



## BRIEFING PAPER

Number 7908, 26 September 2019

# Trophy Hunting

By Elena Ares

### Contents:

1. What is trophy hunting?
2. The role of CITES
3. Trophy import statistics
4. Trophy hunting and conservation
5. EU and UK controls on trophy imports
6. UK Government position



# Contents

<b>Summary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1. What is trophy hunting?</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. The role of CITES</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. Trophy import statistics</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4. Trophy hunting and conservation</b>	<b>6</b>
4.1 Links between trade in trophies and illegal activity	7
4.2 Import bans in other countries	8
<b>5. EU and UK controls on trophy imports</b>	<b>8</b>
5.1 EU Action plan on wildlife trafficking	10
<b>6. UK Government position</b>	<b>10</b>
6.1 Renewed calls for UK to ban the import of trophies	12
6.2 Trophy hunting debate	12

## Summary

There is ongoing debate about trophy hunting, its contribution to wildlife conservation and links to wildlife trafficking. Those opposed to trophy hunting are calling for a ban on imports of hunting trophies into the UK.

Trophy hunting is legal as long as it complies with a country's existing hunting legislation, including ensuring all proper permits have been obtained. Exports and imports of hunting trophies from endangered species must be licenced under the [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna](#) (CITES).

CITES is an international agreement between governments to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. CITES works by subjecting international trade in specimens of selected species to controls. All import, export, re-export and introduction of the species covered by the Convention must be authorised through a licencing scheme This includes trophies from hunting.

There is ongoing debate as to whether well managed trophy hunting is beneficial to conservation efforts. The [International Union for the Conservation of Nature](#) (IUCN) is of the view that "with effective governance and management trophy hunting can and does have positive impacts". Other organisations, such as [Born Free](#) and the [Campaign for the Ban of Trophy Hunting](#), disagree with trophy hunting, calling for a ban and focus on other options to generate income from wildlife. Both [CITES](#) and the EU support the view that well-managed and sustainable trophy hunting can contribute to species conservation efforts.

Control on imports of hunting trophies by the EU where [strengthened](#) in 2015 to address concerns about links to wildlife trafficking. Several countries have banned the import of hunting trophies. The UK government is not considering a ban but has [stated](#) that it does keep the rules constantly under review. A parliamentary [debate on trophy hunting](#) took place in Westminster Hall took place on 15 May 2019.

# 1. What is trophy hunting?

There is ongoing debate about trophy hunting, its contribution to wildlife conservation and links to wildlife trafficking. Those opposed to trophy hunting are calling for a ban on imports of hunting trophies into the UK.

The [International Fund for Animal Welfare](#) (IFAW) defines trophy hunting as:

The activity of chasing and killing wild animals or game, especially for food or sport. "Trophy hunting", specifically, is a form of hunting in which the hunter's explicit goal is to obtain the hunted animal's carcass or body part, such as the head or hide, as a trophy that represents the success of the hunt.<sup>1</sup>

Trophy hunting is legal as long as it complies with a country's existing hunting legislation, including ensuring all proper permits have been obtained. It should not be confused with poaching, which is the illegal pursuit of game.

The focus of the debate in the UK has been the trophy hunting of threatened species in African countries. However, the term "trophy hunting" also covers non-protected species, including in the UK where red deer stags are hunted, which has caused [controversy](#) in the past.

## 2. The role of CITES

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES), is an international agreement between governments to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. The UK is a signatory to CITES in its own right but currently the agreement is implemented in the UK via EU wildlife trade regulations.

CITES works by subjecting international trade in specimens of selected species to certain controls. All import, export, re-export and introduction of the species covered by the Convention must be authorised through a licensing system.<sup>2</sup> This includes trophies from hunting.

The species covered by CITES are listed in [three Appendices](#), according to their degree of protection:

- Appendix I includes species threatened with extinction. Trade in specimens of these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances.
- Appendix II includes species not necessarily threatened with extinction, but in which trade must be controlled to avoid utilisation incompatible with their survival.

---

<sup>1</sup> IFAW, [Killing for Trophies: an analysis of the global trophy hunting trade](#), 14 June 2016

<sup>2</sup> CITES, ["How CITES works"](#) [accessed on 13 May 2019]

- Appendix III contains species that are protected in at least one country, which has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling the trade.<sup>3</sup>

What CITES does not do is determine which animals within a specific country are legally protected or how. It is legally binding on signatory countries, but it does not take the place of national laws.<sup>4</sup> Under CITES a hunting trophy from a species listed on Appendix I or II of the Convention can be exported, but only if the exporting country is satisfied that the hunt was legal and sustainable.

In addition, the listing of any species is often a catalyst for increased global interest in protecting that species wherever it exists.

What this means in practice is that it may be legal, with the correct permits to shoot an animal but impossible to import it as a trophy into the hunter's country of residence, if that country is unwilling to issue a permit for its import. For example, Australia banned all imports of lion trophies in 2015 in response to concerns about canned hunting, where lions are bred in captivity to be shot by hunters.<sup>5</sup>

### 3. Trophy import statistics

CITES data relating to trophy imports from all species is provided in the table below, grouped into broad families of animals. Overall, global trophy imports increased by 23% between 2013 and 2017. Imports of trophies relating to bears, cranes, bovids, crocodiles, hippos and rhinos all increased over this period.

GLOBAL IMPORTS OF TROPHIES						
Number of imports: Importer specified data						
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% change
Bears	6,527	7,272	8,677	8,452	10,593	+45.7%
Cats (Panthers, Pumas, Lynx etc)	2,399	2,407	2,746	2,052	1,561	-35.1%
Cranes	1,722	1,643	1,680	2,518	2,740	+66.8%
Bovidae (Antelopes, Kobus etc)	1,353	1,314	1,739	1,800	1,953	+48.6%
Old world monkeys (baboons, macaques etc)	1,178	1,035	998	1,123	1,004	-3.0%
Zebras	637	682	747	818	557	-18.3%
Elephants	900	944	503	465	416	-55.9%
Crocodiles	391	319	619	307	453	+42.0%
Jackals	407	416	491	435	309	-25.7%
Hippopotamuses	353	299	310	401	351	+17.4%
Aligators	206	8	398	26	5	-37.5%
Rhinoceroses	71	75	104	83	85	+13.3%
Other species	950	626	1,327	734	809	+29.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,558</b>	<b>16,888</b>	<b>19,877</b>	<b>19,125</b>	<b>20,846</b>	<b>+23.4%</b>

Notes:

Based on database entries where a figure was provided for the number of imports.

May include some double counting as individual specimens can be re-exported from countries.

Some imports may appear in the wrong year as import permits can be issued ahead of transaction completion. [Source: CITES Trade Database](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Ibid](#)

<sup>4</sup> CITES, ["What is CITES?"](#) [accessed 13 May 2019]

<sup>5</sup> The Guardian, ['Canned hunting' of white lions is despicable – and it must stop](#), 11 March 2014

The table below shows trends in the global volume of legally imported trophy specimens for the six species that the EU introduced stricter controls on in 2015, over the past five years of available data. The numbers show an increase in specimens traded for the common hippopotamus and the argali sheep, while imports for all other species decreased. In 2017 there were 16 recorded trophy imports to the UK, a reduction from 46 in 2016.<sup>6</sup>

GLOBAL IMPORTS OF TROPHIES						
Number of imports: Importer specified data						
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% change
Southern White Rhinoceros	62	73	78	75	72	-1.4%
Common Hippopotamus	352	299	310	401	351	+17.4%
African elephant	900	938	503	465	416	-55.7%
Argali sheep	148	131	184	176	189	+44.3%
Lion	841	937	1,217	697	360	-61.6%
Polar Bear	25	87	82	19	14	-83.9%

Notes:

Based on database entries where a figure was provided for the number of imports.

May include some double counting as individual specimens can be re-exported from countries.

Some imports may appear in the wrong year as import permits can be issued ahead of transaction completion.

Source: [CITES Trade Database](#)

## 4. Trophy hunting and conservation

There is ongoing debate as to whether well managed trophy hunting is beneficial to conservation efforts. The [International Union for the Conservation of Nature](#) (IUCN) is of the view that “with effective governance and management trophy hunting can and does have positive impacts”. IUCN argues that trophy hunting can:

- generate incentives for landowners [...] to conserve or restore wildlife on their land.
- generate revenue for wildlife management and conservation, including anti-poaching activities
- increase tolerance for living with wildlife, reducing the effects of human-wildlife conflicts and reduce illegal killing.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> [CITES Trade Database](#)

<sup>7</sup> IUCN, [Informing decisions on trophy hunting](#), published April 2016

The IUCN further refers to evidence from case studies that show well-managed trophy hunting can promote population recovery, protection and maintenance of habitat.<sup>8</sup>

Other organisations, such as [Born Free](#) and the [Campaign for the Ban of Trophy Hunting](#), disagree with trophy hunting. Born Free argues that that the way forward is “compassionate solutions to conservation challenges”. They reject the notion that trophy hunting to help conservation and instead support “non-consumptive opportunities to generate income from wildlife”.<sup>9</sup>

In October 2016, [CITES Parties adopted a resolution](#) on the trade in hunting trophies of species listed in Appendix I and II of the convention, which stated recognised that they:

well-managed and sustainable trophy hunting is consistent with and contributes to species conservation, as it provides both livelihood opportunities for rural communities and incentives for habitat conservation, and generates benefits which can be invested for conservation purposes.<sup>10</sup>

The position of the EU is that trophy hunting “can help conserve species and generate income that benefits rural communities while protecting biodiversity”.<sup>11</sup>

## 4.1 Links between trade in trophies and illegal activity

The EU set out in in 2015 its explanation of its decision to strengthen import control for trophies (see section 3 below) that it was a response to concerns about the links between the trade in trophies and wildlife trafficking:

Nevertheless, there has been great concern about the trade in hunting trophies from lions, polar bears, elephants and rhinoceroses. Criminal groups are increasingly involved, and wildlife trafficking has become a form of transnational organised crime that resembles trafficking in human beings, drugs and firearms.<sup>12</sup>

The statement goes onto highlighted that “the system was abused by criminal gangs to import rhino horns as hunting trophies which were then fraudulently exported to Vietnam”.<sup>13</sup>

A report for the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade, published in 2016, on [EU trade policy and the wildlife trade](#), set out the kind of links between trade and crime that can exist:

In cases of wildlife crime the most common links are to offences related to corruption, the fraudulent obtaining of licences or forgery of the latter (including customs official documents),

---

<sup>8</sup> [Ibid](#)

<sup>9</sup> The Born Free Foundation, [Shooting animals for 'sport'](#), [accessed 13 May 2019]

<sup>10</sup> CITES, Conf 17.9, October 2016

<sup>11</sup> European Commission, [New EU measures on import of hunting trophies to fight against illegal and unsustainable practices](#), 5 February 2015

<sup>12</sup> European Commission, [New EU measures on import of hunting trophies to fight against illegal and unsustainable practices](#), 5 February 2015

<sup>13</sup> [ibid](#)

money laundering and, as the case may be, other illegal activities such as drug trafficking.<sup>14</sup>

### 4.2 Import bans in other countries

Despite the views on the potential positive impacts on wildlife conservation a number of countries have introduced bans on imports of trophies:

- **Australia** introduced a ban in March 2015, with the Environment Minister, Greg Hunt responding to the practice of canned hunting by imposing a total ban on all African lion trophy imports.<sup>15</sup>
- In **France**, four months after [Cecil the Lion](#) was killed, France's environment minister, Ségolène Royale, stated that she had instructed officials to stop issuing permits for lion trophies.<sup>16 17</sup>
- **The Netherlands** introduced the strictest ban on the importing of hunting trophies in the EU. The Netherlands Government issued the following statement in 2016:

With immediate effect, hunting trophies of a large number of species may no longer be imported into the Netherlands. These include trophies of white rhinos, elephants, cheetahs, lions, hippos and polar bears.<sup>18</sup>

## 5. EU and UK controls on trophy imports

CITES is implemented across the EU through two regulations. EU regulations are stricter than those for CITES extending the requirement for permits to a wider range of species, and completely banning the trade of some species that are not banned under CITES. The EU Commission summarises the regulations as follows:

The EU wildlife trade regulations not only implement the provisions of CITES and the majority of CITES Resolutions, they also go beyond the requirements of the Convention in some respects:

- The EU regulations establish stricter import conditions than those imposed by CITES. Import permits are not only required for species listed in Annex A but also for species listed in Annex B. Import notifications are required for Annexes C and D.

---

<sup>14</sup> European Parliament Committee on International Trade, [EU trade policy and the wildlife trade](#), 2016

<sup>15</sup> International Fund for Animal Welfare, [Canned! No more lion trophies to be imported into Australia](#), 13 March 2015

<sup>16</sup> International Fund for Animal Welfare, [France becomes the 1<sup>st</sup> European state to ban lion trophies](#), 23 November 2015

<sup>17</sup> Guardian, [France bans import of lion hunt trophies](#), 19 November 2015

<sup>18</sup> Government of the Netherlands, [Additional hunting trophies added to the import prohibition list](#), 2 May 2016

- Some species that are listed in Appendix II of CITES are listed in Annex A of the EU regulations and consequently cannot be traded or used for commercial purposes.
- Live specimens of species listed in Annex A and B are only allowed to be imported into the EU if the recipient is suitably equipped to house and care for the specimens; CITES requires suitable care and housing only for imports of live Appendix I specimens.
- The EU regulations regulate trade within and between EU Member States - considered domestic trade – as well as international trade with non-EU Member States; CITES regulates international trade only.
- Regulation (EC) 338/97 authorises the EU Member States to suspend imports with regard to certain species and countries (negative opinions of the EU Scientific Review Group and EU import suspensions), even if trade is allowed under CITES.<sup>19</sup>

In 2015, the [EU introduced stricter controls](#) for six species aimed at ensuring any imports were legal and sustainable:

- Southern White Rhinoceros *Ceratotherium simum simum*
- Common Hippopotamus *Hippopotamus amphibius*
- African Elephant *Loxodonta africana*
- Argali Sheep *Ovis ammon*
- Lion *Panthera leo*
- Polar Bear *Ursus maritimus*

If the required criteria of proof of legality and sustainability were not met, then an import would not be allowed. This included instances where the information provided on an export or re-export is not satisfactory:

The new measures address these problems by introducing a requirement for an import permit guaranteeing that the origin of the trophy is legal and sustainable. The permit will only be delivered once the EU is convinced that the import meets criteria demonstrating that it is sustainable. If the criteria are not met, the import will be banned.<sup>20</sup>

And:

In addition to these specific measures on hunting trophies, the new measures also make it clear that permits should not be issued by EU Member States in cases where no satisfactory information has been obtained from the exporting or re-exporting country regarding the legality of wildlife products to be imported and subject to the CITES Convention and Regulation 338/97. This will create a solid basis for Member States to act when they deal with shipments whose legality is subject in doubt.<sup>21</sup>

---

<sup>19</sup> JNCC, "[Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora \(CITES\)](#)" [accessed on 6 February 2017]

<sup>20</sup> European Commission, [New EU measures on import of hunting trophies to fight against illegal and unsustainable practices](#), 5 February 2015

<sup>21</sup> European Commission, [New EU measures on import of hunting trophies to fight against illegal and unsustainable practices](#), 5 February 2015

There are also UK regulations setting out enforcement and penalties, [\*The Control in Endangered Species \(Enforcement\) Regulations 1997\*](#). The UK regulations cover the “import, export, landing, keeping, transportation and commercial display of, and trade in and disposal of, fauna and flora (including their parts and derivatives)”. They make it a criminal offence to make false statements or misuse permits or certificates.

### 5.1 EU Action plan on wildlife trafficking

On 26 February 2016, the [EU launched an Action Plan](#) to tackle illegal wildlife trafficking. The Plan contained 32 measures, which must be carried out by 2020 by the EU and its Member States. These measures focused on three main areas:

- Prevent trafficking and reduce supply and demand of illegal wildlife products
- Enhanced implementation of existing rules and combating organised crime more effectively by increasing cooperation between competent enforcement agencies such as Europol
- Strengthen cooperation between source, destination and transit countries, including strategic EU financial support to tackle trafficking in source countries, help build capacity for enforcement and provide long term sources of income to rural communities living in wildlife-rich areas

In October 2018, the Commission published a [progress report](#) on the implementation of the Action Plan.

## 6. UK Government position

The UK Government has indicated in the past that it would not seek a general ban on hunting trophies, but that the position could change. The Government’s emphasis has been on seeking to ensure that trade is sustainable. On 27 June 2016, then Defra Minister, Rory Stewart, explained that:

The Government considers that properly managed, legal and sustainable trophy hunting can play a part in species conservation efforts, including by providing an important source of funding for conservation in some countries. In view of this, we have no plans to introduce legislation banning the import of all trophies of Appendix I and II species. We will however continue to monitor the impact of trophy hunting and will work to put in place greater protection, including prohibiting imports, if this is shown to be needed.<sup>22</sup>

However, the Minister did state that the Government was concerned about the impact of the hunting for trophies on lion conservation and that it would consider an outright ban on lion trophies in 2017 if standards did not improve:

---

<sup>22</sup> [PQ 40644 \[on Animal Products: Imports\], 27 June 2016](#)

In recognition of the real concerns about the impact of trophy hunting on lion conservation, I announced in Parliament on 24 November 2015 that the Government will ban lion trophy imports by the end of 2017 unless there are improvements in the way hunting takes place in certain countries, judged against strict criteria. We will work with our European and international partners, and experts in the field, to reach a common approach to this issue.<sup>23</sup>

A ban was not introduced. The then Secretary of State for Environment Food and Rural Affairs, Michael Gove, stated in November 2018 that the Government kept the issue under review but did not indicate a ban was forthcoming:

[Topical Questions](#)

**Asked by:** Zac Goldsmith (Richmond Park) (Con) |

In many ways, the UK has led the agenda on wildlife protection. Does my right hon. Friend agree that we would enhance that reputation if, like France, the Netherlands and Australia, we banned the import of so-called hunting trophies?

**Answering member:** Michael Gove

I have a lot of sympathy with what my hon. Friend says. I find the idea of trophy hunting a difficult one to contemplate as anyone's idea of a wise use of time or resources. However, it is the case that the current regime allows trophies to be imported, provided that there is no impact on the sustainability of species. We keep these rules constantly under review and I am grateful to him, to Members across this House and to non-governmental organisations for keeping a spotlight on the issue because it is one that troubles many of us.

29 Nov 2018 | Oral answers to questions | House of Commons | House of Commons chamber | 650 c401

In December 2018 a response to a written answer provided some further detail of the Government's position:

Trophy hunting is not banned under CITES but Parties are required to have strict controls in place when trade in hunting trophies takes place. A permit will only be issued if no detrimental impact on the sustainability of endangered species can be shown and the trophy has been obtained from a legal and sustainable hunting operation.

Some conservation non-governmental organisations have set out how, in certain limited and rigorously controlled cases, scientific evidence shows that trophy hunting can be an effective conservation tool.<sup>24</sup>

More recently Michael Gove reiterated in an interview that he was cautious about introducing a ban on imports:

When asked about why the UK had not yet enforced a ban, Mr Gove said he had been advised by conservationists and charities to proceed with caution.

He said they told him: "Don't come in, you know, with your clod-hopping boots from the UK and necessarily tell people in each of

---

<sup>23</sup> [PQ 40644 \[on Animal Products: Imports\], 27 June 2016](#)

<sup>24</sup> 11 Dec 2018 Written questions HoC [199874](#)

these countries exactly how they should regulate their own wildlife."

"On an emotional level and on a personal level, I find it difficult to understand," Mr Gove said. "But I also recognise that I've got to respect if there is expertise, which says that [trophy hunting] done in a managed way can help wildlife overall, then let's just test that."<sup>25</sup>

### 6.1 Renewed calls for UK to ban the import of trophies

The [Campaign for the Ban of Trophy Hunting](#) has called for Governments to ban the export and import of trophies, effective enforcement, an immediate halt on the trade in trophies of vulnerable, threatened or endangered species and an international ban on trophy hunting. They also co-ordinated a letter to the then Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Michael Gove calling for the UK Government to ban the import of hunting trophies as this would "send a clear message to the international community that there is no place for trophy hunting in this day and age".<sup>26</sup>

[Early Day Motion 1829](#) on trophy hunting tabled by Zac Goldsmith was tabled in November 2018 and has been signed by 166 MPs. It calls on the Government to "to commit to halting imports of hunting trophies as a matter of urgency" and sets out the reasons for this as follows:

That this House notes with concern that hundreds of hunting trophies have been imported into the UK in recent years, including from species threatened with extinction such as elephants, lions, hippopotamuses, leopards and rhinoceroses; further notes that trophy hunting is having a negative effect on wildlife through the loss of significant numbers of healthy individuals that are key to the survival of rapidly declining populations, that unsustainable rates of trophy hunting have caused some populations of Africa's big cats to decline, and that hunting and poaching of elephants is outpacing their rate of reproduction; considers that trophy hunting is cruel, immoral, archaic and unjustifiable, and can act as a cover for illegal poaching; further considers that a global end to trophy hunting is desirable, and that nature tourism is a humane and more effective means of conserving wildlife and supporting local communities; and calls on the Government to commit to halting imports of hunting trophies as a matter of urgency.<sup>27</sup>

### 6.2 Trophy hunting debate

A Westminster Hall [debate on trophy hunting](#) took place on 15 May 2019. Introducing the debate, Zac Goldsmith, now Minister of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Department for International Development, called for a ban:

Banning imports of hunting trophies will not, on its own, save species; I have spoken before about the need to divert more of our aid spending towards protecting and restoring nature, not

---

<sup>25</sup> BBC News, [Trophy hunting: Gove 'cautious' over ban on imports](#), 7 May 2019

<sup>26</sup> The Guardian, [Ban the import of hunting trophies](#), 12 April 2019

<sup>27</sup> Trophy hunting, [EDM 1829](#), 13 November 2018, 2017-19 Session

least as a means of tackling and alleviating poverty. However, by supporting trophy hunting and allowing its proceeds into the UK, we are actively supporting an activity whose conservation benefits are dubious at best. The evidence suggests that it is actually causing harm to endangered species and that its proceeds rarely, if ever, reach local communities.<sup>28</sup>

In response, Therese Coffey the then Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, set out that:

The JNCC is doing some work for us on some of these things and on where we could consider potentially taking more action. We do not intend to have a consultation, but we are seeking views and gathering evidence to further our understanding.

It will always be challenging when scientific evidence does not necessarily provide support, which is why this might well come down to being a straightforwardly moral or ethical issue. However, we need to consider the wider impact, recognising the conflict that can happen and the unfortunate developments in parts of some African countries, where increasingly—in human-elephant and, in particular, human-lion conflicts—we see animals being poisoned by local communities as they take away people's livelihoods or go into areas where people live. We are still gathering the evidence—we do not have it yet—and I am interested in working with others on that.<sup>29</sup>

A response to written question on banning the imports of lion trophies on 15 July 2019 stated that the Government was reviewing the evidence:

**Lord Selkirk of Douglas:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will consider banning the importation of lion trophies to the UK, following the decision by Australia, France, and the Netherlands to ban such imports.

**Lord Gardiner of Kimble:** In May 2019 the Government hosted a stakeholder roundtable to hear views from all sides of the debate. We are reviewing existing evidence surrounding trophy hunting and its impact on conservation.<sup>30</sup>

More recently the Government stated that it would be publishing a call for evidence on the issue:

[Animal Products: Import Controls](#)

**Asked by: Latham, Mrs Pauline**

What steps he is taking to ban products of trophy hunting from being imported to the UK.

**Answering member: Dr Thérèse Coffey | Department: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**

We must proceed on the basis of evidence. We will publish a Call for Evidence on the impact of international trade in hunting trophies between the UK and other countries, to understand whether further action is needed to address impacts on the species, and the profound ethical concerns involved.

**HC Deb 25 July 2019 | PQ 912196**

---

<sup>28</sup> [HC Deb c167WH](#) 15 May 2019

<sup>29</sup> [HC Deb c177WH](#) 15 May 2019

<sup>30</sup> [Lions: Hunting: Written question - HL16885](#) 15 July 2019

### About the Library

The House of Commons Library research service provides MPs and their staff with the impartial briefing and evidence base they need to do their work in scrutinising Government, proposing legislation, and supporting constituents.

As well as providing MPs with a confidential service we publish open briefing papers, which are available on the Parliament website.

Every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in these publicly available research briefings is correct at the time of publication. Readers should be aware however that briefings are not necessarily updated or otherwise amended to reflect subsequent changes.

If you have any comments on our briefings please email [papers@parliament.uk](mailto:papers@parliament.uk). Authors are available to discuss the content of this briefing only with Members and their staff.

If you have any general questions about the work of the House of Commons you can email [hcenquiries@parliament.uk](mailto:hcenquiries@parliament.uk).

### Disclaimer

This information is provided to Members of Parliament in support of their parliamentary duties. It is a general briefing only and should not be relied on as a substitute for specific advice. The House of Commons or the author(s) shall not be liable for any errors or omissions, or for any loss or damage of any kind arising from its use, and may remove, vary or amend any information at any time without prior notice.

The House of Commons accepts no responsibility for any references or links to, or the content of, information maintained by third parties. This information is provided subject to the [conditions of the Open Parliament Licence](#).