



MAPPING LEGAL RESOURCES FOR DOG RESCUES

PROFESSOR MARIE FOX & DR SARAH SINGH

About the Project:

Phase I of our project solicited views of smaller rescues across the UK about the role legal regulation of rescue could play in increasing animal welfare standards across the sector. Funded by Research England and the Economic and Social Sciences Research Council, this research was conducted in collaboration with charities and NGOs including A-LAW, Battersea, Causeway Coast Dog Rescue, the Kennel Club and the USPCA.

A central finding from interviews with NI stakeholders (including rescues) was the absence of a specialist legal sector in Northern Ireland to offer legal advice to members of the public and/or rescue organisations. In response a key output from **Phase II** of the project, which focuses specifically on Northern Ireland, is an online 'Dog Law Toolkit' available here www.regulationofdogrescue.com



Phase III, APDAWG, 25th February 2025: What would help you?

Our research indicates that specialist legal advice/resources is also lacking/patchy across England, Wales and Scotland. In terms of mapping what services already exist and potentially developing further resources, we would like to hear your experiences of legal services:

- Has your rescue and rehoming organisation ever needed to seek legal advice?
- Where did you go for help?
- Was it easy to find legal advice?
- Was it affordable?
- What were the issue(s) you sought legal advice about?
- Are there any legal issues on which you are unclear, but have not yet sought advice?
- Was your experience of seeking legal advice good or bad?



About Us



Professor Marie Fox

Marie Fox holds the Queen Victoria Chair of Law at the University of Liverpool. Her current research projects (funded by the Leverhulme Trust, Socio-legal Studies Association, Economic and Social Research Council and Research England) focus on pet loss, and the place of companion animals in care homes, regulation of animal rescues and governance of assisted reproductive technologies and direct to consumer testing. More generally, her research is concerned with the legal governance of human and animal bodies, legal conceptions of embodiment, pet loss and regulation of reproduction. She has volunteered for various dog charities, was a trustee of North West English Springer Spaniel Rescue for 7 years and is an editor of the journal *Social & Legal Studies*.



Dr Sarah Singh

Sarah Singh has a long-standing interest in animal law. Prior to her current position as a lecturer in the School of Law and Social Justice at the University of Liverpool, Sarah was employed at LJMU (2009–2017) where she taught one of the first animal law modules introduced in the UK. She has presented at national and international conferences exploring animal law topics including a legal analysis of companion animal adoption agreements and the impact of Covid-19 on dog rescues. Sarah's current project on regulation of animal rescues is funded by Research England and the Economic and Social Research Council. She is also Secretary and a Trustee of North West English Springer Spaniel Rescue.

Contact us:

For more information or to join the project mailing list please email info@regulationofdogrescue.com or see our website www.regulationofdogrescue.com

