

Deer Commission for Scotland
(now part of Scottish Natural Heritage)

Venison Dealing In Scotland

The legal requirements for venison dealing in Scotland are contained within the Deer (Scotland) Act 1996, sections 33 – 36.

The licensing of Venison Dealers (Prescribed Forms etc.) (Scotland) Order 1984, details how Venison Dealers records must be maintained.

The following are extracts from the legislation and are for the guidance of Councils, Venison Dealers and any persons in possession of Venison.

- * Any person who sells, offers or exposes for sale, or has in his possession transports or causes to be transported for the purpose of sale at any premises, any venison, shall be guilty of an offence unless he is a licensed venison dealer or he does the act constituting the offence for the purpose of selling to a licensed venison dealer or he has purchased the venison from a licensed venison dealer.
- * A Venison Dealer's licence is required in addition to any Game Dealer's licence which may already be held. **NB The Game Dealer's Legislation has now been repealed (Aug 2011)**
- * Venison means the carcass or any edible part of the carcass of a deer, and deer means deer of any species including farmed deer.
- * A Venison Dealer's licence is obtainable from a local council
- * A council may grant a venison dealer's licence to any person whom they consider fit to deal in venison.
- * A Venison Dealer's licence shall be valid for a period of three years (Unless the dealer has been disqualified from holding a licence by reason of his conviction of an offence under this Act).
- * Every council which grants a venison dealer's licence shall send a copy of the licence as soon as possible to the Deer Commission for Scotland.
- * Every council who grants a venison dealer's licence shall, as soon as may be after the first day of January in each year make a return to the Deer Commission in Scotland of the names and addresses of the persons who on that day held venison dealer's licences issued by the Council

Requirements of a Licensed Venison Dealer

- * All venison dealings or transactions must be recorded using the format as detailed in the prescribed form (overleaf) and all details must be given for each carcass or part of carcass.