

PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

Dave Conway
Leader of the Council
Stoke-on-Trent City Council

1 August 2017

Via e-mail: david.conway@stoke.gov.uk

Dear Cllr Conway,

I'm writing on behalf of PETA UK – and our more than 1 million members and supporters, including many in Stoke-on-Trent – in response to [reports](#) that last weekend's firework show in Central Forest Park caused terrified ducks and geese to flee from the park onto a nearby road, where they were at risk of being struck by traffic. Because of the numerous concerns surrounding the use of traditional fireworks, we have a suggestion that we hope will *spark* your interest: use only silent fireworks in order to create a stress-free environment for the city's animal and human residents.

Richer in colour effects and visual choreography than conventional displays, silent fireworks offer a peaceful celebration for noise-sensitive children, elderly people, and individuals suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder – who are sensitive to and can be deeply disturbed by the noise of the explosives – and they don't put viewers at risk of sustaining hearing loss.

They're also more animal-friendly. The bangs from regular fireworks are traumatic for wildlife and also cause many domestic animals great distress. Indeed, animal-rescue centres see an increase in the number of lost dogs following conventional fireworks displays. Often, these animals go missing after they panic and jump over fences or break loose from leads or tethers, and some even jump through glass windows in an attempt to get away from the terrifying sounds. Many arrive at rescue centres with bloody paws and broken bones.

By using only silent fireworks in Stoke-on-Trent, you'll be able to deliver all the flash without the frightening noise of conventional displays, thereby improving the quality of life for *all* the city's residents.

Thank you for your time. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Luke Steele
Campaigns Strategist
PETA UK

cc: Cllr Abi Brown
Cllr Anthony Munday

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