



Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986

1986 CHAPTER 14

The inspectorate and the committee

18 Inspectors

- (1) The Secretary of State shall, with the consent of the Treasury as to numbers and remuneration, appoint as inspectors for the purposes of this Act persons having such medical or veterinary qualifications as he thinks requisite.
- (2) It shall be the duty of an inspector—
 - (a) to advise the Secretary of State on applications for personal and project licences, on requests for their variation or revocation and on their periodical review ;
 - (b) to advise him on applications for certificates under this Act and on requests for their variation or revocation;
 - (c) to visit places where regulated procedures are carried out for the purpose of determining whether those procedures are authorised by the requisite licences and whether the conditions of those licences are being complied with;
 - (d) to visit designated establishments for the purpose of determining whether the conditions of the certificates in respect of those establishments are being complied with;
 - (e) to report to the Secretary of State any case in which any provision of this Act or any condition of a licence or certificate under this Act has not been or is not being complied with and to advise him on the action to be taken in any such case.
- (3) If an inspector considers that a protected animal is undergoing excessive suffering he may require it to be immediately killed by a method appropriate to the animal under Schedule 1 to this Act or by such other method as may be authorised by any personal licence held by the person to whom the requirement is addressed.

19 The Animal Procedures Committee

- (1) There shall be a committee to be known as the Animal Procedures Committee.

- (2) The Committee shall consist of a chairman and at least twelve other members appointed by the Secretary of State.
- (3) Of the members other than the chairman—
 - (a) at least two-thirds shall be persons having such a qualification as is mentioned in subsection (4) below; and
 - (b) at least one shall be a barrister, solicitor or advocate,but so that at least half of those members are persons who neither hold nor within the previous six years have held any licence under this Act or under the Cruelty to Animals Act 1876 ; and in making appointments to the Committee the Secretary of State shall have regard to the desirability of ensuring that the interests of animal welfare are adequately represented.
- (4) The qualifications referred to in subsection (3)(a) above are full registration as a medical practitioner, registration as a veterinary surgeon or qualifications or experience in a biological subject approved by the Secretary of State as relevant to the work of the Committee.
- (5) Members of the Committee shall be appointed for such periods as the Secretary of State may determine but no such period shall exceed four years and no person shall be reappointed more than once.
- (6) Any member may resign by notice in writing to the Secretary of State; and the chairman may by such a notice resign his office as such.
- (7) The Secretary of State may terminate the appointment of a member if he is satisfied that—
 - (a) for a period of six months beginning not more than nine months previously he has, without the consent of the other members, failed to attend the meetings of the Committee;
 - (b) he is an undischarged bankrupt or has made an arrangement with his creditors;
 - (c) he is by reason of physical or mental illness, or for any other reason, incapable of carrying out his duties; or
 - (d) he has been convicted of such a criminal offence, or his conduct has been such, that it is not in the Secretary of State's opinion fitting that he should remain a member.
- (8) The Secretary of State may make payments to the chairman by way of remuneration and make payments to him and the other members in respect of expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties.
- (9) The Secretary of State may also defray any other expenses of the Committee.

20 Functions of the Committee

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Animal Procedures Committee to advise the Secretary of State on such matters concerned with this Act and his functions under it as the Committee may determine or as may be referred to the Committee by the Secretary of State.
- (2) In its consideration of any matter the Committee shall have regard both to the legitimate requirements of science and industry and to the protection of animals against avoidable suffering and unnecessary use in scientific procedures.

- (3) The Committee may perform any of its functions by means of sub-committees and may co-opt as members of any sub-committee any persons considered by the Committee to be able to assist that sub-committee in its work.
- (4) The Committee may promote research relevant to its functions and may obtain advice or assistance from other persons with knowledge or experience appearing to the Committee to be relevant to those functions.
- (5) The Committee shall in each year make a report on its activities to the Secretary of State who shall lay copies of the report before Parliament.