



Animal Welfare (Sentience) Act 2022

2022 CHAPTER 22

Supplementary and general

4 Information

- (1) In Schedule 1 to the Public Records Act 1958 (definition of public records), in Part 1 of the table, in the second column, after the entry relating to Agricultural Wages Committees insert—

“The Animal Sentience Committee.”

- (2) In Part 6 of Schedule 1 to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (public authorities to which that Act applies) at the appropriate place insert—

“The Animal Sentience Committee.”

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 4 not in force at Royal Assent, see **s. 6(2)**
I2 S. 4 in force at 22.5.2023 by **S.I. 2023/563, reg. 2**

5 Interpretation

- (1) In this Act “animal” means—
- (a) any vertebrate other than *homo sapiens*,
 - (b) any cephalopod mollusc, and
 - (c) any decapod crustacean.
- (2) The Secretary of State may by regulations amend this section so as to bring invertebrates of any description within the meaning of “animal” for the purposes of this Act, where they are not already within that meaning.
- (3) Regulations under this section must be made by statutory instrument.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Animal Welfare (Sentience) Act 2022, Cross Heading: Supplementary and general. (See end of Document for details)

- (4) Regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft of the instrument containing them has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, each House of Parliament.
- (5) In this section “vertebrate” and “invertebrate” have the meanings given by section 1(5) of the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

Commencement Information

- I3** S. 5 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 6\(2\)](#)
I4 S. 5 in force at 22.5.2023 by [S.I. 2023/563](#), [reg. 2](#)

6 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (2) This Act, apart from this section, comes into force on such day or days as the Secretary of State may by regulations made by statutory instrument appoint.
- (3) This section comes into force on the day on which this Act is passed.
- (4) This Act may be cited as the Animal Welfare (Sentience) Act 2022.

Commencement Information

- I5** S. 6 in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 6\(3\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Animal Welfare (Sentience) Act 2022,
Cross Heading: Supplementary and general.