



Humane Slaughter Association

Media Release

28 February 2018

MONITORING ANIMAL WELFARE AT SLAUGHTER – NEW CCTV LEGISLATION

Humane Slaughter Association (HSA) to hold one day seminar ahead of new legislation coming into force

As legislation to make CCTV cameras mandatory in slaughterhouses in England to safeguard animal welfare starts its journey through Parliament, plans for the Humane Slaughter Association's (HSA) seminar for the meat and livestock industry to discuss the animal welfare implications of the implementation and use of CCTV in abattoirs gathers pace.

The new legislation will come into effect from May this year, once it passes through Parliament, at which point businesses will have six months to comply. The penalty for failing to comply will be an enforcement notice to the business or prosecution.

HSA's Chief Executive Dr Robert Hubrecht said: *"CCTV is one way of monitoring animal handling in slaughterhouses, but much depends on how it is used, and it can only be a part of the total effort needed to maintain high welfare standards. The HSA looks forward to working with industry as this initiative moves forward."*

Speakers from industry, DEFRA, enforcement, research and technology installation companies will be presenting at the HSA's one day seminar on 9th May for the meat and livestock industry to discuss the animal welfare implications of the implementation and use of CCTV and other technology in abattoirs.

The seminar is aimed at all those associated with animal welfare at slaughter, eg animal welfare officers, veterinary surgeons, meat inspectors, food business operators, slaughter personnel, lairage workers, enforcement officers and legislators.

The seminar is being held at the Jurys Inn, Castle Donington and the day includes lunch. Those wishing to attend are advised to book early as places are limited. For further information and to register, please contact the HSA at info@hsa.org.uk or book online at www.hsa.org.uk.

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Note to Editors:

In August 2017, the Secretary of State launched a consultation on the plans to deliver a manifesto commitment for CCTV to be required in every slaughterhouse in England in all areas where live animals are present, with unrestricted access to footage for Official Veterinarians - reassuring consumers that high welfare standards are being effectively enforced. A summary of responses published in November last year showed that of almost 4,000 respondents, more than 99% were supportive of the plans.

The full government media release on cctv in slaughterhouses can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cctv-in-slaughterhouses-legislation-laid-in-parliament>

The HSA is an independent charity recognised internationally for promoting scientific, technical and educational advances towards improving the welfare of food animals worldwide at slaughter, killing, marketing and transport.

The charity is also noted for its livestock expertise and provides education and training in the fields of transport, marketing and slaughter in the United Kingdom and around the world. Its work includes researching, refining and demonstrating humane slaughter methods, publishing material such as guidelines, best practice, books and videos, funding research projects and the development of equipment. Specialist technical staff provide expert and practical advice on all welfare issues relating to food animals.

The HSA is funded by voluntary donations, subscriptions and legacies.

For more information about the HSA's work call 01582 831919, email info@hsa.org.uk or visit www.hsa.org.uk

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