

Draft Regulations laid before Senedd Cymru under section 61(2) Animal Welfare Act 2006 for approval by resolution of Senedd Cymru.

DRAFT WELSH STATUTORY
INSTRUMENTS

2024 No. (W.)

ANIMALS, WALES

**The Mandatory Use of Closed
Circuit Television in
Slaughterhouses (Wales)
Regulations 2024**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations make provision complementary to EU Regulation 1099/2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing (“the EU Regulation”) and the Welfare of Animals at the Time of Killing (Wales) Regulations 2014 (“the 2014 Regulations”).

These Regulations introduce requirements on operators of slaughterhouses (“business operators”) in Wales to install and operate a closed circuit television (“CCTV”) system in all areas where live animals are present (regulation 3). Regulation 4 requires business operators to retain CCTV footage and associated data for a period of 90 days. Inspectors are given powers to require compliance with these Regulations. This includes powers of inspection and seizure where an inspector has entered premises for the purposes of executing and enforcing the 2014 Regulations or the EU Regulation (regulation 5) and powers to issue enforcement notices (regulation 6). Regulation 7 makes provision for appeals relating to notices under regulation 6, and regulation 8 makes further provision in relation to notices. Regulations 9 and 10 provide that contravention of regulations 3 and 4, failure to comply with an enforcement notice and obstructing inspectors are offences. Regulations 11 to 14 make further provision in relation to offences and prosecutions.

The Welsh Ministers’ Code of Practice on the carrying out of Regulatory Impact Assessments was considered in relation to these Regulations. As a result,

a regulatory impact assessment has been prepared as to the likely costs and benefits of complying with these Regulations. A copy can be obtained from Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ and is published on www.gov.wales.

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2024 No. (W.)

ANIMALS, WALES

**The Mandatory Use of Closed
Circuit Television in
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Made

Coming into force

For the purposes of Regulations 1 to 4

1 May 2024

For all other purposes

1 November 2024

The Welsh Ministers, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 12 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006(1), make the following Regulations.

In accordance with section 12(6) of that Act, the Welsh Ministers have consulted such persons, appearing to them to represent interests with which these Regulations are concerned, as the Welsh Ministers considered appropriate.

In accordance with section 61(2) of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 a draft of this Order was laid before

(1) 2006 c. 45. By virtue of section 162 of, and paragraph 30 of Schedule 11 to, the Government of Wales Act 2006, the functions of the National Assembly for Wales were transferred to and now vest in the Welsh Ministers. Section 62(1) defines the “appropriate national authority”.

Senedd Cymru and approved by a resolution of Senedd Cymru(1).

Title, application and commencement

1.—(1) The title of these Regulations is the Mandatory Use of Closed Circuit Television in Slaughterhouses (Wales) Regulations 2024.

(2) These Regulations apply in relation to Wales.

(3) This regulation and regulations 2 to 4 come into force on 1 May 2024.

(4) Regulations 5 to 14 come into force on 1 November 2024.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations—

“a CCTV system” (“*system TCC*”) means a closed circuit television system and a system for processing images or information obtained by such a system;

“business operator” (“*gweithredwr busnes*”) has the meaning given in Article 2(1)(l) of the EU Regulation;

“EU Regulation” (“*Rheoliad yr UE*”) means Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 of 24 September 2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing(2);

“inspector” (“*arolygydd*”) means a person appointed under regulation 34 of the Welfare of Animals at the Time of Killing (Wales) Regulations 2014(3) or a person appointed as an inspector under section 51 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006;

“killing” (“*lladd*”) has the meaning given in Article 2(1)(a) of the EU Regulation;

“local authority” (“*awdurdod lleol*”) means a county council or a county borough council in Wales;

“premises” (“*mangre*”) includes any land, building, shed, pen, receptacle or vehicle of any description;

“processing” (“*prosesu*”) means— (a) receiving, recording, storing, checking, and retrieving; and

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- (1) 2006 c. 45. By virtue of section 162 of, and paragraph 34 of Schedule 11 to, the Government of Wales Act 2006 (c. 32), the reference in section 61(2) to “House of Parliament” includes the National Assembly for Wales. The reference in paragraph 34 to the National Assembly for Wales now has effect as a reference to Senedd Cymru by virtue of section 150A(2) of the Government of Wales Act 2006 (c.32).
- (2) OJ No. L 303, 18.11.2009, p. 1.
- (3) S.I. 2014/951 (W. 92) as amended by S.I. 2019/684 (W. 131).

(b) disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available;

“related operations” (“*gweithrediadau cysylltiedig*”) has the meaning given in Article 2(1)(b) of the EU Regulation;

“slaughterhouse” (“*lladd-dy*”) has the meaning given in Article 2(1)(k) of the EU Regulation.

Duty to install and operate a CCTV system

3.—(1) A business operator of a slaughterhouse must ensure that a CCTV system is installed that provides a complete and clear image of killing and related operations in all areas of the slaughterhouse where live animals are present.

(2) The business operator must ensure that the CCTV system referred to in paragraph (1)—

- (a) is capable of producing images and information for inspection and seizure without interrupting the operation of the system, and
- (b) is capable of processing images and information of the same quality as the original images and information.

(3) The business operator must ensure that the CCTV system referred to in paragraph (1) is operational and kept in good working order at all times when live animals are present at the slaughterhouse.

Duty to retain CCTV images and information

4.—(1) The business operator must make arrangements for the retention and storage of any images and information obtained by a CCTV system referred to in regulation 3 for 90 days beginning with the date the images or information are obtained.

(2) The business operator must ensure that the arrangements under paragraph (1) are appropriate to maintain the integrity and quality of the images and information retained.

Power to inspect and seize

5.—(1) An inspector who has entered premises for the purposes of executing and enforcing the Welfare of Animals at the Time of Killing (Wales) Regulations 2014 or the EU Regulation or the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Wales) Order 2007(1) may for those purposes, or the purposes of executing and enforcing these Regulations—

- (a) inspect a CCTV system referred to in regulation 3 on those premises and any

(1) S.I. 2007/1047 (W. 105).

images or information obtained by such a CCTV system;

- (b) seize or take a copy of any images or information obtained by such a CCTV system;
- (c) seize any CCTV equipment, including computers and associated equipment, installed as part of such a CCTV system which does not comply with regulation 3(2)(a), for the purposes of copying images or information;
- (d) require any person to provide access to a CCTV system referred to in regulation 3 on request for the purposes of viewing images and information obtained by that system;
- (e) require any person to produce or make available for inspection any images or information retained and stored as required by regulation 4 on request;
- (f) make any enquiries, and take recordings or photographs;
- (g) require the production of any document or record without delay and inspect and take a copy of or extract from such document or record; and
- (h) require any person to provide such assistance, information, facilities or equipment as is reasonable, without delay.

(2) An inspector must—

- (a) as soon as reasonably practicable, provide to the person appearing to be responsible for any items that the inspector seizes under paragraph (1) a written receipt identifying those items, and
- (b) as soon as reasonably practicable after deciding that those items are no longer required, return them to that person, apart from those to be used as evidence in court proceedings.

(3) Where an inspector has seized items under paragraph (1) for use in evidence in court proceedings and—

- (a) it is subsequently decided—
 - (i) that no court proceedings are to be brought, or
 - (ii) that those items are no longer needed as evidence in court proceedings, or
- (b) the court proceedings are completed and no order in relation to those items has been made by the court, an inspector must return the items to the person appearing to be responsible for them as soon as is reasonably practicable.

Enforcement notices

6.—(1) An enforcement notice is a notice in writing—

- (a) requiring a person to take specified steps to remedy a contravention of these Regulations;
- (b) requiring a person to reduce the rate of operation of a slaughterhouse to such extent as is specified in the notice until that person has taken specified steps to remedy a contravention of these Regulations, or
- (c) prohibiting a person from carrying on such activity, process or operation, or using facilities or equipment, as may be specified in the notice until the person has taken specified steps to remedy a contravention of these Regulations.

(2) An inspector who is of the opinion that a person has contravened or is contravening these Regulations may serve on that person an enforcement notice.

(3) An enforcement notice must—

- (a) state that the inspector is of the opinion that a person has contravened or is contravening these Regulations;
- (b) state the date and time of service of the notice;
- (c) identify the recipient of the notice;
- (d) specify the matters constituting the contravention;
- (e) specify the steps that must be taken to remedy the contravention;
- (f) specify the period within which those steps must be taken, and
- (g) give details of the right of appeal against the notice.

(4) A person on whom an enforcement notice is served must comply with it at that person's own expense.

(5) If an enforcement notice is not complied with, an inspector may arrange for it to be complied with at the expense of the person on whom it was served.

(6) An inspector must serve a completion notice on a person if, after service of an enforcement notice on that person, an inspector is satisfied that that person has taken the steps specified in the notice to remedy the contravention.

(7) In the event of an inspector not being satisfied, as provided for in paragraph (6), by the end of the period specified under paragraph (3)(f), or such other period as may be specified in any variation of the enforcement notice under paragraph (9), the inspector may not serve a completion notice, and must serve a notice in writing, which must—

- (a) give reasons for the decision not to serve a completion notice, and
- (b) give details for the right of appeal against the decision.

(8) An enforcement notice ceases to have effect upon the issue of a completion notice.

(9) An inspector may at any time withdraw or vary an enforcement notice in writing.

Appeals against enforcement notices

7.—(1) A person who is aggrieved by—

- (a) a decision of an inspector to serve an enforcement notice, or
- (b) a decision of an inspector not to issue a completion notice,

may appeal against it.

(2) The right of appeal is to the First-tier Tribunal.

(3) An enforcement notice is not suspended pending an appeal unless the First-tier Tribunal orders otherwise.

(4) On appeal the First-tier Tribunal may either cancel or confirm the enforcement notice, with or without modification, or make such order as it thinks fit as regards a decision not to serve or issue a completion notice.

Notices

8.—(1) Any notice required or authorised to be served under these Regulations on any person may be served by—

- (a) delivering it to the person;
- (b) leaving it at the person's proper address, or
- (c) sending it by post to the person at that address.

(2) Any such notice may—

- (a) in the case of a body corporate, be served on an officer of the body, or
- (b) in the case of a limited liability partnership, be served on a partner or a person having the control or management of the partnership business.

(3) For the purposes of this regulation and section 13 of the Legislation (Wales) Act 2019⁽¹⁾ (service of documents by post or electronically) in its application to this regulation, the proper address of any person on whom a notice is to be served is—

(1) 2019 anaw 4.

- (a) in the case of a body corporate, the address of the registered or principal office of the body;
- (b) in the case of a limited liability partnership, the address of the registered or principal office of the partnership;
- (c) in the case of a person on whom the notice is served in reliance on paragraph (2), the address of the registered or principal office of the body corporate or partnership in question, and
- (d) in any other case, the last known address of the person in question.

(4) If a person on whom a notice is to be served under these Regulations has specified an address for service of such a notice, that address is to be treated, for the purposes of this regulation and section 13 of the Legislation (Wales) Act 2019 in its application to this regulation, as that person's proper address.

(5) If the name and address of any occupier of premises on whom a notice is to be served under these Regulations cannot, after reasonable inquiry, be ascertained, the notice may be served by leaving it conspicuously affixed to the premises or an object on the premises.

(6) In this regulation "body corporate" does not include a limited liability partnership.

Offences: general

9.—(1) It is an offence to contravene, or to cause or permit a person to contravene—

- (a) regulation 3 (Duty to install and operate a CCTV system), or
- (b) regulation 4 (Duty to retain CCTV images and information).

(2) It is an offence for a person to fail to comply with an enforcement notice issued under regulation 6.

Obstruction offences

10. It is an offence—

- (a) intentionally to obstruct any person acting in the execution of these Regulations;
- (b) without reasonable cause, to fail to give to any such person without delay —
 - (i) any assistance or information that the person may reasonably require, or
 - (ii) access to a CCTV system referred to in regulation 3 on request for the purposes of viewing images and information obtained by that system;
- (c) to furnish to any such person any information knowing it to be false or misleading, or

- (d) to fail to produce a document or record, or any images or information retained and stored as required by regulation 4, without delay to any such person when required to do so.

Offences by bodies corporate

11.—(1) Where a body corporate is guilty of an offence under these Regulations, and that offence is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to have been attributable to any neglect on the part of—

- (a) a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or
- (b) a person who was purporting to act in any such capacity,

that person, as well as the body corporate, is guilty of the offence.

(2) In paragraph (1) “director”, in relation to a body corporate whose affairs are managed by its members, includes a member of the body corporate.

Penalties

12. A person guilty of an offence under regulation 9 or 10 is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.

Power of local authority to prosecute

13. A local authority may prosecute any offence under these Regulations.

Time limit for prosecutions

14.—(1) Notwithstanding section 127(1) of the Magistrates’ Courts Act 1980(1), a magistrates’ court may try an information relating to an offence under these Regulations if the information is laid—

- (a) before the end of the period of three years beginning with the date of the commission of the offence, and
- (b) before the end of the period of six months beginning with the date on which evidence which the prosecutor thinks is sufficient to justify the proceedings comes to the prosecutor’s knowledge.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(b)—

- (a) a certificate signed by or on behalf of the prosecutor and stating the date on which such evidence came to the prosecutor’s knowledge is conclusive evidence of that fact, and

(1) 1980 c. 43.

- (b) a certificate stating that matter and purporting to be so signed is treated as so signed unless the contrary is proved.

Name

Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and
Trefnydd, one of the Welsh Ministers

Date