

**DANGEROUS WILD ANIMALS
(NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 2004**

S.I. 2004 No. 1993 (N.I. 16)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

COMMENTARY ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT ORDER

Article 10: Penalties

This Article defines the level of penalty that can be conferred upon any person found guilty of an offence under the Order. It also provides for the cancellation of an existing licence or the disqualification of any person from keeping a DWA for as long as the Court decides, because of a conviction under the Order or another offence under relevant legislation concerning the welfare of animals.

Paragraph (1) determines that any person convicted of an offence under this Order will be liable to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale, which is currently £5,000.

Paragraph (2) empowers a Court of Summary Jurisdiction to cancel an existing licence, or to disqualify any person from keeping a DWA for any period it decides, where that person has been found guilty of an offence under the provisions of this legislation, or other specified legislation.

Paragraph (3) provides for the suspension of any order made by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction made under the provisions of paragraph (2), pending any appeal.