/-/media/BHS/Files/PDF%20Documents/The%20Cost%20of%20Keeping%20a%20Horse%20or%20Pony.ashx)

# Ystadegau RSPCA Cymru

## FFEITHIAU A FFIGYRAU PWYSIG YNGHYLCH GWAITH YR RSPCA YNG NGHYMRU YN 2012

### PEDAIR AR DDEG

o ganghennau'r RSPCA yn gwasanaethu Cymru gyfan

### TAIR<sup>1</sup>

canolfan anifeiliaid

### UN

clinig pwrpasol ym Merthyr Tudful



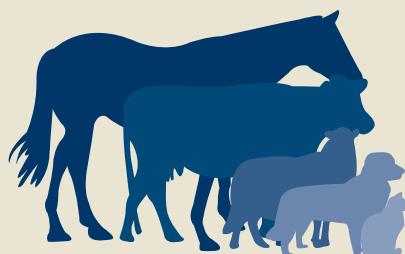
**46,000**

o alwadau wedi'u derbyn sef un ym mhob

**66 o bobl**



**346** o fyfyrwyr ar gwrs hyfforddi athrawon wedi'u haddysgu sut i gynnwys addysg lles anifeiliaid yn eu gwersi



**8,847**

cyfanswm yr anifeiliaid wedi'u casglu, eu hachub, eu hatafael neu eu trosglwyddo

Gwasanaeth  
**24/7**

- 28** Arolygydd
- Saith** Swyddog Casglu Anifeiliaid
- Pedwar** Swyddog Lles Anifeiliaid
- Tri** Phrif Arolygydd
- Un** Uwch-arolygydd

**74 achos**  
wedi'u cyflwyno i Erlyniadau'r RSPCA

**20%**  
ers 2011

**288 o bobl**  
wedi'u dwyn at sylw Erlyniadau'r RSPCA<sup>2</sup>

**31%**  
ers 2011

**61 o bobl**  
wedi cael rhybudd

**20%**  
ers 2011

**248 o golffarnau llys**  
wedi'u sicrhau<sup>3</sup>

**4%**  
ers 2011

## CEFFYLAU YNG NGHYMRU 2012

**CWYNION**  
**2,207**

o ddigwyddiadau/cwynion yn ymwneud â chyfanswm o 14,890 o geffylau

**GADAEL**  
**397**

o geffylau wedi'u gadael yn cael sylwr RSPCA

**YMMBYDDIAETH**  
**700**

copi o'r Cod Ymarfer wedi'u rhoi gan Arolygwyr yr RSPCA

**COSTAU**  
**£600**

dyma'r gost bosibl bob dydd am ofalu am geffylau mewn erlyniadau yn ymwneud â nifer fawr o geffylau

**TRIN**  
**374**

o geffylau wedi'u casglu, eu hachub, eu trosglwyddo neu eu hatafael gan Arolygwyr yr RSPCA

<sup>1</sup>Un ohonynt yn elusen wedi'i chofrestru ar wahân, Cangen Llys Ninïr RSPCA.  
<sup>2</sup>Adroddwyd am 122 o bobl ond nis erlynyd na rhoi rhybudd iddynt oherwydd na fodlonwyd profion lles y cyhoedd ac/neu dystiolaeth.

<sup>3</sup>Dau ddiffynnydd wedi cael pob trosedd wedi'u gwrrhod ar ôl cyflwyno dystiolaeth.

<sup>4</sup>Rhoddyd cyfanswm o 3,500 copi ers 2008.

# Rhagair

## ALUN DAVIES AC, Y GWEINIDOG CYFOETH NATURIOL A BWYD

Pleser o'r mwyaf oedd cael gwahoddiad i lunio rhagair i'r adroddiad hwn ar Ddangosyddion Lles Ceffylau. Roedd sefyllfa nifer o geffylau yng Nghymru yn amlwg i mi ymhell cyn cael fy mhenodi i'r swydd hon yn Weinidog ac fel y cyfryw rwyf wedi blaenoriaethu cyflwyno deddfwriaeth newydd i gynorthwyo'r mudiadau hynny sy'n mynd i'r afael â'r broblem ar lawr gwlaid.

Rwy'n ymwybodol iawn bod awdurdodau lleol ac elusennau, gan gynnwys yr RSPCA, wedi bod yn cael trafferth ymdopi â nifer fawr y ceffylau sydd wedi ymddangos mewn mannau cyhoeddus heb awdurdod cyfreithlon neu ymddangos ar dir arall heb ganiatâd. Ar ôl sicrhau bod cylldid Llywodraeth Cymru o £150,000 ar gael i awdurdodau lleol i'w cynorthwyo i fwrw ymlaen ag erlyn achosion, rwy'n falch o weld bod hyn wedi arwain at nifer o erlyniadau llwyddiannus gan awdurdodau lleol a'r RSPCA ac felly yn anfon neges glir iawn nad ydym ni yng Nghymru yn fodlon goddef y niwsans hwn na'r creulondeb cysylltiedig i anifeiliaid. Fy mwriad yw cyflwyno deddfwriaeth newydd a fydd yn gwneud yr uniglion hynny sy'n pori ceffylau a merlod yn anghyfreithlon yn atebol am eu gweithredoedd, a mynd i'r afael â'r niwsans annerbyniol o bori anghyfreithlon sy'n achosi niwed cymdeithasol, economaidd, amgylcheddol ac i ddiogelwch y cyhoedd, ac yn gosod baich ariannol ar uniglion a'r trethdalwr. Bydd y ddeddfwriaeth hon yn sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol ledled Cymru yn cael yr offer i'w galluogi i atafaelu, corlannu a chael gwared ar geffylau fel y bo'n briodol a phan fo amgylchiadau yn mynnu hynny.

Calondid mawr i mi yw'r gwaith partneriaeth parhaus sy'n digwydd mewn perthynas â cheffylau; serch hynny mae adroddiad yr RSPCA yn amserol iawn ac yn tynnu sylw at yr angen i barhau i gydweithio i wella safonau lles ceffylau a merlod yng Nghymru. Rydym yn y Llywodraeth wedi ymrwymo i ystod o gynigion a hynny'n cynnwys gweithio â rhanddeiliaid allweddol i annog perchenogaeth gyfrifol fel rhan o ddyfodol cynaliadwy hirdymor i geffylau yng nghefn gwlaid Cymru i'w gwarchod yn ddigonol rhag dioddefaint. Croesawaf yr adroddiad hwn gan yr RSPCA ac rwy'n edrych ymlaen at barhau i weithio â hwy ac eraill wrth amddiffyn ceffylau yng Nghymru.



## STEVE CARTER, CYFARWYDDWR CENEDLAETHOL RSPCA CYMRU

Fel y Cyfarwyddwr arweiniol ar gyfer materion yn ymwneud â cheffylau (ledled Cymru a Lloegr) rwy'n hynod o falch fod yr RSPCA wedi llunio'r set gyntaf hon o Ddangosyddion Lles Ceffylau ar gyfer Cymru. Mae'n arbennig o amserol gan fod Llywodraeth Cymru eleni wedi cyflwyno cynigion i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau sy'n wynebu ceffylau. Cymru oedd y wlad gyntaf yn y Deyrnas Unedig i gyflwyno Cod Ymarfer er lles Ceffylau, a hwnnw'n offeryn hanfodol yn ein gwaith bob dydd wrth addysgu perchnogion ceffylau. Mae hefyd yn ddogfen bwysig ar gyfer penu safonau derbynol pan fo popeth arall wedi methu ac y mae, yn anffodus, yn angenrheidiol ar gyfer erlyn.

Ym mis Mehefin 2012, cynhaliodd RSPCA Cymru, gyda Llywodraeth Cymru a'n partneriaid o'r byd ceffylau, yr uwchgynhadledd gyntaf ar geffylau ar gyfer pawb â diddordeb, ac wedi hynny lluniwyd yr adroddiad *Left on the verge*, gweler: [www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion](http://www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales/companion). Yna ym mis Ebrill 2013 cynhaliom ymgrych arloesol ar y we a arweiniodd at 500 o ymatebion ychwanegol i ymgynghoriad Llywodraeth Cymru ar bori anghyfreithlon a gadael ceffylau. Mae modd darllen rhagor am y datrysiau posibl i'r problemau hynny yn ein hymateb ninnau i'r ymgynghoriad (hefyd ar y cyfeiriad uchod) ac ar dudalennau'r adroddiad hwn, sydd hefyd yn ceisio rhoi cipolwg ar yr hyn sy'n digwydd o ran lles ceffylau yn y Gymru sydd ohoni.

Mae'n anrhodedd mawr inni fod y Gweinidog wedi bod yn ddigon caredig i ysgrifennu rhagair ar gyfer yr adroddiad; mae'n dangos, fe gredwn, y berthynas waith dda sydd gennym gyda Llywodraeth Cymru a'r pwys y mae'n ei rhoi ar broblemau ceffylau. Rydym yn ymfalch i'r un graddau yn ein partneriaethau ag Aelodau'r Cynulliad ac awdurdodau lleol, yn ogystal â nifer o bartneriaid statudol a chyrrif anllywodraethol eraill. Mae rhwydweithiau o'r fath yn hanfodol i ddatrys problemau lles anifeiliaid ar raddfa fawr a hefyd, yng nghyd-destun yr adroddiad hwn, maent yn hanfodol wrth gasglu data er mwyn i ni fedru cael y darlun mwyaf cywir. Mae ein gwaith gyda'n gilydd i wella safonau lles anifeiliaid cyn bwysiced ag erioed.





Llun: Philip Toscano/Llyfrgell Lluniau'r RSPCA

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Sganiwch y cod QR hwn gydag ap ar eich ffôn clyfar i lawrlwytho'r adroddiad

Llun y clawr: Joe Murphy/Llyfrgell Lluniau'r RSPCA

#### RSPCA Cymru

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[www.rspca.org.uk/wales](http://www.rspca.org.uk/wales) [www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales](http://www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales)

[facebook.com/RSPCA](https://facebook.com/RSPCA) [@Twitter@RSPCAcymru](https://twitter.com/RSPCAcymru)

Mae'r RSPCA yn helpu anifeiliaid yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Elusen gofrestredig rhif: 219099  
Drwy roddion y cyhoedd yn unig y mae'r RSPCA yn bodoli

Tachwedd 2013

Argraffwyd ar ddeunyddiau wedi'u hailgylchu 100% gan  
ddefnyddio prosesau sy'n gyfeillgar i'r amgylchedd



# DANGOSYDDION LLES CEFFYLAU

[www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales](http://www.politicalanimal.org.uk/wales)