# ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2006

# **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

# **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

## Part 1 – Animal Health

## Section 14 – Penalties and time limits

- 87. Section 14 of the Act (substituting section 75 of the 1981 Act) revises and brings upto-date the penalties (financial and/or custodial) for existing animal health offences committed under the 1981 Act and for the new offences detailed in the Act where a penalty is not specified by any other provision of the 1981 Act.
- 88. Subsection (2) provides that a person who commits an offence is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment up to 6 months or to a fine up to level 5 (currently £5000) on the standard scale or to both.
- 89. Subsection (3) extends the time limits within which prosecutions for offences under the 1981 Act can be brought. It provides that proceedings may be brought within the period of 6 months from the date on which evidence of that offence came to the knowledge of the prosecutor, provided this is within 3 years of the date on which the offence was committed (subsection (4)).
- 90. Subsection (5) provides clarification in the case of continuous contravention. Subsection (6) explains when proceedings are to be deemed to have started