



# Animal Welfare Act 2006

## 2006 CHAPTER 45

### *Prosecutions*

#### **31 Time limits for prosecutions** **E+W**

- (1) Notwithstanding anything in section 127(1) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 (c. 43), a magistrates' court may try an information relating to an offence under this Act 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 his knowledge.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(b)—
- (a) a certificate signed by or on behalf of the prosecutor and stating the date on which such evidence came to his knowledge shall be conclusive evidence of that fact, and
  - (b) a certificate stating that matter and purporting to be so signed shall be treated as so signed unless the contrary is proved.

#### **Commencement Information**

- I1** S. 31 in force at 27.3.2007 for W. by S.I. 2007/1030, art. 2(1)(e)
- I2** S. 31 in force at 6.4.2007 for E. by S.I. 2007/499, art. 2(2)(g)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Animal Welfare Act 2006, Section 31.