



Wild Animals and Circuses (Wales) Act 2020

2020 asc 2

Prohibition on using wild animals in travelling circuses

1 Offence to use wild animals in travelling circuses

- (1) A person who is an operator of a travelling circus commits an offence if the person uses, or causes or permits another person to use, a wild animal in the travelling circus in Wales.
- (2) For the purpose of this section, a wild animal is used if the animal—
 - (a) performs, or
 - (b) is exhibited.
- (3) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (1) is liable on summary conviction to a fine.

2 Meaning of “operator”

In this Act, “operator” means—

- (a) the owner of the travelling circus,
- (b) a person other than the owner with overall responsibility for the operation of the travelling circus, or
- (c) if neither of the persons mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b) is present in the United Kingdom, the person in the United Kingdom responsible for the operation of the travelling circus.

3 Meaning of “wild animal”

- (1) In this Act, a “wild animal” means an animal of a kind that is not commonly domesticated in the British Islands.

- (2) Despite subsection (1), regulations may specify for the purposes of this Act a kind of animal—
 - (a) that is to be regarded as a wild animal;
 - (b) that is not to be regarded as a wild animal.
- (3) In this Act, “animal” has the meaning given by the [Animal Welfare Act 2006 \(c. 45\)](#) (see section 1).
- (4) In subsection (1), “British Islands” means the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

4 Meaning of “travelling circus”

- (1) In this Act, a “travelling circus” means a circus which travels from one place to another for the purpose of providing entertainment at those places.
- (2) A “travelling circus” includes a circus which travels as mentioned in subsection (1) for the purpose mentioned there, despite there being periods during which it does not travel from one place to another.
- (3) Despite subsection (1), regulations may specify for the purposes of this Act a type of undertaking, act or entertainment—
 - (a) that is to be regarded as a travelling circus;
 - (b) that is not to be regarded as a travelling circus.