

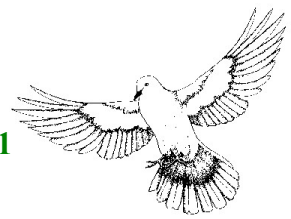
ANIMAL CONCERN

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E-MAIL FROM: John F. Robins, Campaigns Consultant, Animal Concern To all MSPs

20th September 2005

Dear Member of the Scottish Parliament,

I understand that contrary to the advice we gave the Parliament earlier this year a programme of installing anti-pigeon netting is starting at Holyrood today at a cost of £5,000 to the taxpayer.

For only £3,000 I am willing to come over to Edinburgh and train a group of MSPs in the Doo Deterrent Dance. This involves MSPs dancing in a figure of eight formation while flapping their arms and making loud cooing noises. Just like the anti-pigeon netting this will not work but it will save taxpayers £2,000 and give them a good laugh.

To be very serious about this we have received many hundreds of complaints concerning pigeon nets over the last ten years. The nets work loose or are torn in the wind and pigeons and other birds get entangled in the nets or trapped behind them. The birds suffer a slow, cruel death and then become a breeding ground for flies. Maggots fall on passers by and the carcasses cause smell and pollution problems.

To humanely stop birds roosting and nesting on window sills and ledges you should install rigid metal grills and/or plastic or metal spike strips which make it impossible for the birds to land without trapping or harming them.

I urge you to make a last minute plea to the authorities at the Parliament to stop them wasting public money on something which will not work and will simply create more problems.

Yours sincerely,

John F. Robins,

For Animal Concern