



Slaughterhouses Act 1974

CHAPTER 3

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT 1974

PART I

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND KNACKERS' YARDS

Licensing of private slaughterhouses and knackers' yards

- 1 Slaughterhouses and knackers' yards to be licensed.
- 2 Slaughterhouse licences and applications for such licences.
- 3 Certain applications for slaughterhouse licence to be refused forthwith.
- 4 Knacker's yard licences and applications for such licences.
- 5 Notification of refusal of licence.
- 6 Appeals against refusal of licence.
- 7 Right to continue to use premises pending appeal.
- 8 Effect of court's decision.
- 9 Duration of licences.
- 10 Temporary continuance of licence on death.

Regulation of private slaughterhouses and knackers' yards

- 11 Restriction of dwellings in slaughterhouses.
- 12 Byelaws about slaughterhouses and knackers' yards.
- 13 Signs to be displayed at slaughterhouses and knackers' yards.

Restriction of private slaughterhouses

- 14 Restriction of slaughterhouses only by agreement.

Provision and management of public slaughterhouses

- 15 Power to provide public slaughterhouses.

Changes to legislation: Slaughterhouses Act 1974 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 10 July 2023. 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

- 16 Management of public slaughterhouses.
- 17 Charges in respect of public slaughterhouses.
- 18 Power to provide cold stores and refrigerators for public slaughterhouses.

Enforcement and legal proceedings

- 19 Execution and enforcement of Part I.
- 20 Powers of entry.
- 21 Obstruction.
- 22 Institution of proceedings by local authorities.
- 23 Prosecution and punishment of offences.
- 24 Offences by corporations.
- 25 Contravention due to default of some other person.
- 26 Appeals to Crown Court.

Miscellaneous and supplemental

- 27 Local authorities for purposes of Part I.
- 28 Port health authorities and joint boards.
- 29 Protection for local government officers acting in good faith.
- 30 Power of compulsory purchase of land.
- 31 Local inquiries.
- 32 Incorporation of certain provisions of Public Health Act 1936.
- 33 Application to Crown.
- 34 Interpretation of Part I.
- 35 Saving for port slaughterhouses and knackers' yards.

PART II

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

Provisions as to slaughter

- 36 Methods of slaughter in slaughterhouses and knackers' yards.
- 37 Methods of slaughter of certain swine otherwise than in slaughterhouses or knackers' yards.
- 38 Regulations for securing humane conditions of slaughter in slaughterhouses and knackers' yards.

Licensing of slaughtermen

- 39 Slaughtermen to be licensed.
- 40 Licences and applications for licences.

Enforcement and legal proceedings

- 41(1) Execution and enforcement Part II.
- 41A Codes of practice.
- 42 Powers of entry.
- 43 Prosecution and punishment of offences.

Supplemental

- 44 Regulations.
- 45 Interpretation of Part II.

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PART III

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

- 46 Consequential and other amendments.
- 47 Transitional provisions, savings and repeals.
- 48 Short title, construction, commencement and extent.

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 —

Membership

- 1 The Rabbinical Commission for the licensing of Shochetim (in this...
- 2 The Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of Great...
- 3 Of the members of the Commission other than the permanent...

Supplementary provisions

- 4 The functions of the Commission shall be exercisable notwithstanding any...
- 5 The quorum of the Commission shall be four.

SCHEDULE 2 —

Particular Matters to be dealt with by Regulations Under Section 38 Relating to Horses

- 1 Construction, equipment and lay-out of lairages, including provision of racks...
- 2 Feeding and watering of horses pending slaughter.
- 3 Construction, equipment and lay-out of premises, rooms or compartments in...
- 4 Disposal of blood, offal and refuse.
- 5 Notices to be given and returns to be made to...

SCHEDULE 3 — Consequential Amendments

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 In section 1(2) of the Slaughter of Poultry Act 1967,...
- 5 In section 10(1) of the Firearms Act 1968, for the...
- 6

SCHEDULE 4 —

.....

SCHEDULE 5 — Transitional Provisions and Savings

- 1 (1) In so far as anything done or having effect...
- 2 Without prejudice to any express amendment made by this Act,...
- 3 Where any period of time specified in any of the...

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- 4 (1) Nothing in this Act shall affect the repealed enactments...
- 5 Without prejudice to paragraph 1 above, any reference in this...
- 6 Nothing in this Act shall affect the operation of section...
- 7 Nothing in this Act shall affect the operation of section...

SCHEDULE 6 — Repeals

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 4(2) excluded by SI 1975/1023 art. 4A(1) (as inserted) by [S.I. 2012/1957 art. 3](#)
- s. 20(4) words substituted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 26 para. 23\(2\)](#)
- s. 21(1) words substituted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 26 para. 23\(3\)](#)
- s. 23(2)(a) words substituted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 26 para. 23\(4\)](#)
- s. 38(5) words repealed by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 27 para. 4Sch. 37 Pt. 9](#)

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. 4(3)(a) excluded by SI 1975/1023 art. 4A(2) (as inserted) by [S.I. 2012/1957 art. 3](#)
- s. 4(3)(b) excluded by SI 1975/1023 art. 4A(3) (as inserted) by [S.I. 2012/1957 art. 3](#)
- s. 4(5A) inserted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 32 para. 158](#)