STATES OF JERSEY

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DRAFT ANIMAL WELFARE (JERSEY) LAW 2004 (APPOINTED DAY) ACT 200

Lodged au Greffe on 2nd January 2007 by the Minister for Planning and Environment

STATES GREFFE



DRAFT ANIMAL WELFARE (JERSEY) LAW 2004 (APPOINTED DAY) ACT 200

REPORT

Background

The Law was approved by the States on 20th April 2004 and amended on 1st November 2005. Bringing the Law into force is an important measure to promote improved animal welfare and give improved powers to investigate adverse welfare complaints. It will be welcomed by many who have keenly followed its progress over a protracted period.

It is proposed that Orders will be made, to come into force at the same time as the Law. The Orders will amend Schedule 1 and specify prohibited poisons and licensing fees. These Orders will be made under Articles 6(4), 7, and 23 respectively.

Orders

Schedule 1 to the Law will be amended to reduce the age at which pigs may be castrated using a scalpel, without anaesthetic. Castration of pigs is discouraged but when it is considered necessary, it should only be carried out without anaesthetic, before 1 week of age. Appropriate management can often eliminate the need to castrate.

The Prohibited Poisons Order will specify substances, mainly pesticides, which it will be an offence to administer to animals. Strychnine is included in this list. Strychnine has historically been used to control moles but is no longer available in the EU for this purpose. Alternative control methods available are trapping and fumigation.

The Fees Order will set the licensing fees to be paid by businesses specified in Articles 14 and 15. The Order will give a 6 month exemption to existing businesses thereby enabling any which are non-compliant an opportunity to comply within a reasonable timescale. Businesses are expected to operate to the standards recommended in the published welfare codes, which are available on the internet or from the Department of Environment.

Financial and manpower implications

There are resource implications for business operators who will be required to pay an initial licence fee and annual renewal fee as detailed in the Fees Order. Some operators may also require financial outlay to improve premises.

The resource implications for the Department of Environment which will provide veterinary and technical input to inspection of premises will be met from current staffing and cash limits.

Explanatory Note

This Act would bring the Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 2004 into force on 1st February 2007. The Law was adopted by the States on 20th April 2004 (P.126/2003). The Animal Welfare (Amendment) (Jersey) Law 2006 would automatically come into force on the same day.



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Made Coming into force [date to be inserted] [date to be inserted]

THE STATES, in pursuance of Article 43 of the Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 2004, have made the following Act –

1 Commencement of Law

The Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law $2004^{[1]}$ shall come into force on 1st February 2007.

2 Citation

This Act may be cited as the Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 2004 (Appointed Day) Act 200-.

L.27/2004

<u>[1]</u>