

E-MAIL FROM: John F. Robins, Campaigns Consultant, Animal Concern, Post Office Box 5178, Dumbarton G82 5YJ. Tel: 01389-841-639, Mobile: 07721-605521. Fax: 0870-7060327. Animal Concern incorporates the Scottish Anti-Vivisection Society which has been Campaigning for animals since 1876 E-MAIL: animals@jfrobins.force9.co.uk website: <http://www.animalconcern.org/>

To all Members of Animal Concern and Supporters of Animal Concern Advice Line.

Big cats on an Aberdeenshire croft.



I've just written to all MSPs and Scottish MPs to draw attention to an article in today's Daily Record.

Please read the article and watch the video and then read my e-mails to the MPs and MSPs and to Aberdeenshire Council (both reproduced below). Once you've read the article and copied e-mails please take the action requested at the end of this e-mail.



If you live in Aberdeenshire it is very important that you not only contact your MP and MSP but also your local Councillor

(details here: <https://www.writetothem.com/>)

Cheers 4 now,

John

Daily Record article here:

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/video-animal-charities-condemn-plaint-4583693>

Animal Concern e-mail to MSPs and MPs:

To All Members of the Scottish Parliament and all Scottish MPs.

Dear Member of Parliament,

I invite you to take the link below and read the short story and view the brief video of two lions and three tigers which are currently being kept in small cages on a croft in Aberdeenshire.

I then invite you to hang your head in shame for being part of a political system which still allows this to happen in Scotland in the 21st century.

I too hang my head in shame because, despite having presented similar evidence to politicians for over thirty years, I have not persuaded you to rescue these animals from their suffering.

The video, taken in the last few days, shows how circus animals spend their “holidays” between circus seasons. They are, quite legally, kept in conditions which would see a zoo owner lose their license.

Look at how the tiger continuously paces back and forward over the tiny space it has to live in. This is called stereotypic behaviour – basically a kind of madness brought about by the totally unnatural conditions these animals are forced to endure day in, day out for months and years on end.

You can end this madness by legislating to liberate animals from the dark ages of travelling circuses.

Do it as soon as possible, it is already decades overdue.

Yours sincerely,

John F. Robins,
Animal Concern

Animal Concern e-mail to Aberdeenshire Council:

Licensing Department,
Aberdeenshire Council,
Woodhill House,
Westburn Road,
Aberdeen AB16 5GB

3rd November 2014

Dear Sirs,

I write to object to the granting of a license under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act to allow two lions and three tigers to be kept at the Circus High School, Cairnglass Croft, St Combs, Inverallochy, AB43 8UT.

As I hope you will agree from the information below I have grave doubts that the people responsible for the lions and tigers at Cairnglass Croft are competent to hold a license under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act.

I urge you to visit the Facebook pages of the organisation Glo Wild.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/glo-wild/circus-lions-tigers-at-fraserburgh-farm-Scotland/710877015627628>

On this site you will see photographs taken this weekend which show just how small the cages are in which the animals are being kept and how little exercise and enrichment is being provided for them. There are also claims that the animals do not appear to have a proper continuous source of fresh drinking water. I believe there's no provision of water for the tigers to bathe in and the lions and tigers are being kept in view of each other, something which could cause them stress. The public are also allowed access while the lions and tigers are being fed, again causing them stress.

Of by far my greatest concern is the fact that the site appears to be open to the general public. One of the photographs shows a large number of people wandering among the cages. Other photographs show that there are no barriers to stop people getting right up to the cages and touching the animals through the mesh.

Independently of the above website report I was contacted by another eyewitness who claims there were around 50 cars parked on the site when he drove past on Sunday. If each car held just two occupants, that would mean circa 100 members of the public on site at the same time.

I do not think the site is being managed in a safe and proper manner and urge you to refuse a license under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act.

From the information given on the Glo Wild Facebook page I also ask you to determine if the keepers of the big cats at Cairnglass Croft are operating in breach of the Zoo Licensing Act and/or the Performing Animals Act.

Yours faithfully,

John F. Robins,
Animal Concern

Request for action by you:

Please e-mail your MP and, if you are in Scotland, your MSPs (you can get their details here: <https://www.writetothem.com/>).

Keep it simple and say something along the lines of: "Dear, If you have not already done so please go to the link below and read about the plight of some lions and tigers from a travelling circus which are spending the winter on a croft in Aberdeenshire. Watch the video and take note of the tiger pacing back and forward in its tiny cage. I would then like you to get back to me and tell me when you are going to act to change the law and liberate animals from a life of suffering in travelling circuses."

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/video-animal-charities-condemn-plight-4583693>

I would then like you to e-mail the leader of Aberdeenshire Council on:

Cllr.J.Gifford@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Say something along the lines of:

Councillor Jim Gifford,
Leader,
Aberdeenshire Council,
Woodhill House,
Westburn Road,
Aberdeen AB16 5GB

Dear Councillor Gifford,

I've just read an article in the Daily Record (link below) about the big cats at St Combs. Having seen the pictures and video included in the article I was shocked to read that Aberdeenshire Council said: "We are satisfied with the health, welfare and security arrangements in place, and the enclosures".

Have you seen the size of the cages these big cats are being kept in? Have you seen the video of the tiger pacing in its tiny cage? Have you been down to the place and seen all the people milling around on the site? Have you seen the flimsy barrier between where the public are watching the circus performance and the cage the lions are in? Have they got a license to put on public shows at this place?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Link to article:

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/video-animal-charities-condemn-plight-4583693>