

*These notes refer to the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland)  
2011 (c.16) which received Royal Assent on 29 March 2011*

# Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### **Part 1 - Introductory**

##### ***Section 3 – Responsibility for animals***

While the owner is always regarded as responsible for an animal, a person who is in charge of an animal is also responsible for it. This includes a person who temporarily keeps an animal for any reason, for example, a veterinary surgeon taking responsibility for the animals kept in his surgery overnight, staff at boarding premises, and staff at animal sanctuaries.