

83 Year Old Fatally Attacked by Cattle



Legalities Surrounding Public Rights Of Way

Public Rights of Way enforce certain laws on land owners to ensure the safety of the public. Certain animals, for example bulls of recognised dairy breeds over 10 months or dangerous animals are banned from fields surrounded by a public right of way.

Have You Taken Sufficient Precautions On Your Land?

The law states that you can be prosecuted if you keep any potentially dangerous animal on land crossed by a public right of way. To reduce the risk to the public, farmers tend to utilise land with public rights of way for stock such as sheep or growing crops.

A farmer in Lancashire had not taken sufficient precautions and was prosecuted following a cattle attack. An 83-year old man consequently died and his wife was left seriously injured when walking their dogs.

A partner in a farming company in Lancashire has been sentenced after notable safety breaches when considering a public footpath that pass through their land. Due to their lack of consideration, an elderly couple were attacked.

The partner pleaded guilty to breaching **Section 3 (2) of the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974** and received a prison sentence of 12 weeks suspended for 12 months, and was fined a total of £878 and was ordered to pay £7820.30 in costs.

The HSE said, there were a number of measures that could have been put in place to prevent such a terrible incident occurring. We would also advise that land owners display signage to further mitigate risks including: 'Keep Dogs on Leads at all times' and 'Caution, Livestock'.