
Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, Cross Heading: The pitch fee. (See end of Document for details)

SCHEDULE

AGREEMENTS UNDER PART 1 OF THIS ACT

PART 1

TERMS IMPLIED BY SECTION 3

The pitch fee

- 16** The pitch fee can only be changed in accordance with paragraph 17, either—
- (a) with the agreement of the occupier, or
 - (b) if the court, on the application of the owner or the occupier, considers it reasonable for the pitch fee to be changed and makes an order determining the amount of the new pitch fee.
- 17.**—(1) The pitch fee shall be reviewed annually as at the review date.
- (2) At least 28 days before the review date the owner shall serve on the occupier a written notice setting out the owner's proposals in respect of the new pitch fee.
- (3) If the occupier agrees to the proposed new pitch fee, it shall be payable as from the review date.
- (4) If the occupier does not agree to the proposed new pitch fee—
- (a) the owner may apply to the court for an order under paragraph 16(b) determining the amount of the new pitch fee;
 - (b) the occupier shall continue to pay the current pitch fee to the owner until such time as the new pitch fee is agreed by the occupier or an order determining the amount of the new pitch fee is made by the court under paragraph 16(b); and
 - (c) the new pitch fee shall be payable as from the review date but the occupier shall not be treated as being in arrears until the 28th day after the date on which the new pitch fee is agreed or, as the case may be, the 28th day after the date of the court order determining the amount of the new pitch fee.
- (5) An application under sub-paragraph (4)(a) may be made at any time after the end of the period of 28 days beginning with the review date.
- (6) Sub-paragraphs (7) to (10) apply if the owner—
- (a) has not served the notice required by sub-paragraph (2) by the time by which it was required to be served, but
 - (b) at any time thereafter serves on the occupier a written notice setting out the owner's proposals in respect of a new pitch fee.

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(7) If (at any time) the occupier agrees to the proposed pitch fee, it shall be payable as from the 28th day after the date on which the owner serves the notice under sub-paragraph (6)(b).

(8) If the occupier has not agreed to the proposed pitch fee—

- (a) the owner may apply to the court for an order under paragraph 16(b) determining the amount of the new pitch fee;
- (b) the occupier shall continue to pay the current pitch fee to the owner until such time as the new pitch fee is agreed by the occupier or an order determining the amount of the new pitch fee is made by the court under paragraph 16(b); and
- (c) if the court makes such an order, the new pitch fee shall be payable as from the 28th day after the date on which the owner serves the notice under sub-paragraph (6)(b).

(9) An application under sub-paragraph (8) may be made at any time after the end of the period of 56 days beginning with the date on which the owner serves the notice under sub-paragraph (6)(b).

(10) The occupier shall not be treated as being in arrears—

- (a) where sub-paragraph (7) applies, until the 28th day after the date on which the new pitch fee is agreed; or
- (b) where sub-paragraph (8)(b) applies, until the 28th day after the date on which the new pitch fee is agreed or, as the case may be, the 28th day after the date of the court order determining the amount of the new pitch fee.

18.—(1) When determining the amount of the new pitch fee particular regard shall be had to—

- (a) any sums expended by the owner since the last review date on improvements—
 - (i) which are for the benefit of the occupiers of caravans on the protected site;
 - (ii) which were the subject of consultation in accordance with paragraph 22(e) and (f); and
 - (iii) to which a majority of the occupiers have not disagreed in writing or which, in the case of such disagreement, the court, on the application of the owner, has ordered should be taken into account when determining the amount of the new pitch fee;
- (b) any decrease in the amenity of the protected site since the last review date; and
- (c) the effect of any statutory provision which has come into operation since the last review date.

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(2) When calculating what constitutes a majority of the occupiers for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(a)(iii) each caravan is to be taken to have only one occupier and, in the event of there being more than one occupier of a caravan, its occupier is to be taken to be the occupier whose name first appears on the agreement.

(3) In a case where the pitch fee has not been previously reviewed, references in this paragraph to the last review date are to be read as references to the date when the agreement commenced.

19 When determining the amount of the new pitch fee, any costs incurred by the owner in connection with expanding the protected site shall not be taken into account.

20.—(1) There is a presumption that the pitch fee shall increase or decrease by a percentage which is no more than any percentage increase or decrease in the retail prices index since the last review date, unless this would be unreasonable having regard to paragraph 18(1).

(2) Paragraph 18(3) applies for the purposes of this paragraph as it applies for the purposes of paragraph 18.

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