

**From:** [info](#)  
**To:** [2002 Act Review](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to the Lord Bonomy Review  
**Date:** 29 March 2016 17:38:12

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Dear Sirs,

Please find the submission to the review from Conservatives Against Fox Hunting.

Kind regards,

Lorraine Platt

Co-Founder

[www.conservativesagainstfoxhunting.com](http://www.conservativesagainstfoxhunting.com)

## Conservatives Against Fox Hunting

Conservatives Against Fox Hunting (Blue Fox) was founded in 2010. Blue Fox campaigns to prevent the repeal of the Hunting Act 2004. The campaign has five Conservative MP Patrons, including three Government Ministers, Justice Minister, Dominic Raab, Sports Minister Tracey Crouch, Equalities Minister Caroline Dinenage, Sir Roger Gale and Sir David Amess.

Hunting with dogs has also been discussed at Westminster, with Blue Fox Patron UK Government Sports Minister Tracey Crouch describing it in December 2015 as a "pursuit from the past", and saying it 'should be consigned to history'.

Blue Fox has held parliamentary receptions and briefings to support the Hunting Act and held fringe events at Conservative Party conferences.

The hunting of foxes with hounds was banned in Scotland under the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act, passed in 2002.

However, through specific exemptions, hunts are still allowed to use dogs to flush out foxes and chase them toward guns. The legislation has been criticised by animal welfare organisations for too many loopholes. The exemption that allows for a full pack of hounds to be used has the risk of being exploited.

Blue Fox believes that the law which was intended to end the barbaric practice of fox hunting has a number of loopholes which have rendered it ineffective.

If the number of dogs in the flushing to guns is reduced and there is a limit of two dogs in any exemption of the Scottish Act brought in line with the English and Welsh Hunting Act 2004, we would recommend the introduction of a recklessness provision to the Scottish legislation to prevent 'unfortunate accidents'.

We would welcome the prohibition of the use of dogs below ground as we view this as not only cruel to foxes being dug out but also to the dogs involved and sent below the ground.

We believe that fox scents should be replaced by synthetic scents.

We further believe that there should be an increase in the penalty for illegal hunting to include custodial sentences in line with other wildlife legislation.

Conservatives Against Fox Hunting recommends that the 2002 Act must be strengthened to improve enforceability.

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