

# New Forest Log Cabins

### **MOBILE HOME IN LAW**

The legal definition of a mobile home is the same as that for a caravan, broadly speaking it covers any structure designed or adapted for people to live in, which is capable of being moved from one place to another (whether by being towed or by being transported on a motor vehicle or trailer) and any motor vehicle so designed or adapted. This does not include railway stock, which is in use, nor tents.

Here at New Forest Log Cabins we construct our mobile lodges as transportable. We achieve this by mounting them onto a wooden chassis so that the unit can either be lifted as a whole or splint into two half's and moved by road from one place to another on a low loader, therefore meeting the requirement of the Caravan Act for Mobile Homes.

If required, the lodges can also be constructed onto a single or onto twin wheeled trailers so that the unit can be moved as a whole, or divided into separate units. These units can then be towed from one location to another and then re-positioned into place.

### **Caravan Sites Act 1968**

Section 29 of the Caravan Sites Act 1968 states the expression `caravan' shall not include a structure designed or adapted for human habitation, which falls within paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of the following sub-section if its external dimensions when assembled exceed any of the following limits, namely;

- (a) length (exclusive of any draw bar) 60 ft (18.288 metres);
- (b) width 20 ft (6.096 metres);
- (c) overall height of living accommodation measured internally from the floor of the lowest level to the ceiling of the highest level 10 ft (3.048 metres)

Part 1 of the Caravans Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 by reason only that it cannot lawfully be so moved on a highway when assembled. A structure designed or adapted for human habitation which;

- (a) is composed of not more than two sections separately constructed and designed to be assembled a site by means of bolts, clamps or other devises; and
- (b) is, when assembled, physically capable of being moved by road from one place to another (whether by being towed, or by being transported on a motor vehicle or trailer)

It also include twin units separately constructed and designed for assembly on site, provided that the twin unit is physically capable of being moved or transported on a motor vehicle or trailer.



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Amendment of the definition of caravan in article 3 of the Social Landlords (Permissible Additional Purposes) (England) Order 2006

- 3. Paragraph 3 of article 3 of the Social Landlords (Permissible Additional Purposes) (England) Order 2006 (meaning of caravan) shall be amended
- (a) in paragraph (a) by the substitution for "18.288 metres (60 feet) of "20 metres";
- (b) in paragraph (b) by the substitution for "6.096 metres (20 feet)" of "6.8 metres"; and
- (c) in paragraph (c) by the substitution for "3.048 metres (10 feet)" of "3.05 metres".

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State *Angela Smith*Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Department for Communities and Local
Government

4th September 2006

[1] 1968 c.52. The functions of the Secretary of State so far as exercisable in relation to Wales are transferred to the National Assembly for Wales by article 2 of the National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999 S.I. 1999/672.

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order amends the definition of caravan in section 13(2) of the Caravan Sites Act 1968 ("the 1968 Act") and article 3(3) of the Social Landlords (Permissible Additional Purposes) (England) Order 2006 ("the 2006 Order").

Section 13 (twin-unit caravans) of the 1968 Act excepts from the definition of "caravan" in Part 1 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, twin-unit structures designed or adapted for human habitation whose dimensions do not exceed specified dimensions. The Secretary of State has the power to make an order specifying different dimensions to those set out the 1968 Act.

Article 3(3) (meaning of caravan) of the 2006 Order defines a "caravan" for the purposes of article 2 of that Order which extends the permitted purposes or objects of registered social landlords to include the provision, construction, improvement or management of caravan sites for gypsies and travellers.

This Order, which applies to England only, substitutes dimensions that are larger than those set out in section 13(2) of the 1968 Act and article 3(3) of the 2006 Order.

I hope this clarifies our position in relation to the supply and construction of Mobile Timber Lodges and our conformity to the Caravan Act.