



Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

1981 CHAPTER 69

PART II

NATURE CONSERVATION, COUNTRYSIDE AND NATIONAL PARKS

Miscellaneous and supplemental

49 Extension of power to appoint wardens.

- (1) This section applies to any land in a National Park or in the countryside if—
 - (a) the public are allowed access to the land; and
 - (b) there is no power under any of the provisions of the 1949 Act and the 1968 Act for a local authority, a local planning authority, [^{F1}the Natural Resources Body for Wales] or [^{F2}Natural England] to appoint wardens as respects that land.
- (2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4) the power conferred on a local authority by section 92(1) of the 1949 Act (appointment of wardens) shall include a power, exercisable only with the agreement of the owner and of the occupier of any land to which this section applies, to appoint persons to act as wardens as respects that land.
- (3) The only purpose for which wardens may be appointed by virtue of subsection (2) is to advise and assist the public.
- (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 41(8) of the 1968 Act ([^{F2}Natural England][^{F3} or [^{F1}the Natural Resources Body for Wales]]) to be local authority for purposes of section 92 of the 1949 Act), nothing in this section shall be construed as conferring on [^{F2}Natural England][^{F3} or [^{F1}the Natural Resources Body for Wales]]) any additional power to appoint wardens.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 49 substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(S.I. 2013/755\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 178](#) (with Sch. 7)

Changes to legislation: *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Section 49 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. 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. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- F2** Words in s. 49(1)(4) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), ss. 105(1), 107, [Sch. 11 para. 93](#); S.I. 2006/2541, [art. 2](#)
- F3** Words inserted (*1.4.1991*) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990 \(c. 43, SIF 46:4\)](#), s. 130, [Sch. 8 para. 6\(6\)](#); S.I. 1991/685, [art.3](#).

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 53(3)(c)(ia) inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 2\(b\)](#)
- s. 53B(4A)(4B) inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 4](#)
- s. 53ZA inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 3](#)
- s. 54B54C inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 5](#)
- Sch. 13A inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 6](#)
- Sch. 14A inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 7](#)