
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1976 No. 1040

Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1976

Liability for damage done by dangerous animals

4.—(1) Subject to Article 6, where any damage is caused by an animal which belongs to a dangerous species, any person who is a keeper of the animal is liable for the damage.

(2) Subject to Article 6, where damage is caused by an animal which does not belong to a dangerous species, a keeper of the animal is liable for the damage if—

- (a) the damage is of a kind which the animal, unless restrained, was likely to cause or which, if caused by the animal, was likely to be severe; and
- (b) the likelihood of the damage or of its being severe was due to characteristics of the animal which are not normally found in animals of the same species or are not normally so found except at particular times or in particular circumstances; and
- (c) those characteristics were known to that keeper or were at any time known to a person who at that time had charge of the animal as that keeper's servant or, where that keeper is the head of a household, were known to another keeper of the animal who is a member of that household and under the age of sixteen years.

Changes to legislation:

Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1976, Section 4 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 May 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Instrument am. (prosp.) by [1998 c. 32 s.74\(1\)Sch.4 para. 11](#)