

ORDINANCE
OF THE STATES OF DELIBERATION

ENTITLED

**The Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare
Ordinance, 1987 ***

[CONSOLIDATED TEXT]

NOTE

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* Recueil d'Ordonnances Tome XXIV, p. 51; as amended by the: Uniform Scale of Fines (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 1989 (Ordres en Conseil Vol. XXXI, p. 278); Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012 (No. III of 2012); Organisation of States' Affairs (Transfer of Functions) Ordinance, 2016 (No. IX of 2016); Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (No. VIII of 2025). See also the Animal Welfare (Enabling Provisions) (Guernsey) Law, 2008 (No. XX of 2008).

ORDINANCE
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Ordinance, 1987

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(Made on 25th March, 1987.)

The Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare Ordinance, 1987

THE STATES, in pursuance of their Resolution of the 28th day of January, 1987, hereby order: –

PART I PROHIBITED OPERATIONS

Prohibited operations.

1. ...

NOTES

Part I, and section 1 thereof, were repealed by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012, section 83, Schedule 4, paragraph 9(a), with effect from 1st July, 2014.

In accordance with the provisions of the Animal Welfare (Enabling Provisions) (Guernsey) Law, 2008, section 3, Schedule, paragraph 10, with effect from 28th October, 2008, this Ordinance is one of those enactments which may be repealed, etc by ordinance under the 2008 Law.

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2. ...

NOTE

Section 2 was repealed by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012, section 83, Schedule 4, paragraph 9(a), with effect from 1st July, 2014.

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3. ...

NOTE

Part II, and section 3 thereof, were repealed by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012, section 83, Schedule 4, paragraph 9(a), with effect from 1st July, 2014.

Operations which may be carried out without anaesthetics.

4. ...

NOTE

Section 4 was repealed by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012, section 83, Schedule 4, paragraph 9(a), with effect from 1st July, 2014.

Operations excluded from section 4.

5. ...

NOTE

Section 5 was repealed by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012, section 83, Schedule 4, paragraph 9(a), with effect from 1st July, 2014.

Meaning of "use of an anaesthetic".

6. ...

NOTE

Section 6 was repealed by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012, section 83, Schedule 4, paragraph 9(a), with effect from 1st July, 2014.

PART III

RESTRICTIONS ON PRACTICE OF VETERINARY SURGERY

Practice of veterinary surgery.

7. [(1)] No person shall –

- (a) subject to section 16, practise, or hold himself out as practising or as being prepared to practise, veterinary surgery,
- (b) take or use the title of veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner, or any name, title, addition or description implying that he is a veterinary surgeon or is a practitioner of, or is qualified to practise, veterinary surgery,

unless he is a recognised veterinary surgeon.

[(2) No person shall practise veterinary surgery unless –

- (a) the person does so in or on behalf of a registered practice, or
- (b) before so practising, the person has given the Board written notice of –
 - (i) that person's intention to practise veterinary

surgery, and

- (ii) the period of time during which that person intends to practise veterinary surgery in the Islands of Guernsey, Herm and Jethou.

(3) Nothing in subsection (2) limits the effect of subsection (1).

(4) In this Ordinance, "**registered practice**" means a veterinary practice business registered under section 17B(2) as being carried on, from or at registered premises.]

NOTE

In section 7, first, subsection (1) was re-numbered and, second, subsection (2) was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, respectively section 2(a) and section 2(b), with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Meaning of "recognised veterinary surgeon".

8. (1) A recognised veterinary surgeon is a person who is registered

—

(a) in either of the professional registers, and

(b) [as a veterinary surgeon in the Register] established under section 9.

(2) A person who ceases to be registered as mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection (1) ceases to be a recognised veterinary surgeon.

NOTE

In section 8, the words in square brackets were substituted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 3, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

[The Register.

9. (1) The Committee shall establish and maintain a register to be called "**the Register of Veterinary Surgeons, Nurses and Premises**" containing –

- (a) the particulars of persons registered as veterinary surgeons under section 10(2) or 13,
- (b) the particulars of persons registered as veterinary nurses under section 17I, and
- (c) the particulars relating to registered premises required to be entered under section 17B(2).

(2) Where the Committee is made aware that a recognised veterinary surgeon holds an Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)), the Committee shall –

- (a) annotate the Register to that effect, and
- (b) include in the annotation the period of time for which the qualification remains valid.]

NOTE

Section 9 was substituted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 4, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Entries in the Register.

10. [(1) A person wishing to be registered as a veterinary surgeon in the Register may apply in that behalf to the Board –

- (a) on payment of the prescribed fee (if any), and
- (b) in the manner required by the Board.]

(2) If the Board is satisfied that an applicant under subsection (1) is registered in either of the professional registers, it shall register [that person as a veterinary surgeon in the Register by entering –

- (a) that person's name,
- (b) the name of the registered practice, if any, in or on behalf of which that person practises or will practise veterinary surgery, and
- (c) the registered premises, if any, at or from which that person practises or will practise veterinary surgery].

NOTE

In section 10, first, subsection (1) and, second, the words in square brackets in subsection (2) were substituted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, respectively section 5(a) and section 5(b), with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in

article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Information in support of applications.

11. On an application under section 10(1) the Board –
- (a) may require the applicant to furnish such information, evidence or documentation as it considers necessary to enable it to determine whether or not the applicant is registered in either of the professional registers,
 - (b) may refuse to entertain the application if the applicant refuses or fails to furnish any such information, evidence or documentation.

Duty to notify cessation of practise.

11A. (1) A recognised veterinary surgeon shall give written notice to the Board if he ceases to practise veterinary surgery in the Islands of Guernsey, Herm and Jethou.

- (2) The notice required under subsection (1) shall be given –
 - (a) as soon as practicable, and
 - (b) in any event, no later than seven days after he has ceased to practise.]

NOTE

Section 11A was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 6, with effect from 1st May, 2025,

subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Cancellation of registrations.

12. The Board shall cancel the registration [as a veterinary surgeon in the Register] of any person –

- (a) who to its knowledge ceases to be registered in either of the professional registers,
- (b) who submits a written request to the Board to cancel his registration[, or
- (c) who notifies the Board under section 11A that he has ceased to practise veterinary surgery.]

NOTE

In section 12, first, the words in the first pair of square brackets were substituted and, second, those in the second pair of square brackets were inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, respectively section 7(a) and section 7(b), with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Saving for current practitioners.

13. On the date of the commencement of this Ordinance the Board shall register [as a veterinary surgeon in the Register] any person who, immediately before that date, was practising veterinary surgery by virtue of an authorisation of the Royal Court under the 1951 Ordinance.

NOTE

In section 13, the words in square brackets were substituted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 8, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Publication of Register.

14. The Board shall publish the Register in any manner it considers appropriate.]

NOTE

Section 14 was substituted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 9, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Use of veterinary qualifications.

15. No person shall use, in connection with any business carried on by him or at any premises at which a business is carried on by him, a description implying that he or any person acting for the purposes of the business possesses veterinary qualifications which he does not possess.

Operations which may be carried out by unqualified persons.

16. [Neither section 7(1)(a) nor section 7(2) prohibits or restricts] the carrying out of any of the following treatments and operations, unless it is excluded by section 17 –

- (a) any minor medical treatment given to an animal by the owner thereof, by another member of the household of which the owner is a member, or by a person in the

employment of the owner or of any other member of such a household,

- (b) any minor surgical treatment, or minor medicinal treatment, carried out otherwise than for reward on an animal used in agriculture by the owner of the animal or by a person engaged or employed in caring for animals so used,
- (c) the rendering, in emergency, of first aid for the purpose of saving life or relieving pain,
- (d) the carrying out by a person over the age of 18 of any of the following –
 - (i) castration of a male animal, whether by chemical means or otherwise,
 - (ii) caponising by chemical means,
 - (iii) the tailing of a lamb,
 - (iv) the docking of the tail of a dog before its eyes are open,
 - (v) the amputation of the dew claws of a dog before its eyes are open,
 - (vi) the treatment by physiotherapy of an animal by a person acting under the direction of a recognised veterinary surgeon who has

- examined the animal and has prescribed the treatment by physiotherapy,
- (vii) the removal from a fowl by means of a suitable instrument of not more than a one-third part of both its upper and lower beaks measured from the tip towards the entrances to the nostrils if carried out as a single operation,
 - (viii) the removal from a fowl by means of a suitable instrument of not more than a one-third part of its upper beak only, measured as mentioned in sub-paragraph (vii) of this paragraph, and the arrest of any subsequent haemorrhage from the beak by cauterisation,
 - (ix) the desnooding of a turkey, either by manual pinching out or by means of a suitable instrument,
 - (x) the removal from any poultry of the comb or of the dependent portion of the wattles, carried out in either case by means of a suitable instrument, and
 - (xi) the vaccination of poultry,
- (e) the taking of blood, for use in diagnosis for the control or eradication of infectious disease –
- (i) from any animal, by a person who is acting

under the general direction of a recognised veterinary surgeon and who is, in the opinion of the recognised veterinary surgeon, competent to take the blood, or

- (ii) from animals other than poultry, by a person who is undergoing instruction in the taking of blood from animals and who is acting under the direct personal supervision of a recognised veterinary surgeon,
- (f) the carrying out by a person authorised to practise as a medical practitioner by the Royal Court under the provisions of the 1951 Ordinance of an operation on an animal for the purpose of removing an organ or tissue for use in the treatment of human beings,
- (g) the carrying out on an animal of any treatment, test or operation by a person mentioned in paragraph (f) or by a person authorised to practise as a dentist by the Royal Court under the provisions of the 1951 Ordinance at the request of a recognised veterinary surgeon.

NOTE

In section 16, the words in square brackets were substituted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 10, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Operations excluded from section 16.

17. The following treatments and operations are excluded from section 16

- (a) the castration of –
 - (i) a horse, pony, ass or mule,
 - (ii) a bull, sheep, goat or pig which has reached the age of 2 months, or
 - (iii) a cat or dog,
- (b) the desnooding of a turkey which has reached the age of 21 days,
- (c) the removal of the combs of any poultry which have reached the age of 72 hours,
- (d) the cutting of the toes of any poultry which have reached the age of 72 hours,
- (e) the performance of a vasectomy or the carrying out of electro-ejaculation on any animal,
- (f) the removal of the supernumerary teats of a calf which has reached the age of 3 months,
- (g) the dehorning or disbudding of a sheep or goat, except the trimming of the insensitive tip of an ingrowing horn which, if left untreated, could cause pain or distress.

[PART IIIA
RESTRICTIONS ON VETERINARY PRACTICE BUSINESS PREMISES

Carrying on a veterinary practice business.

17A. (1) No person shall carry on a veterinary practice business at or from any premises other than registered premises.

(2) In this Ordinance –

"premises" includes any building or part of a building, place, vessel, vehicle or aircraft,

"registered premises" means premises registered under section 17B(2), and

"veterinary practice business" means a business that involves the practice of veterinary surgery by one or more recognised veterinary surgeons.]

NOTE

Part IIIA, and section 17A thereof, were inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11 with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

[Registration of veterinary premises.

17B. (1) A practice owner wishing to register any premises in the Register may apply in that behalf to the Board –

(a) on payment of the prescribed fee (if any), and

(b) in the manner required by the Board.

(2) If the Board is satisfied that the requirements in subsection (3) are satisfied, the Board shall register those premises in the Register by entering –

- (a) the address of those premises,
- (b) the name of the veterinary practice business carried on from or at those premises,
- (c) the name and principal business address of the practice owner,
- (d) the name of the veterinary supervisor for those premises,
- (e) the names of the recognised veterinary surgeons who practise, or will practise, veterinary surgery at or from those premises, and
- (f) the names of the veterinary nurses who practise, or will practise, veterinary nursing at or from those premises.

(3) Subsection (2) refers to the following requirements –

- (a) there is a veterinary supervisor for those premises, who is, or would when the premises are registered be, a recognised veterinary surgeon,
- (b) the persons who practise or will practise veterinary surgery at or from those premises are, or would when

so practising be, recognised veterinary surgeons,

- (c) the persons who practise or will practise veterinary nursing at or from those premises are, or would when so practising be, registered veterinary nurses,
- (d) those premises are in a satisfactory condition to be used for carrying on a veterinary practice business,
- (e) those premises are designed, constructed and equipped in accordance with prescribed requirements (if any),
- (f) arrangements for the management, control and operation of those premises, in relation to the practice of veterinary surgery at or from those premises, are in accordance with prescribed requirements (if any), and
- (g) any other prescribed requirement.

(4) In this Ordinance –

"address", in relation to any mobile premises, includes location,

"practice owner", in relation to any premises, means the person who is, or is proposed to be, the owner of the veterinary practice business to be carried on from or at those premises,

"prescribed" means prescribed by regulations made by the Board,
and

"veterinary supervisor", in relation to any premises, means the

veterinary surgeon responsible for supervising the practice of veterinary surgery at or from those premises.]

NOTE

Section 17B was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Information in support of applications.

17C. On an application under section 17B(1), the Board –

- (a) may require the applicant to furnish such information, evidence or documentation as it considers necessary to enable it to determine whether or not those premises should be registered, and
- (b) may refuse to entertain the application if the applicant refuses or fails to furnish any such information, evidence or documentation.]

NOTE

Section 17C was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Duties of practice owners.

17D. (1) A person registered as a practice owner of any registered premises shall give written notice to the Board in accordance with subsection (3) of –

- (a) any change resulting or likely to result in the Board needing to update the information entered in the Register under section 17B(2) to maintain its accuracy,
- (b) any change in the constitution or structure of the practice owner (if not an individual), that could reasonably call into question whether the requirements in section 17B(3) continue to be satisfied in relation to those premises, and
- (c) any change in those premises, or the management, control and operation of those premises, that could reasonably call into question whether the requirements in section 17B(3) continue to be satisfied in relation to those premises.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, the practice owner is required to give written notice to the Board under subsection (1)(a) where a person registered as a veterinary surgeon or veterinary nurse practising at or from those registered premises ceases to practise as a veterinary surgeon, or (as the case may be) veterinary nurse, at or from those premises.

- (3) The notice required under subsection (1) shall be given –
 - (a) as soon as practicable, and
 - (b) in any event, no later than seven days after the change occurs.]

NOTE

Section 17D was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

[Duration of registration.]

17E. Unless earlier cancelled under section 17F, registration of any premises under section 17B has effect for a period of –

- (a) three years, or
- (b) any other period prescribed to replace the period in paragraph (a).]

NOTE

Section 17E was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

[Cancellation of registration of premises.]

17F. The Board shall cancel the registration of any premises if –

- (a) in the Board's opinion, a requirement of section 17B(3) is no longer satisfied in relation to those premises, or
- (b) if the practice owner registered for those premises submits a written request to the Board to cancel that registration.]

NOTE

Section 17F was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

[PART IIIB
VETERINARY NURSES

Practice of veterinary nursing.

17G. (1) No person shall –

- (a) practise, or hold himself out as practising or as being prepared to practise, veterinary nursing, or
- (b) take or use the title of veterinary nurse, or any name, title, addition or description implying that that person is a veterinary nurse or is a practitioner of, or is qualified to practise, veterinary nursing,

unless that person is a registered veterinary nurse.

(2) In this Ordinance, "**veterinary nursing**" includes the following –

- (a) provision of any medical treatment or minor surgery (not involving entry into a body cavity) to an animal under the direction of a veterinary surgeon who has the animal under the surgeon's care,

- (b) administration of any vaccination or other medicine for treatment of an animal under the direction of a veterinary surgeon.]

NOTE

Part IIIB, and section 17G thereof, were inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11 with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

[Meaning of "registered veterinary nurse".

17H. (1) A registered veterinary nurse is a person –

- (a) whose name is entered in the list of veterinary nurses maintained by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), and
- (b) who is registered as a veterinary nurse in the Register.

(2) A person who ceases to be registered as mentioned in subsection (1)(a) or (b) ceases to be a registered veterinary nurse.]

NOTE

Section 17H was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

[Registration of veterinary nurses.

17I. (1) A person wishing to be registered as a veterinary nurse in the Register may apply in that behalf to the Board –

- (a) on payment of the prescribed fee (if any), and
- (b) in the manner required by the Board.

(2) If the Board is satisfied that the person meets the requirements of section 17H(1)(a), it shall register that person as a veterinary nurse in the Register by entering –

- (a) that person's name,
- (b) the name of the registered practice, if any, in or on behalf of which that person practises or will practise veterinary nursing, and
- (c) the registered premises, if any, at or from which that person practises or will practise veterinary nursing.]

NOTE

Section 17I was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Information in support of applications.

17J. On an application under section 17I(1), the Board –

- (a) may require the applicant to furnish such information,

evidence or documentation as it considers necessary to enable it to determine whether or not the applicant meets the requirements of section 17H(1)(a), and

- (b) may refuse to entertain the application if the applicant refuses or fails to furnish any such information, evidence or documentation.]

NOTE

Section 17J was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

[Duty to notify cessation of practice; cancellation of registrations.]

17K. (1) A registered veterinary nurse shall give written notice to the Board if the nurse ceases to practise veterinary nursing in the Islands of Guernsey, Herm and Jethou.

- (2) The notice required under subsection (1) shall be given –
 - (a) as soon as practicable, and
 - (b) in any event, no later than seven days after he so ceased to practise.

(3) The Board shall cancel the registration of any person as a veterinary nurse in the Register if –

- (a) to its knowledge, the person ceases to meet the

requirements of section 17H(1)(a),

- (b) the person submits a written request to the Board to cancel his registration, or
- (c) the person notifies the Board under subsection (1) that he has ceased to practise veterinary nursing.]

NOTE

Section 17K was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

[PART IIIC

THE ANIMAL WELFARE (ENABLING PROVISIONS) (GUERNSEY) LAW,
2008

Ordinance has effect as if made under the Animal Welfare Law.

17L. (1) This Ordinance shall have effect as if made under the Animal Welfare (Enabling Provisions) (Guernsey) Law, 2008.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, an offence under this Ordinance is to be regarded as an offence under that Law for the purposes of the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012.]

NOTE

Part IIIC, and section 17L thereof, were inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 11 with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment)

Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

PART IV
WELFARE CODES

Codes of recommendations for welfare of animals.

18. ...

NOTE

Part IV, and section 18 thereof, were repealed by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012, section 83, Schedule 4, paragraph 9(b), with effect from 1st July, 2014, subject to the transitional provisions and savings in section 82, Schedule 3, paragraph 5.

Codes to be laid before States.

19. ...

NOTE

Section 19 was repealed by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012, section 83, Schedule 4, paragraph 9(b), with effect from 1st July, 2014, subject to the transitional provisions and savings in section 82, Schedule 3, paragraph 5.

Liability for breach of code.

20. ...

NOTE

Section 20 was repealed by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012, section 83, Schedule 4, paragraph 9(b), with effect from 1st July, 2014, subject to the transitional provisions and savings in section 82, Schedule 3, paragraph 5.

PART V
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Offences.

21. (1) A person who contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of this Ordinance is guilty of an offence and liable –

(a) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding [level 4 on the uniform scale],

(b) on conviction on indictment –

(i) in the case of an offence under [section 7(1)(b) or (2), 11A, 15, 17D, 17G(1)(b) or 17K(1)], to a fine not exceeding £2,000,

(ii) in the case of an offence under any other provision of this Ordinance, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, to a fine not exceeding £2,000, or to both.

(2) A person who, in support of an application under section 10(1), [17B(1) or 17I(1),] furnishes any information, evidence or documentation which is false in any material particular is guilty of an offence and liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding [level 4 on the uniform scale], unless he shows to the court's satisfaction that he did not know of the falsity and could not, with reasonable diligence, have learnt of it.

NOTES

In section 21,

the words and figures in square brackets were substituted by the Uniform Scale of Fines (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 1989, section 2(2), with effect from 1st July, 1989;

first, the words in square brackets in subsection (1)(b)(i) were substituted and, second, the words in square brackets in subsection (2) were inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, respectively section 12(a) and section 12(b), with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Exceptions, exemptions and defences.

21A. The Committee may make regulations for the following purposes –

- (a) authorising anything which would otherwise be prohibited under Part III, IIIA or IIIB,
- (b) providing for exceptions and defences to, and exemptions from, an offence under any provision of Part III, IIIA or IIIB.]

NOTE

Section 21A was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 13, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Order and regulations to be laid before the States.

21B. Orders and regulations made under this Ordinance shall be laid before a meeting of the States as soon as possible; and, if at that or the next meeting the States resolve to annul them, cease to have effect, but without prejudice to anything

done under them or to the making of new Orders or new regulations.]

NOTE

Section 21B was inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, section 13, with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025.

Interpretation.

22. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires –

(a) ["**address**" has the meaning given by section 17B(4),]

"**animals**" includes reptiles and birds,

"**the Board**" means the [Committee for the Environment & Infrastructure],

[...]

"**the 1951 Ordinance**" means the Doctors, Dentists and Veterinary Surgeons (Authorisation) Ordinance, 1951^b,

["**practice owner**" has the meaning given by section 17B(4),]

["**premises**" has the meaning given by section 17A(2),]

^b Recueil d'Ordonnances Tome X, p. 171.

[**"prescribed"** has the meaning given by section 17B(4),]

"the professional registers" means the register of veterinary surgeons kept under section 2 of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 and the supplementary veterinary register kept under section 8 of that Act,

"recognised veterinary surgeon" has the meaning given by section 8,

[**"the Register"** or **"the Register of Veterinary Surgeons, Nurses and Premises"** means the register established and maintained under section 9,]

[**"registered practice"** has the meaning given by section 7(4),]

[**"registered premises"** has the meaning given by section 17A(2),]

[**"registered veterinary nurse"** has the meaning given by section 17H,]

[**"veterinary nursing"** has the meaning given by section 17G(2),]

[**"veterinary practice business"** has the meaning given by section 17A(2),]

[**"veterinary supervisor"** has the meaning given by section 17B(4),]

"veterinary surgery" means the art and science of veterinary surgery and medicine and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, includes –

- (i) the diagnosis of diseases in and injuries to animals, including tests carried out on animals for diagnostic purposes,
 - (ii) the giving of advice based upon such diagnosis,
 - (iii) the medical or surgical treatment of animals, and
 - (iv) the carrying out of surgical operations on animals,
- (b) any reference to an Act of Parliament is a reference to that Act as amended, extended or re-enacted,
- (c) any reference to a section bearing a number is a reference to the section of this Ordinance bearing that number, and
- (d) any reference in any provision to a subsection or paragraph bearing a number or letter is a reference to the subsection or paragraph of that provision bearing that number or letter.

NOTES

In section 22,

first, the definition of the expressions "the Register" or "the Register of Veterinary Surgeons, Nurses and Premises" in paragraph (a) was substituted and, second, the definitions of the expressions "address", "practice owner", "premises", "prescribed", "registered practice", "registered premises", "registered veterinary nurse", "veterinary nursing", "veterinary practice business" and "veterinary supervisor" in that paragraph were inserted by the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, respectively section 14(a) and section 14(b), with effect from 1st May, 2025, subject to the transitional provisions in article 2, article 3 and article 4 of the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Commencement and Transitional) Order, 2025;

the words in square brackets in the definition of the expression "the Board" in subsection (1) were substituted by the Organisation of States' Affairs (Transfer of Functions) Ordinance, 2016, section 7(2) and (3)(c), with effect from 1st May, 2016;

the words omitted in square brackets in paragraph (a) were repealed by the Animal Welfare (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2012, section 83, Schedule 4, paragraph 9(c), with effect from 1st July, 2014.

The functions, rights and liabilities of the States Agricultural and Milk Marketing Board and of its President and Vice-President arising under or by virtue of this Ordinance were transferred to and vested in, respectively, the Committee for the Environment & Infrastructure and its President and Vice-President by the Organisation of States' Affairs (Transfer of Functions) Ordinance, 2016, section 7(1) and (3)(c), with effect from 1st May, 2016.

The Doctors, Dentists and Veterinary Surgeons (Authorisation) Ordinance, 1951 has since been repealed by the Doctors, Dentists and Pharmacists Ordinance, 1987, section 6(1), Schedule, with effect from 1st July, 1987, subject to the savings in section 6(2) and (3) of the 1987 Ordinance.

Amendment to 1951 Ordinance.

23. In the 1951 Ordinance –

- (a) in the title, repeal "Veterinary Surgeons,
- (b) in sections 1 and 2(1), repeal "or veterinary surgeon".

References to authorised persons.

24. Any reference in any enactment, however expressed, to a person authorised to practise as a veterinary surgeon in Guernsey, whether reference is made to the 1951 Ordinance or not, shall be construed as a reference to a person who is a recognised veterinary surgeon within the meaning of section 8.

Extent.

25. This Ordinance has effect in the Islands of Guernsey, Herm and Jethou.

Citation.

26. This Ordinance may be cited as the Veterinary Surgery and Animal Welfare Ordinance, 1987.

NOTE

The Ordinance was made and came into operation on 25th March, 1987.
