

# A UK pet market ban is within our grasp..



The Government says commercial pet markets are illegal and plans to carry forward the ban into new legislation. But animal dealers at pet markets up and down the country still ply their trade in stressed, sick and suffering animals.

A ban on commercial pet markets would mean good news for animal welfare, environmental protection and public health – but only if it could actually be enforced...

*...don't let the dealers  
slip through our fingers*



## Business as usual

For many animal dealers, the Government's announced intention to ban pet markets, as part of the Animal Welfare Act 2006, has meant business as usual. New evidence from these one-day sales reveals commercial animal dealers continuing to peddle exotic animals, such as birds and reptiles, with a shocking disregard for their welfare. These traders get around the law by posing as private individuals selling their own pets!



## Fair to hobbyists

Pet markets where animals are traded for profit, are very different to non-commercial pet fairs, shows or exhibitions. These genuine member-only hobbyist events, where captive-bred animals are judged in classes and small numbers of surplus animals are exchanged or sold non-commercially to fellow members, are legal. Welfare groups have little concern about private, hobbyist events provided that they are well organised and that animals are properly cared for.

## The way forward

The Government plans to allow non-commercial pet fairs to continue unlicensed. But licensing these private, hobbyist events is the only way to enforce the ban on commercial sales and ensure that high welfare standards are maintained. Banning commercial pet markets and licensing non-commercial pet fairs would ensure that vulnerable exotic animals are no longer transported around the country, from one pet market to another, until they're either sold or they die.

*For more information about pet markets see [www.apa.org.uk](http://www.apa.org.uk)*

## We need your help NOW!

- Please email or write to your MP at House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. Ask your MP to support APA in calling for a ban on commercial pet markets and for hobbyist pet fairs to be licensed.
- Call APA on 01273 674253 for a free info pack (including sample letters), or send the coupon below to: APA, Brighton Media Centre, 15-17 Middle St, Brighton BN1 1AL

Please send me a free APA info pack

Title \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Age (if under 18) \_\_\_\_\_