



# **Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011**

## CHAPTER 16

### WELFARE OF ANIMALS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2011

#### PART 1

##### INTRODUCTORY

1. Animals to which this Act applies
2. Protected animals
3. Responsibility for animals

#### PART 2

##### PROTECTION OF ANIMALS

###### *Prevention of harm*

4. Unnecessary suffering
5. Prohibited procedures
6. Docking of dogs' tails
7. Administration of poisons, etc.
8. Fighting etc.

###### *Promotion of welfare*

9. Ensuring welfare of animals

**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the *Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011*. (See end of Document for details)

10. Improvement notices
11. Regulations for securing welfare of animals
12. Licensing or registration of activities involving animals
13. Prohibition on keeping certain animals
14. Abandonment
15. Transfer of animals by way of sale or prize to persons under 16
16. Codes of practice

### PART 3

#### ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

17. Powers in relation to animals in distress
18. Power of entry for section 17 purposes
19. Orders in relation to animals taken under section 17(5)
20. Orders under section 19: appeals

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#### ENFORCEMENT

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23. Inspection of records required to be kept by holder of licence
24. Inspection in connection with licences
25. Inspection in connection with registration
26. Inspection of premises to check compliance with regulations made under section 13
27. Inspection of farm premises
28. Inspection relating to assimilated law or Protocol obligations

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29. Power of councils to prosecute offences
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31. Penalties
32. Deprivation
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34. Seizure of animals in connection with disqualification
35. Section 34: supplementary
36. Destruction in the interests of an animal
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### GENERAL

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46. Conditions for grant of warrant
47. Powers of entry, inspection and search: supplementary
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60. Short title

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## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 1 — DOGS SPECIFIED FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 6(7)

1. Spaniels of any breed or combination of breeds.
2. Terriers of any breed or combination of breeds.
3. Any breed commonly used for hunting, or any combination of...

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4. Any breed commonly used for pointing, or any combination of...
5. Any breed commonly used for retrieving, or any combination of...

SCHEDULE 2 — REGULATIONS UNDER SECTION 12  
PART 1 — LICENCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 12

*Introductory*

1. This Part has effect in relation to regulations under section...

*Licensing authority*

2. Regulations shall provide for the licensing authority to be—
3. Where the licensing authority is a council, regulations may require...

*Period of licence*

4. Regulations may, in particular— (a) make provision about the period...
5. Regulations may not provide for licences to be granted for...

*Exercise of licensing functions*

6. Regulations may, in particular— (a) require a licensing authority not...
7. Regulations must make provision requiring a licensing authority not to...

*Grant of licence subject to conditions*

8. (1) Regulations may, in particular, make provision for the grant...

*Breach of licence condition*

9. (1) Regulations may provide for breach of a condition of...

*Appeals*

10. Regulations may, in particular, make provision for appeals in relation...

*Fees*

11. Regulations may include provision for fees or other charges in...

## PART 2 — REGISTRATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 12

### *Introductory*

12. This Part has effect in relation to regulations under section...

### *Registering authority*

13. Regulations shall provide for the registering authority to be—
14. Where the registering authority is a council, regulations may require...

### *Exercise of registration functions*

15. Regulations may, in particular— (a) require a registering authority not...

### *Appeals*

16. Regulations may, in particular, make provision for appeals in relation...

### *Fees*

17. Regulations may include provision for fees or other charges in...

## PART 3 — SUPPLEMENTARY

18. Power to make regulations under section 12(7) includes power to...
19. (1) Without prejudice to section 55(3), power to make regulations...

## SCHEDULE 3 — POWERS OF ENTRY, INSPECTION AND SEARCH: SUPPLEMENTARY

### *Safeguards etc. in connection with powers of entry conferred by warrant*

1. (1) Articles 17 and 18 of the Police and Criminal...
2. (1) This paragraph and paragraphs 3 and 4 have effect...
3. (1) A warrant may be executed by any inspector.
4. (1) An inspector who enters any premises by virtue of...

### *Duty to produce evidence of identity*

5. (1) This paragraph applies to a power of entry conferred...

### *Power to take persons onto premises*

6. In exercising a power to which paragraph 5 applies, a...

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*Duty to exercise power of entry at reasonable time*

7. Entry under a power to which paragraph 5 applies must...

*Power to require assistance*

8. (1) This paragraph applies to a power of entry conferred...

*Power to take equipment onto premises*

9. In exercising a power to which paragraph 8 applies, a...

*Duty to leave premises secured*

10. If, in the exercise of a power of entry to...

*Functions in connection with inspection and search*

11. (1) This paragraph applies to— (a) a power of inspection...  
12. A person who takes a sample from an animal pursuant...  
13. (1) Paragraph 11(2)(j) does not include power to seize an...  
14. As soon as reasonably practicable after having exercised a power...  
15. (1) A person exercising a power of search conferred by...

*Functions in connection with entry under section 18*

16. (1) Where a person enters premises in exercise of a...

*Offences*

17. A person commits an offence if that person—

SCHEDULE 4 — MINOR AND CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

*The Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983 (NI 8)*

1. In Articles 4(2)(a), 10(2), 13(2) and 18(1)(b), for “section 27...  
2. In Articles 10(5)(a), 13(5)(a) and 34(1) for “Part 3 of...

*The Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (c. 14)*

3. In section 29— (a) in subsection (5) for “sections 13...

*The Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1994 (NI 6)*

4. In Article 1(2) for “paragraphs (3) and (4)” substitute “...

*The Dangerous Wild Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (NI 16)*

5. In Article 2(5) for “Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland)...

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6. In Article 7— (a) for paragraph (1)(a) substitute—

SCHEDULE 5 — REPEALS

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