

The law on animal research

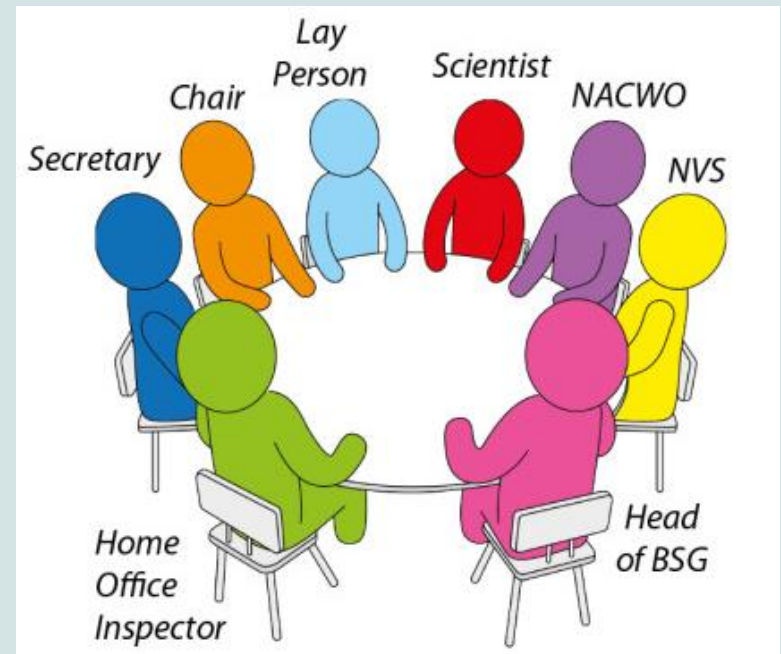
ELIZABETH II



Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986

The Government Says:

“We have legislated so experimentation is only permitted when there is no alternative research technique and the expected benefits outweigh any possible adverse effects.”



The law on animal research

- All animal research in the UK is regulated by the Animal (Scientific Procedures) Act (ASPA), 1986.
- All research using animals must be authorised by the Home Office.
- All animal facilities are regularly inspected, as often as once a month and usually without warning.
- Inspectors must be qualified vets or doctors.



Licensing

All animal research requires three separate licences:

- an animal facility licence
- an individual project licence
- a personal licence to show you have the skills to care for animals properly.



No research can be given a licence if there is a practical alternative to animal research.

Ethical review

Before you can apply for a licence, you have to hold an 'ethical review'. The review looks at:

- whether the research is justified
- whether similar work is being done elsewhere
- whether there are alternatives to using animals or ways to reduce the number of animals to be used.



Ethical review

The ethical review involves, as a minimum:

- the Named Veterinary Surgeon
- the Named Animal Care and Welfare Officer (NACWO)
- a representative of the project and personal licence holders

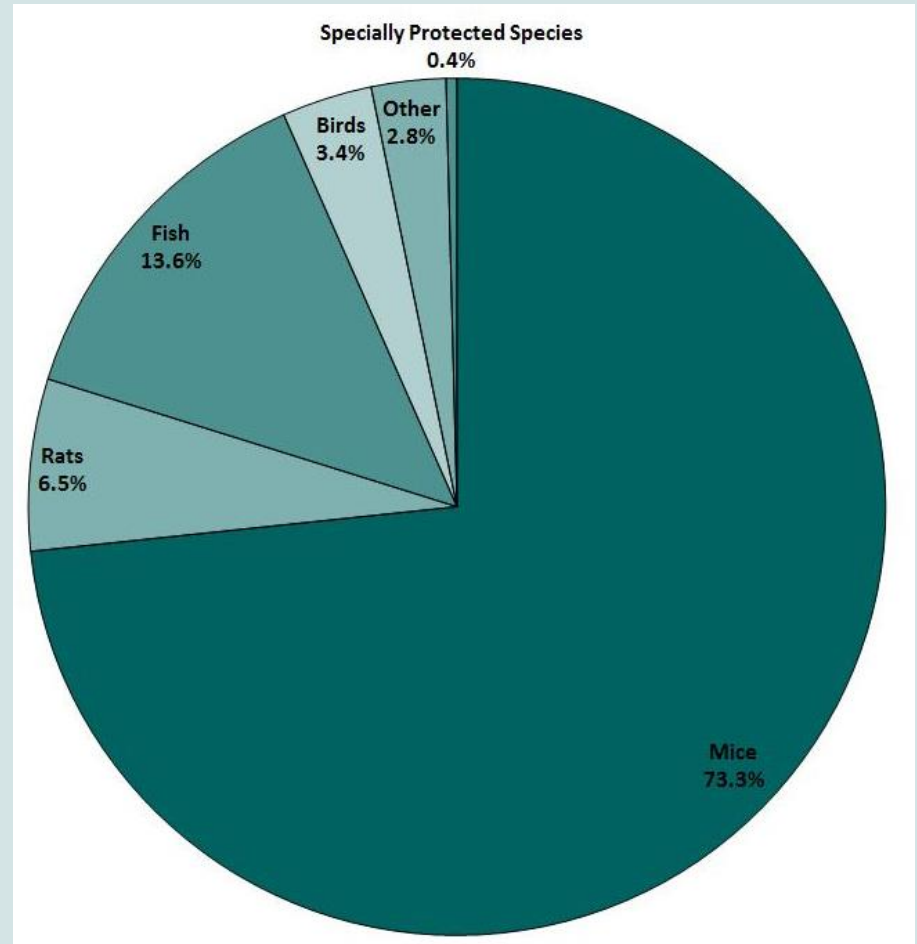
Non-scientists and community representatives are also encouraged to take part.



The 3Rs

- **Replacement**
- **Reduction**
- **Refinement**

www.nc3rs.org.uk



Procedures in Great Britain 2015

Reporting

- Every year the Home Office publishes statistics on the number and species of animals used in scientific procedures.
- Every project licence holder has to provide details of the animals they have used and why.
- Details of successful applications for project licences are also published on the Home Office website.

