



General Certificate of Secondary Education

**Citizenship Studies**

**8100/1/PM**

**Draft Pre-release**

## **Investigating the actions of others**

### **Notice to Teachers**

Please ensure that your students are aware of this topic so that they can carry out their research and revision.

### **Notice to students**

As part of your course of study for GCSE Citizenship Studies you must complete a research-based investigation into actions taken by others in regard to an issue or cause.

You will need to research:

- the background to the organisation or group
- the nature of the issue they are campaigning about
- the methods they use in this and other campaigns
- the views of others about the campaign
- the impact of the campaign.

You will be assessed on this research in Paper 1 Section A - Active Citizenship.

This section of Paper 1 is made up of six questions.

You are expected to attempt **all** six questions.

## The RSPCA and badger culling

### Fact file about the RSPCA

- The RSPCA was set up in 1824, it was granted Royal status by Queen Victoria in 1840.
- Her Majesty the Queen is the current patron.
- It is a registered charity financed by public donations.
- It employs 267 Inspectors.
- It has a network of 166 local branches.
- In 2013 it secured 3,961 convictions by private prosecution.
- It is a campaigning organisation which lobbies MPs and others and encourages its members to take an active part in its campaigns.
- It runs a separate web site to try to influence politicians - **[www.politicalanimal.org.uk](http://www.politicalanimal.org.uk)**

### The Badger Cull

In 2013, more than 1000 badgers were culled in two areas of Somerset and Gloucestershire. The government says the action was needed to control the spread of bovine TB, which it claims, is spread by badgers to cattle.

Anti-cull campaigners claimed the cull would not stop the spread of bovine TB, and may lead to local populations of badgers being wiped out.

### Charity Commission gives RSPCA clean bill of health over campaigns

Some organisations and groups opposed those who campaigned against the badger cull. The methods used by those protesting against the cull, led to some in favour of the badger cull to make formal complaints to the Charity Commission about the activities of the RSPCA and other anti-cull campaigners.

The notice below appeared on the RSPCA web site after the complaints had been investigated by the Charity Commission.

#### Posted on 29/08/2013 by the RSPCA

The Charity Commission has today concluded that we are acting within our charitable purposes when campaigning.

In its conclusion the Commission said:

*“We are satisfied that it is reasonable for the RSPCA to decide that campaigning against the badger cull and live animal exports is justified in furtherance of their objectives”.*

We have reconfirmed our publicly stated and long standing view, which is shared by the Commission, that it would be wholly inappropriate for any charity to undertake or advocate actions that might lead to any such harm of individuals.

In recent months, we have made numerous public statements expressing our abhorrence at all such forms of personal intimidation. As we made clear to the Commission and are pleased again to reiterate publicly, we will not be naming and shaming any farmers or farms involved in the badger cull.

Adapted from – <http://news.rspca.org.uk/2013/08/29/charity-commission-gives-rspca-clean-bill-of-health-over-campaigns/>

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