



Powys County Council

**29 April 2025**

Dear Councillors:

Hello from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). As a county that's home to a Kindness Festival, and in the spirit of a sustainable Powys, I'm writing to request that the council erect an 'in memorial' plaque at the former Sandringham Leather Goods Factory to commemorate the gentle animals who suffered for the leather that transited through this site. This memorial would highlight the individuals killed there and remind the site's new homeowners to furnish their homes and wardrobes with compassion.

The global leather trade [cruelly exploits](#) and slaughters more than one billion animals—cows, sheep, goats, cats, dogs, and more—each year. Cows raised in India, one of the world's largest supply countries, endure lengthy death marches to slaughter, often collapsing from thirst, exhaustion, injury, hunger, or despair. Handlers break animals' tails or rub tobacco, chillies, or salt into their eyes to keep them moving. At the abattoir, cows' feet are bound, and they're slaughtered in full view of each other. Sometimes, their legs are hacked off while they're still conscious and endure the agony of being skinned alive.

The UK's abuse of animals used for their skins is no better. A valuable co-product of meat, leather purchases directly fund filthy factory farms, where many cows—who form lifelong bonds and even have best friends—live without companionship or even sunlight. They, too, are sometimes slaughtered while conscious, kicking after their throats are slit.

The human and environmental toll of leather is also immense. Recently, the University of Sussex revealed that a quarter of Bangladesh's leather workers are children, often orphans forced to handle sharp instruments and chemicals 10 hours a day just to survive. As it's someone's skin, leather would be rot if not for the tannery chemicals, and handling and inhaling the toxic mix of mineral salts, formaldehyde, coal-tar derivatives, cyanide-based and dyes used sees around 90 percent of tannery workers in Bangladesh die before turning 50. These chemicals also pollute the soil and waterways around them, while cattle ranching for skins and meat is responsible for 80 percent of deforestation in the Amazon.

Thank you for considering honouring those whose delicate skins have passed through Sandringham Leather Goods Factory. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Taylor  
Vice President of Corporate Projects

PEOPLE FOR  
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**Affiliates**

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