



# Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Act 2021

## 2021 CHAPTER 21

An Act to make provision about the mode of trial and maximum penalty for certain offences under the Animal Welfare Act 2006. [29th April 2021]

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

### **1 Mode of trial and maximum penalty for certain animal welfare offences**

- (1) Section 32 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 (post-conviction powers: imprisonment or fine) is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1) (penalty for offence under any of sections 4, 5, 6(1) and (2), 7 and 8 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006), for the words from “on summary conviction” to the end substitute “—
  - (a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, or to a fine, or to both;
  - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years, or to a fine, or to both.”
- (3) After subsection (4) insert—

“(4A) In relation to an offence committed before the commencement of paragraph 24(2) of Schedule 22 to the Sentencing Act 2020, the reference in subsection (1)(a) to 12 months is to be read as a reference to 6 months.”
- (4) In subsection (5), omit “(1)(a).”

### **2 Extent, commencement and short title**

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales only.

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**Changes to legislation:** *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Act 2021. (See end of Document for details)*

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- (2) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of two months beginning with the day on which it is passed.
- (3) The amendments made by this Act do not apply to offences committed before this Act comes into force.
- (4) This Act may be cited as the Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Act 2021.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Act 2021.