

PEOPLE FOR  
THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT  
OF ANIMALS

23 January 2023

Dear Mr Cowell,

Thank you for helping us in the past. You've done wonders for animals by speaking out about the dangers of leaving dogs in hot cars, urging folks to ditch fur, and helping to supply veterinary care for animals belonging to people with few resources. You have many fans at PETA. We're now writing to ask that you please ensure, beyond any doubt, that your producers leave wild animals – and any trained animals, including dogs and cats from commercial suppliers – out of your plans for a potential *Britain's Got Talent* spinoff. There are solid reasons for this request.

Investigations by PETA US and law-enforcement agencies prove that there are serious problems with using and training animals for TV. [Cats have been starved for days](#), and [dogs have been kept in cages stacked on top of one another on trainer's premises](#). Wild and domestic animals have been traumatically separated from their mothers prematurely, suffered abusive training practices, been denied vital veterinary care, and been found confined in distressing conditions – their needs ignored. People who yearn to be on TV and gain fame will sometimes do awful things to get an animal to perform.

If you do have an animal show, will you please at the very least do everything possible to eliminate the risks that would come with it? We have compiled the minimum requirements for ensuring animal safety and will gladly share them with you. These include setting strict regulations, such as no fear-based training, no food deprivation, and no tricks that cause pain, confusion, or discomfort; requiring proof of humane training methods and information about how animals live off set; ensuring that anything a companion animal is asked to do is fun for the animal, not just the audience; and, of course, not allowing any wild or exotic animals.

Thank you, Mr Cowell. We look forward to hearing from you and are available to help.

Yours sincerely,

Elisa Allen

PO Box 70315  
London N1P 2RG  
United Kingdom  
+44 (0) 20 7837 6327  
+44 (0) 20 7923 6242 (fax)

Info@peta.org.uk

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS (PETA)  
FOUNDATION – a charitable  
company limited by guarantee,  
with its registered office at  
Cannon Place, 78 Cannon Street,  
London EC4N 6AF.  
Registered in England and Wales  
as charity number 1056453,  
company number 3135903.

## Affiliates

- PETA US
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands