



# Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006

## 2006 CHAPTER 16

### PART 2

#### NATURE CONSERVATION IN THE UK

##### *Coordinated functions*

#### **34 Functions of national or international significance**

- (1) The UK conservation bodies have the functions described in subsection (2), but those functions may be discharged only through the joint committee.
- (2) The functions are—
  - (a) providing advice to the appropriate authorities on the development and implementation of policies for or affecting any nature conservation matter which—
    - (i) arises throughout the United Kingdom and raises issues common to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland,
    - (ii) arises in one or more (but not all) of those places and affects the interests of the United Kingdom as a whole, or
    - (iii) arises outside the United Kingdom;
  - (b) providing advice to any persons and disseminating knowledge about any matter falling within paragraph (a)(i), (ii) or (iii);
  - (c) establishing common standards throughout the United Kingdom for the monitoring of nature conservation and for research into nature conservation and the analysis of the resulting information;
  - (d) commissioning or supporting (whether by financial means or otherwise) research which the joint committee thinks is relevant to any matter mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c).
- (3) “The appropriate authorities” means—

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- (a) the Secretary of State (or any other Minister of the Crown),
- (b) the National Assembly for Wales,
- (c) the Scottish Ministers, and
- (d) the relevant Northern Ireland department.

**Commencement Information**

**I1** S. 34 in force at 1.10.2006 by S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**35 Advice from joint committee to UK conservation body**

- (1) The joint committee may give advice or information to any of the UK conservation bodies on any matter which—
- (a) is connected with the functions of that UK conservation body, and
  - (b) in the opinion of the joint committee—
    - (i) arises throughout the United Kingdom and raises issues common to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland,
    - (ii) arises in one or more (but not all) of those places and affects the interests of the United Kingdom as a whole, or
    - (iii) arises outside the United Kingdom.
- (2) In discharging their functions relating to nature conservation, the UK conservation bodies must have regard to any advice given to them under subsection (1).

**Commencement Information**

**I2** S. 35 in force at 1.10.2006 by S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**36 GB functions with respect to wildlife**

- (1) The GB conservation bodies have the functions described in subsection (2), but those functions may be discharged only through the joint committee.
- (2) The functions are—
- (a) those under sections 22(3) and 24(1) of the 1981 Act (listing of protected animals and plants);
  - (b) commissioning or supporting (whether by financial means or otherwise) research which the joint committee thinks is relevant to those functions.
- (3) “The 1981 Act” means the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (c. 69).

**Commencement Information**

**I3** S. 36 in force at 1.10.2006 by S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**37 UK conservation bodies: incidental powers for UK purposes, etc.**

- (1) Each of the UK conservation bodies may do anything that appears to it to be conducive or incidental to its functions under this Part.

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- (2) In particular each of them may for the purposes of its functions under this Part—
- (a) acquire or dispose of property;
  - (b) accept gifts;
  - (c) undertake research directly related to those functions if it appears appropriate to do so.
- (3) Nothing in any of the enactments concerning the functions of the UK conservation bodies prevents any of them—
- (a) if requested to do so by any of the others, from giving advice or information to the other, or
  - (b) from giving advice or information to the joint committee.
- (4) “Enactment” includes an Act of the Scottish Parliament and Northern Ireland legislation.

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**Commencement Information**

**I4** [S. 37](#) in force at 1.10.2006 by [S.I. 2006/2541](#), [art. 2](#) (with [Sch.](#))

**Changes to legislation:**

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