

John F. Robins, Secretary, Animal Concern Advice Line (ACAL), c/o Animal Concern,
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Animal Concern Advice Line (ACAL) is a recognised Scottish charity: No. SC030982.
Animal Concern Advice Line was established in 2001 to take on the charitable work of Animal
Concern which was founded as the Scottish Anti-Vivisection Society in 1876.
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Trading Standards,
Dumfries & Galloway Council

Dear Sir or Madam,

I write concerning the Moffat Sheep Race due to take place on August 13th.

This involves strapping large stuffed dolls to the backs of sheep then forcing them to run along a tarmac road while a crowd of 5,000 people cheer them on.

You don't have to be an expert to realise that this is going to cause the animals unnecessary fear and stress and puts them at risk of injury by making them run along a tarmac road.

This may well contravene the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act of 2006. Section 24 of the Act requires that an animal is kept in a suitable environment, is able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns and needs to be protected from suffering (including mental suffering such as fear and stress), injury and disease. A town street is not a suitable environment for a sheep and racing other sheep with a stuffed jockey on its back is not a normal ovine behaviour pattern.

I ask your Department to intervene now and advise the organisers to abandon this event before any criminal offence is committed.

Yours faithfully,

John F. Robins,
Animal Concern Advice Line