



Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006

2006 CHAPTER 16

PART 2

NATURE CONSERVATION IN THE UK

Coordinated functions

34 Functions of national or international significance

- (1) The UK conservation bodies have the functions described in subsection (2), but those functions may be discharged only through the joint committee.
- (2) The functions are—
 - (a) providing advice to the appropriate authorities on the development and implementation of policies for or affecting any nature conservation matter which—
 - (i) arises throughout the United Kingdom and raises issues common to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland,
 - (ii) arises in one or more (but not all) of those places and affects the interests of the United Kingdom as a whole, or
 - (iii) arises outside the United Kingdom;
 - (b) providing advice to any persons and disseminating knowledge about any matter falling within paragraph (a)(i), (ii) or (iii);
 - (c) establishing common standards throughout the United Kingdom for the monitoring of nature conservation and for research into nature conservation and the analysis of the resulting information;
 - (d) commissioning or supporting (whether by financial means or otherwise) research which the joint committee thinks is relevant to any matter mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c).
- (3) “The appropriate authorities” means—

- (a) the Secretary of State (or any other Minister of the Crown),
- (b) the National Assembly for Wales,
- (c) the Scottish Ministers, and
- (d) the relevant Northern Ireland department.

35 Advice from joint committee to UK conservation body

- (1) The joint committee may give advice or information to any of the UK conservation bodies on any matter which—
 - (a) is connected with the functions of that UK conservation body, and
 - (b) in the opinion of the joint committee—
 - (i) arises throughout the United Kingdom and raises issues common to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland,
 - (ii) arises in one or more (but not all) of those places and affects the interests of the United Kingdom as a whole, or
 - (iii) arises outside the United Kingdom.
- (2) In discharging their functions relating to nature conservation, the UK conservation bodies must have regard to any advice given to them under subsection (1).

36 GB functions with respect to wildlife

- (1) The GB conservation bodies have the functions described in subsection (2), but those functions may be discharged only through the joint committee.
- (2) The functions are—
 - (a) those under sections 22(3) and 24(1) of the 1981 Act (listing of protected animals and plants);
 - (b) commissioning or supporting (whether by financial means or otherwise) research which the joint committee thinks is relevant to those functions.
- (3) “The 1981 Act” means the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (c. 69).

37 UK conservation bodies: incidental powers for UK purposes, etc.

- (1) Each of the UK conservation bodies may do anything that appears to it to be conducive or incidental to its functions under this Part.
- (2) In particular each of them may for the purposes of its functions under this Part—
 - (a) acquire or dispose of property;
 - (b) accept gifts;
 - (c) undertake research directly related to those functions if it appears appropriate to do so.
- (3) Nothing in any of the enactments concerning the functions of the UK conservation bodies prevents any of them—
 - (a) if requested to do so by any of the others, from giving advice or information to the other, or
 - (b) from giving advice or information to the joint committee.
- (4) “Enactment” includes an Act of the Scottish Parliament and Northern Ireland legislation.