

Speak up anonymously about blood sport crime

Every year, crime in the countryside costs millions across the UK.

In 2019 rural crime cost the farming community £54 million according to the latest NFU Mutual crime report.

Hare coursing is a crime which has a significant cost to farmers. It is often linked to firearms and organised crime and endangers the safety of people living and working in the countryside.

Blood sport

The illegal blood sport takes place in areas of open land where the dogs can easily pursue the hare. It is often carried out by large groups of people who travel long distances to meetings.

Such contests are live-streamed to allow more people to watch and bet, and often huge amounts of money changes hands for winning dogs. While hares are invariably killed, the dogs may also be injured during the chase.

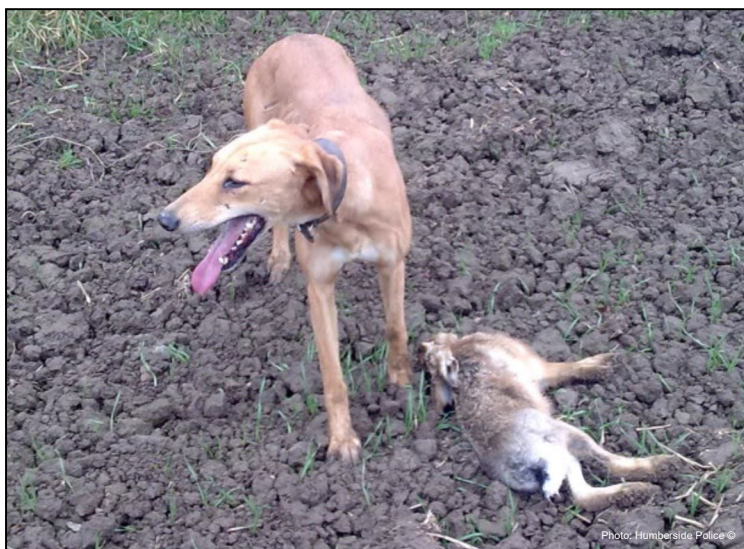
Hare coursing involves poaching and trespassing with disruption and damage to fences and gates, caused by vehicles gaining access to private land and damaging fields and crops.

In countryside communities, people tend to know who's who. They may have information about this crime.

What you can do

You should report any suspicious activity police on 999, particularly groups of people with dogs in multiple vehicles in isolated fields. Farmers who challenge hare coursers have been threatened with violence so, only if it is safe to do so:

- Take photos of or video the scene
- Note the registration of any vehicles, date, time, location and details of anyone involved.



If you hear of or suspect someone is involved in hare coursing or committing other crimes such as fly tipping, theft of livestock or quad bikes, but don't want to talk to police because you fear reprisals, then tell independent charity Crimestoppers what you know, **100% anonymously**.

Speak up and stay safe

Crimestoppers won't ask for your name, or any personal details. We'll just listen to what you know and pass that anonymous information on to the police. Your call or online information can't be tracked or traced. You will be the only person who will know you contacted Crimestoppers.

Crimestoppers is not the police. Contact us anytime on **0800 555 111** or online at **crimestoppers-uk.org**. It's **100% anonymous. Always.**

No police. No witness statements. No courts.

CrimeStoppers.

0800 555 111

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