

Policy guidance note

Hunting with Hounds

The Campaign to Protect Rural England does not campaign for or against hunting with hounds. We will not therefore be taking a position on the potential repeal of the Hunting Act 2004.

The issue of hunting raises very strong emotions for and against, but it has a very limited bearing on CPRE's mission which is to campaign for a beautiful and living countryside. We work to protect, promote and enhance our towns and countryside to make them better places to live, work and enjoy.

We use the resources we have to work in areas of direct and immediate relevance to our charitable objectives. We recognise the contribution made by field sports and the stewardship of rural communities to the evolving character of the English countryside over the years. But the issue of field sports is not central to CPRE's mission. We believe we should not be distracted from our work to protect and enhance the English countryside by being drawn into arguments on field sports, on which the CPRE membership holds very diverse views.

What can you do?

If you are a member of CPRE but feel strongly about this issue, our stance clearly does not preclude you from getting involved in the debate about the repeal of the hunting legislation in a personal capacity. But whether you are one of our members or not, please respect our carefully considered neutrality on this issue.