

Animal Licensing Policy 2017





ANIMAL LICENSING POLICY 2017

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Policy

This document states the Council's policy on the regulation and licensing of animal establishments in the geographical area of Cherwell and South Northamptonshire Councils

1.2. The Law

1.2.1 There are several pieces of legislation that gives the Council the power to regulate animal establishment licensing:

- Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963
- Pet Animals Act 1951 and Pet Animals Act 1951 (Amended) 1983
- Riding Establishments Act 1964 and 1970
- Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
- Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 and 1991
- Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999
- Zoo Licensing Act 1981

Livery yards, circuses, and dog shows do not currently require licensing and are outside the scope of this policy. Should legislation be amended to incorporate these activities, or this policy will be amended accordingly.

1.2.2. The Animal Welfare Act 2006 came into force on 6th April 2007. The purpose of which was to consolidate existing animal health and welfare legislation. It introduces a duty of care on people to ensure that the needs of any animal for which they are responsible are met. It also creates a new offence of failing to provide for the needs of animals in your care, increases the penalties for animal abuse and allows the courts to disqualify a person from being in charge of animals. The Act promotes the 'five freedoms' of animal welfare which are:

- The need for a suitable environment
- The need for a suitable diet
- The need to be able to exhibit natural behaviour
- The need to be housed with or apart from other animals (by providing an animal of its own kind where appropriate)
- The need to be protected from pain, injury, suffering and disease.

1.2.3. Each piece of animal licensing legislation has its own application process which in some cases includes the use of a veterinary inspection; rights of appeal and offences. This policy does not detail each process in detail but aims to give an overview of the general approach. Further detail can be found within each individual piece of specific legislation.

1.2.4. Under this Council's Constitution, the authority to grant animal licences has been delegated to the Public Protection Manager, who may further delegate as appropriate.

2. LICENSING PRINCIPLES

2.1 Background

2.1.1 The legislation listed in section 1.2.1 of this policy enables the licensing authority, this being the local authority, to develop and implement licensing conditions.

2.2.1. Each piece of legislation details the main objectives to the licensing conditions however the overriding purpose is to protect the welfare of animals and the health and safety of those responsible for licenced establishments.

2.2 Animal Welfare Act 2006

2.2.2. This is now the primary piece of legislation controlling the welfare of animals in England. It has established that reasonable welfare standards must be maintained whilst unifying all animal welfare legislation, including responsibilities falling to other enforcement agencies.

2.2.3. As an enabling Act, it allows secondary legislation to be implemented in respect of welfare regulations. DEFRA may review existing animal licensing legislation over the next few years, with the possibility of bringing all animal licensing under the remit of this Act.

2.3. Principles of Licensing

2.3.1. In line with section 2.2 above, the Council will base its licensing regime on the following principles:

- Responsibility to protect the welfare of all animals
- Ensuring the five freedoms by implementing appropriate standards
- Ensuring that those responsible for the management of animal welfare observe recognised standards of good practice
- Ensuring that, so far as it falls within its powers, the requirements of all animal related legislation is enforced

2.4. Existing Codes of Best Practice and Model Conditions

2.4.1. In promoting animal welfare, the five freedoms and applying the licensing process, the licensing conditions will be based, wherever practicable on existing model conditions, codes of best practice and industry standards produced by organisations such as, but not limited to:

- The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
- Local Government Association
- British Veterinary Association
- Relevant national trade associations

2.4.2. Existing model conditions, codes of best practice and industry standards will be considered to be a minimum standard and additional conditions required to promote the 'five freedoms' may be attached as necessary at the discretion of the Public Protection Manager. Mandatory conditions will be attached to all licences as required by the relevant legislation.

2.5. Advice for New Applicants

- 2.5.1. Any new applicants are encouraged to contact the Council's Licensing Officers at the earliest opportunity for advice about the law, the application, suitability of premises and conditions of licensing.
- 2.5.2. This will also allow for the applicant to be advised of other legal requirements with regards to other Council departments, for example, Planning, Building Control, Business rates etc.
- 2.5.3. With all animal licences there is a right to appeal either against the refusal of a licence or the conditions attached to a licence. This should be made within 21 days from the Council's decision on whether to grant or refuse a licence. Appeals are made to the relevant Magistrates Court

2.6. Licence Duration

- 2.6.1. The period in which a licence operates depends on which piece of legislation it is granted under as listed in section 1.2.1 of this policy.
- 2.6.2. Licences granted under the Riding Establishments Act 1964 & 1970 and the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 will operate for 12 months from the day they are granted.
- 2.6.3. Licences granted under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 and the Pet Animals Act 1951 will operate from the day they are granted until the 31st December of that year.
- 2.6.4. Licences granted under the Dangerous Wild Animal Act 1976 will operate for 24 months from the day they are granted.
- 2.6.5. Licences granted under the Zoo Licensing Act will operate for 4 years from date of grant for new licences; a renewal will last for 6 years beginning with the end of the period of the existing licence.
- 2.6.6. Where a licence has expired and the council has not received an application to renew the licence will be deemed to have expired. Trading must cease until such time as a new licence has been granted. In the case of individuals keeping animals, such as under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act, the individual would be committing an offence in keeping the animal without a valid licence.

2.7. Application Process

- 2.7.1. All applications must be made on the Council's prescribed application form available on the website – *insert links*
- 2.7.2. To avoid the situation arising in section 2.6.6 and to enable arrangement to be made for a veterinary inspection where necessary, renewal applications must be received within 3 months prior to the expiry date. A renewal reminder letter will be issued prior to this date.

- 2.7.3. Each application must be submitted with the prescribed application fee and any supporting documentation as requested on the application form.
- 2.7.4. An application will not be considered as duly made until the prescribed application fee at the relevant time has been received.
- 2.7.5. In some circumstances a veterinary inspection may be necessary, required either by legislation or by the Council in order to determine the application. The veterinary surgeon will invoice the Council who will settle the account. Any costs will then be recovered from the licence holder on behalf of the council.

3. ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

3.1 Licensing requirements

- 3.1.1 The Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 regulates the licensing of boarding kennels and catteries. The boarding of any other animal other than cats and dogs is not regulated.
- 3.1.2 A licence is required where the provision of accommodation for cats and dogs is the predominate activity and constitutes a business.
- 3.1.3 There are a number of exemptions and these include:
- For a dog groomer where the accommodation is a secondary function to the main function of dog grooming.
 - For a veterinary surgery where accommodation is provided for sick animals whilst in their care.

If you think an exemption may apply please contact the Council for further advice.

- 3.1.4 **Home Boarding** - Boarding of cats and dogs during the day and/or overnight at a domestic property may require a licence if payment is received for such a service and it occurs on a regular basis. A separate set of conditions and fees apply. Such premises may require planning permission and therefore each premise should be assessed on its own merit.
- 3.1.5 **Non-Residential Day Care** – Boarding of dogs at non-residential premises for day care only will require a licence. A separate set of conditions and fees apply.
- 3.1.6 Licences granted under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 will operate from the day they are granted until the 31st December of that year.
- 3.1.7 It is an offence under section 3 of the Act to keep a boarding establishment for cats and dogs without obtaining a licence from the Council. It is also an offence to contravene or fail to comply with any condition attached to the licence

3.2 Licence conditions

- 3.2.1 Dog Boarding establishments are subject to the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health licensing conditions detailed in Appendix A.
- 3.2.2 Cat Boarding establishments are subject to the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health licensing conditions detailed in Appendix B.

- 3.2.3 Dog Home Boarding establishments are subject to the Council's licensing conditions detailed in Appendix C.
- 3.2.4 Cat Home Boarding establishments are subject to the Council's licensing conditions detailed in Appendix D.
- 3.2.5 Non-Residential Day Care establishments are subject to the Council's licensing conditions detailed in Appendix E.
- 3.2.6 Riding establishments are subject to the Council's licensing conditions detailed in Appendix F.
- 3.2.7 Pet Vending establishments are subject to the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health licensing conditions detailed in Appendix G.
- 3.2.8 Dangerous Wild Animal licences are subject to the Council's licensing conditions detailed in Appendix H.
- 3.2.9 Dog Breeding establishments are subject to the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health licensing conditions detailed in Appendix I.
- 3.2.10 Zoos are subject to the Council's licensing conditions detailed in Appendix J.
- 3.2.11 Any animal boarding establishment that does not meet the Council's licensing conditions will not be granted a licence.
- 3.2.12 Any other conditions may be imposed as set out in paragraph 2.5.2.

4 RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS

4.1 Licensing Requirements

- 4.1.1 The Riding Establishments Act 1964 and 1970 regulate the licensing of horse riding establishments.
- 4.1.2 A licence is required if payment is taken for supplying horses for riding or instruction as stated in s6 (1) of the 1964 Act.
- 4.1.3 The legislation requires an independent veterinary inspection to be conducted on the horses and premises prior to the issuing of a licence. The veterinary surgeon must be a member of the Panel of Riding Establishment Inspectors as maintained by the Royal College of veterinary Surgeons and the British Veterinary Association. The Council will nominate the veterinary surgeon for each inspection and make the appropriate arrangements. Any costs will then be recovered from the licence holder on behalf of the council.
- 4.1.4 The nominated veterinary surgeon may request a further inspection of the horse/horses from the establishment's own veterinary surgeon to establish if the horse/ horses are fit for use within the school. Any horse referred in this way must not be used for use within the school until the establishment's own veterinary surgeon has approved the use in writing. A copy is to be sent to the Council.

- 4.1.5 Any Riding Establishment Licence issued will operate for a twelve month period from the date it is granted.
- 4.1.6 It is an offence to operate a riding establishment without obtaining a licence from the Council. It is also an offence to contravene or fail to comply with any condition attached to the licence.

4.2 Licence Conditions

- 4.2.1 Any Riding Establishment license issued by the Council will be subject to the license conditions detailed in Appendix E. Other conditions may be imposed as set out in paragraph 2.4.2.
- 4.2.2 Any riding school that does not meet the Council's licensing conditions set out in Appendix F will not be granted a license.

5 PET SHOPS & THE SALE OF PETS

5.1 Licensing Requirements

- 5.1.1 The Pet Animals Act 1951 and the Pet Animals Act 1951 (Amended) Act 1983 regulate the sale of pets.
- 5.1.2 The keeping of a pet shop means the carrying on at any premises of any nature, including a private dwelling, the business of selling animals as pets. It also means the keeping of animals in any such premises with a view to their being sold during the course of a business, for example over the internet. The term animal refers to all vertebrates. The sale of fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals also fall within the scope of the legislation.
- 5.1.3 In order to determine the application, the Council may wish to appoint a veterinary surgeon, or a suitably qualified or nationally recognised expert, to inspect the premises either instead of, or in conjunction with the Council Officer. The cost of any veterinary or expert inspection will be recovered from the applicant/ licence holder.
- 5.1.4 Any Pet Shop licence will run from the date of grant until the 31st of December of the same year
- 5.1.5 It is an offence under section 5 of the 1951 Act for a person to operate a pet shop without obtaining a licence from the Council first. It is also an offence to contravene or fail to comply with any condition attached to the licence. It is also an offence to sell animals as pets in any part of the street or a public place, or at a stall or barrow in a market

5.2 Licence Conditions

- 5.2.1 Any pet shop licence issued by the Council will be subject to the licence conditions set out in Appendix G.
- 5.2.2 Other conditions may be imposed as set out in paragraph 2.4.2.

- 5.2.3 Any pet shop that does not meet the Council's licensing conditions as detailed in Appendix F will not be granted a licence.

6 DANGEROUS WILD ANIMALS

6.1 Licensing Requirements

- 6.1.1 The Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (as amended) regulates the keeping of certain kinds of dangerous wild animals (DWA).
- 6.1.2 A licence is required where an individual or a business wishes to keep an animal included on the Schedule Contained within the Act
- 6.1.3 The legislation does not apply to DWA's kept in zoos or circuses. The legislation applies to all individuals wishing to keep a dangerous wild animal at home.
- 6.1.4 Where an individual already holds a pet shop licence issued under the Pet Animals Act 1951, a separate DWA licence is not required, however, to ensure the safety of the individual and the general public, the same DWA licence conditions must be met.
- 6.1.5 In order to determine the application, an annual independent veterinary inspection of the animals and premises is required prior to the licence being granted. The veterinary surgeon must have suitable experience of DWAs. The Council will nominate the veterinary surgeon for each inspection and make the appropriate arrangements.

Any costs will then be recovered from the licence holder on behalf of the council

- 6.1.6 To be granted a licence the applicant must be able to demonstrate that suitable accommodation and care can be provided and that the keeping of the animal would not pose a risk to the health and safety of the public or create a public nuisance i.e. noise, odour etc.
- 6.1.7 Any Dangerous Wild Animals Licence will run from 2 years from the date it was granted.
- 6.1.8 It is an offence under section 2 (5) of the Act to keep a DWA without obtaining a licence from the Council first. It is also an offence to contravene or fail to comply with any condition attached to the licence.

6.2 Licence Conditions

- 6.2.1 Any DWA license issued by the Council will be subject to licence conditions in Appendix H. Other conditions may be imposed as set out in paragraph 2.4.2.
- 6.2.2 Any DWA application that does not meet the Council's licensing conditions detailed in appendix H will not be granted a licence.

7 DOG BREEDING ESTABLISHMENTS

7.1 Licensing Requirements

7.1.1 The Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 and 1991 and the Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999 regulate the licensing of dog breeding establishments and such premises not covered by a licence.

7.1.2 A licence is required if a person keeps a breeding establishment for dogs. A person keeps a breeding establishment for dogs if at any premises he carries on at those premises a business of breeding dogs for sale, either by himself or by another person. A person is carrying on a business of breeding dogs for sale if:-

- he keeps a bitch at any premises at any time during a twelve month period and
- during this period that bitch gives birth to a litter of puppies and
- during that period that bitch or any other bitch detailed below gives birth to a total of four or more litters.

For the purpose of the above, any other bitch means:-

- any other bitch kept at the premises by the person;
- any bitch kept at the premises by any relative of the person;
- any bitch kept by the person elsewhere at any time;
- or any other bitch kept by the person elsewhere;
- any bitch kept anywhere at any time by another under a breeding arrangement with the person. Occasional or hobby breeders do not require a licence. The Council will refer to published guidance and takes into account other factors when determining between a commercial breeder and occasional /hobbyist breeder. If there is an element of doubt, applicants are advised to contact the council to discuss their case on its individual merit.

7.1.3 Any Dog Breeding licence will run from the date of grant until the 31st of December the same year.

7.1.4 It is an offence under section 3 of the 1973 Act for a person to operate a dog breeding establishment without obtaining a licence from the Council first. It is also an offence to contravene or fail to comply with a condition attached to the licence.

7.1.5 In accordance with the legislation the Council will decide whether to grant a licence within 3 months from receiving the application.

7.2 Licence Conditions

7.2.1 Any dog breeding establishment license issued by the Council will be subject to the licensing conditions detailed in Appendix I. Other conditions may be imposed as set out in paragraph 2.4.2.

7.2.2 Any Dog Breeding Establishment application that does not meet the Council's licensing conditions detailed in Appendix I will not be granted a licence.

8 ZOOS

8.1 Licensing Requirements

8.1.2 The Zoo Licensing Act 1981 regulates by licence the conduct of zoos.

8.1.3 A licence is required for any establishment where wild animals are kept for the purposes of exhibition to which members of the public have access, with or without charge for admission, on more than seven days in any period of twelve consecutive months. The Zoo Licensing Act 1981 does not apply to circuses or pet shops.

8.1.4 The wide definition means that licensed zoos can range from traditional zoos and safari parks to small specialist collections. Dispensations can be made for small premises which reduce the number of inspections to a reasonable level for the size of the establishment without detracting from the need to ensure that acceptable levels are achieved in animal welfare.

8.1.5 A veterinary surgeon is required to conduct an inspection of such a premises. This is to be conducted by a suitable qualified veterinary surgeon who specialises in Zoo Licensing. The Council will nominate the vet for each inspection and make the appropriate arrangements. The cost of the veterinary surgeon will be recovered from the applicant/ licence holder by the Council.

8.1.6 A licence will not be granted where the veterinary surgeon recommends to the Council that a licence is refused.

8.1.7 Any Zoo Licence issued will run from the date of grant for 2 years.

8.1.8 It is an offence under section 19 of the Act for a person to operate a zoo without obtaining a licence from the Council first. It is also an offence to fail to comply, without reasonable excuse, with any condition attached to the licence. Section 19 also provides for a number of additional offences.

8.2 Licence Conditions

8.2.1 Any Zoo Licence will be subjected to the licence conditions detailed in Appendix J. Other conditions may be imposed as set out in paragraph 2.4.2.

8.2.2 All veterinary surgeons inspecting a zoo must have regard to the standards model conditions however amendments can be made as necessary for each individual premises.

8.2.3 Any Zoo which does not meet the model conditions will not be granted a licence.

9 DEVIATION FROM POLICY

- 9.1.1. In exercising its regulatory function, Cherwell District Council and South Northants Council will have due regard to the relevant legislation and his Policy document and the principles set out within it.
- 9.1.2. In addition to this Policy, each application will be considered on its own merits based on the licensing principles set out in section 2.3.1. Where an applicant requests a deviation from this Policy and/or the licensing conditions but is able to comply with the licensing principles, the Public Protection Manager may authorise a licence to be issued accordingly. No licence will be issued unless all statutory requirements are met.

10. INSPECTIONS

- 10.1.1. The various statues cited above provide powers for the inspection of premises and establishments either by an officer with delegated authority, or a veterinary surgeon or practitioner as follows:-

- Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963 – section 2
- Pet Animals Act 1951 – section 4
- Riding Establishments Act 1964 – section 2
- Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 – section 3
- Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 – section 2 and Breeding of Dogs Act 1991 – section 1
- Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999 – section 1
- Zoo Licensing Act 1981 – section 9A to section 12

- 10.1.2 Obstructing inspections is an offence, the penalties for which varies and may include provision for the court to cancel licences and/ or disqualify the offender from certain activities, and for the seizure of animals.

11. ENFORCEMENT

- 11.1 The Council will operate a proportionate enforcement regime in accordance with the Council's Statement of Enforcement Policy which can be found here <http://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/3490.htm> and <http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=10389>

12. AMENDMENTS TO THIS POLICY

- 12.1.1. Any significant amendment to this Policy will be implemented following consultation with licensees and other relevant public bodies

- 12.1.2. For the purposes of this section, any significant amendment is defined as one that:

- a) Is likely to have a significant financial effect on the licence holders
- b) Is likely to have a significant procedural effect on the licence holder
- c) Is likely to have significant effect on the community.

- 12.1.3. Any minor amendments will be authorised by the Public Protection Manager. For the purposes of this section, any minor amendment is any such change not defined in section 9.1.2 above.

APPENDICES

Conditions Applicable to Animal Licences

The following conditions will apply to the relevant animal licences. Non statutory conditions can be varied by the Public Protection Manager.

- Appendix A – General Dog Boarding Licensing Conditions (CIEH)
- Appendix B – General Cat Boarding Licensing Conditions (CIEH)
- Appendix C – Dog Home Boarding Licensing Conditions
- Appendix D – Cat Home Boarding Licensing Conditions
- Appendix E – Non-Residential Day Care Licensing Conditions
- Appendix F – Riding Establishment Licensing Conditions
- Appendix G – Pet Vending Licensing Conditions (CIEH)
- Appendix H – Dangerous Wild Animal Licensing Conditions
- Appendix I – Dog Breeding Licensing Conditions (CIEH)
- Appendix J – Zoo Licensing Conditions



Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Dog Boarding Establishments 2016



May 2016

This document has been prepared in the best interests of animal welfare and to advise those tasked with inspecting, advising and licensing kennels under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963.

It has been reviewed for the first time in 20 years and has therefore been updated to include, and ensure compliance with, the Animal Welfare Act 2006. Equally, the contents reflect changes in training/handling techniques during that time.

No liability rests with contributing bodies for the circumstances arising out of the application of conditions contained within the document.

The contents of this document will be kept under regular review to ensure that it remains relevant and accurate.

The groups consulted included:

- Borough Council of Wellingborough
- British Small Animal Veterinary Association
- British Veterinary Association
- Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Corporation of London
- Dogs Trust
- Epping Forest District Council
- International Cat Care
- Pet Industry Federation (formerly Pet Care Trust)
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- The Kennel Club

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Introduction

Introduction

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) model licence conditions and guidance for dog boarding establishments was published in 1995.

Since then there have been developments in the understanding of animal welfare and also the introduction of the Animal Welfare Act in 2006. It was, therefore, felt timely to revise and update this document so that it better reflects the legal and animal welfare considerations inspectors should consider when looking at boarding kennels and making recommendations for licensing and any conditions applicable.

This document is aimed at all those who are tasked with inspecting, advising and licensing kennels under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 ('the 1963 Act'). It may also be useful to owners and managers of kennels and those planning to build boarding kennels who wish to better understand what their legal requirements are under both the 1963 Act and the Animal Welfare Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act') as well as other related legislation.

The main legal requirements

There are two main pieces of legislation that attention should be drawn to, namely; the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 and the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

1 Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

The 1963 Act requires anyone who wishes to keep a boarding establishment (ie, in this context a kennel) to be licensed by the local authority and abide by the conditions of the licence. If they do not they are in breach of the law. In particular the local authority will consider the ability of the establishment to ensure:

- Accommodation is suitable as respects construction, size, number of occupants, exercising facilities, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness.
- Ensure adequate supply of suitable food, drink and bedding material for the animals and that they are adequately exercised and visited at suitable intervals.

- All reasonable precautions are taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious or contagious diseases, including the provision of isolation facilities.
- Appropriate steps are taken for the protection of animals in the case of fire or other emergency.
- A detailed register is maintained of any animals received into the establishment that is available for inspection at all time.

Those responsible for kennels must ensure that a copy of the licence and its conditions (maximum number of dogs and number of holding units) is displayed prominently in the boarding establishment.

No animals other than dogs are to be boarded within the licensed facilities without the written approval of the local authority.

2 Animal Welfare Act 2006

Sections 1 and 2 of the 2006 Act set out which animals are protected. This includes any animal (vertebrate) other than man (Section 1) which is commonly domesticated in the British Isles, or under the control of man whether on a permanent or temporary basis, or is not living in a wild state (Section 2). Thus dogs are protected by this piece of legislation.

Section 3 of the 2006 Act sets out who can be found to be responsible for an animal and this includes on a permanent or temporary basis as well as being in charge of it or owning it. Therefore, in the context of this document, the boarding establishment owner as well as their employees can be found liable under this piece of legislation. No one under the age of 16 years can be deemed to be responsible for an animal.

Section 4 of the 2006 Act sets out offences concerned with unnecessary suffering. An offence is committed here if someone's act or failure to act causes an animal to suffer, whether the person knew (or ought to have reasonably known) that the act (or failure to act) was likely to cause such suffering – it is still an offence as the suffering was unnecessary. An offence can also be committed whereby someone

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permits this to happen. Again, this can apply to not just employees of an establishment but also an owner. In particular, the conduct that caused the suffering may be deemed unnecessary if it could reasonably have been avoided or reduced, if it was not in compliance with relevant legislation, licence, or codes of good practice, if it was not for a legitimate purpose, if it was not proportionate, if it was not the conduct of a reasonably competent and humane person.

Under Section 9 of the 2006 Act those responsible for animals (in England and Wales) and in the context of this document, this means the boarding establishment owner as well as their employees, have a duty to ensure reasonable steps are taken to ensure the welfare needs of the animals is met to the extent required by good practice. This includes:

- Its need for a suitable environment
- Its need for a suitable diet
- Its need to be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns
- Any need it has to be housed with, or apart from, other animals, and
- Its need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease.

This guidance also notes that additionally there are Codes of Practice concerning dogs that the Welsh Government and DEFRA have produced and they provide further information on these points. To access copies of these Codes, please see:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69390/pb13333-cop-dogs-091204.pdf

<http://gov.wales/docs/drah/publications/081219-code-of-practice-welfare-of-dogs-part-1-en.pdf>

<http://gov.wales/docs/drah/publications/081219-code-of-practice-welfare-of-dogs-part-2-en.pdf>

Other relevant regulations and legislation:

- Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
- The Control of Dogs Order 1992

- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002
- Controlled Waste Regulations 1992
- Dangerous Dogs Act 1991
- The Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Act 1997
- Dog Fouling - Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
- Electricity at Work Regulations 1989
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- The Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2015
- Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992
- Regulation on the Protection of Animals During Transport (EC) 1/2005
- The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
- Town and Country Planning Act 1990
- Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992

Further information on the above is available from Business Link – www.businesslink.gov.uk

This document is intended to apply in England; it may be useful in Wales and Northern Ireland where separate legislation applies.

Insurance

It is strongly recommended that all proprietors of licensed boarding establishments have appropriate insurances in place.

Introduction

Policies and Procedures

This guidance document recommends that written policies and procedures setting out how the kennels will ensure all aspects of the welfare of dogs in their care as well as their staff should be provided.

Supervision

It is strongly recommended that the kennel proprietor or a responsible person over 18 years of age lives on site or a key-holder must live within a reasonable travelling time from the kennels. An emergency contact number must be clearly displayed at the entrance to the kennels.

All staff who handle and care for dogs must be adequately trained and competent in ensuring the dogs' welfare (as per the Animal Welfare Act) as well as their safe handling.

Staff must also be trained in emergency procedures to follow, and all other aspects of the licence conditions which are pertinent to their work.

Licensing

NOTE: Further to this document, Local Authorities are able to add their own licence conditions according to individual premises and in accordance with the Act. When considering this, it is important for the Licensing Officer to bear in mind that the licence conditions are based around and need to pay particular regard to providing suitable:

- Accommodation
- Food
- Exercise
- Protection from injury and disease

In addition, a register of animals should be kept with their dates of arrival and departure and their owners' name and addresses.

A licence will contain conditions to these ends and the council may add other conditions: see Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 s. 1(3). See (a) – (e). The council shall specify such additional conditions in the licence as appear to the local authority necessary or expedient in the particular

case for securing all of these 5 objects (a) – (e).

For further information, please contact CIEH and/or your own legal department.

Training

All staff should be adequately trained in the work they are expected to carry out and be competent in day to day boarding kennel management. Where staff are employed, whether permanent or temporary, a written training policy should be provided. The licensee must be able to demonstrate relevant training is carried out (via appropriate training records) on all aspects of the care of all ages of dogs and updated regularly.

The following are regarded as essential topics to be covered in the training programme relating to the care of dogs: Animal Health and Welfare; Behaviour; Cleanliness and Hygiene; Feeding and Food Preparation; Disease Prevention and Control; Recognition of Sick Animals; Dog Handling; Health and Safety; Emergency Procedures; Relevant Legislation.

There are a variety of animal care courses available and staff should be encouraged to attend. It is recommended that all staff have gained or be working towards relevant qualifications at minimum Level 2, and should be encouraged to attain Level 3 (within the Regulated Qualification Framework, e.g. NVQ) or an industry recognised award equivalent. At least one staff member should hold, or at least be studying towards a relevant Level 3 qualification.

How to use this document

Each of the sections relates to a Requirement, elaborating why it is important to meet this from the perspective of the dog and/or legal requirements where applicable. Good care is based on some simple principles and these are shown where relevant as bullet points (•) in the document.

In order to align the licence guidelines with the check lists for use by Licensing Officers and those involved with the licensing process, each factor which enables the associated legal requirement to be met

Introduction

has been given an individual code linking it to the appropriate section. These must be followed in order to achieve the licence. It should be noted that the order in which the requirements are listed under each section is arbitrary and does not indicate any order or importance. All requirements listed under the sections are equally important.

The document is divided into sections based on the Animal Welfare Act. Inevitably there is some duplication and cross referencing as it is most likely that sometimes Licensing Officers will refer to a specific section rather than reading through the whole document. It also ensures that an important or very relevant issue is reinforced and that a particular condition is not missed and is complied with.

The Identification code is made up of a 'letter, number' combination, the letter indicating the section (relating to each of the five welfare needs as stipulated under the Animal Welfare Act 2006), and the number relating to the requirement's numerical order within that section:

SECTION	IDENTIFICATION CODE
Environment	A
Diet	B
Behaviour	C
Company	D
Health and welfare	E

Attached at **Annex A** is a Model Licence Conditions Inspection Sheet for Dog Boarding Establishments.

Section A – ENVIRONMENT

Providing the dog(s) with a suitable place to live/stay

Poor housing has a substantially negative impact on both the health and wellbeing of dogs. Housing systems must be suitable for the needs of the sizes of dogs in question. The kennels must be designed, built and managed to provide a safe, disease free, comfortable, clean, draught free environment, which provides for dogs' welfare needs. The kennels should be constructed and managed to be minimally stressful and offer environmental choice and control for the dog. It can be beneficial for dogs to spend time away from the kennel unit, such as in an exercise area.

During kennel construction it is necessary to use an appropriate design and correct materials to overcome problems of noise emission. This is in order to minimise discomfort to the dog and to minimise the risk of nuisance to persons in the vicinity of the site. See section C2 and Annex E: Guidance for New Builds.

The interior and exterior of the buildings should be kept in good decorative order and repair. Outer paths, gardens, exercise areas and general surroundings should be kept in a good, clean, presentable condition.

The following requirements list what must be present in a dog's environment, and details further measures that can be taken. Please note that the requirements are not presented in any order of importance but all hold equal standing with respect to the environmental needs of dogs.

A1: Kennel construction and principles of design

- The correct design and construction of kennels is vital to prevent escape, minimise disease spread and stress to the dogs, and to make maintenance and hygiene management straightforward, and achievable by kennel proprietors. It should also provide a comfortable, dry, draught free, clean and quiet place to rest.
- Contact with urine / faeces from other animals should be avoided.
- The design and layout of kennels should allow dogs to be able to control their visual access to surroundings and dogs in other kennels. It should also minimise the

number of dogs that staff disturb when removing any individual dog and should also ensure the safety of staff when passing other dogs.

- Dogs should have somewhere to go to avoid things that frighten them
- Kennels should provide a comfortable, dry, draught free, clean and quiet place to rest.
- For advice on kennel improvement, see Annex E: Guidance for new Build.
- Dog unit design usually falls into two categories;

Outdoor – dog units with indoor sleeping accommodation and individual, at least partially covered, outdoor runs directly adjoined to, and exclusive to, that dog unit.

Indoor – kennel units with indoor sleeping accommodation and indoor runs directly adjoined to, and exclusive to, that dog unit.

NOTE: On occasion the run may be separate to the sleeping accommodation. In such instances, the run is designated to, and for the exclusive use of the occupant/s of a particular sleeping accommodation

- A safe and secure reception area for handing over dogs should be available.



Covered runs

Section A

A1.1

For disease control there must be no possibility of dogs within the kennel establishment (other than those from the same household), or other animals outside the kennels, coming into direct contact with each other (for further information see Section E – Health and Welfare).

A1.2

New builds and extensions must comply with the recommendations for new builds in Annex E.

A2: Physical Construction and Integrity: General

- The kennels should be safe, secure and free from hazards, and minimise the risk of injury to a dog, or escape of a dog.

A2.1

The kennels must be structurally sound, and maintenance and repair of the whole establishment must be carried out regularly.

A2.2

The kennels must be constructed of materials that are robust, safe and durable, and be well maintained in good order and repair.

A2.3

Materials and paints/substances used in construction or maintenance must not expose dogs to any harmful chemicals.

A2.4

The kennels must be built in compliance with good building practice, on a concrete base with a damp proof membrane. Where Building Regulations apply these must be adhered to.

A2.5

There must not be any sharp edges, projections, rough edges or other hazards which present risk of injury to a dog.

A2.6

Windows must be escape-proof at all times.

A2.7

Doors must have secure latches or other closing devices.

See A3.16 re door apertures

A2.8

All wire mesh/fencing must be strong and rigid and kept in good repair to provide an escape and dig proof structure.

See A3.15 re mesh sizes

A2.9

Timber, if used in existing buildings, must be of good quality, well-kept and any damaged areas sealed or over-clad. Wood must be smooth and treated and properly maintained to render it impervious. It is recommended that wood should not be used in exposed construction of walls, floors, partitions, door frames or doors in the dog kennelling area.

A2.10

All exterior wood must be properly treated and of good quality.

A2.11

Any storage areas must be dry and free from vermin.

A2.12

Fixed electrical installations and all portable electrical appliances must be installed and maintained in accordance with current legislation.



Drainage and building materials

Drainage

- Drainage needs to be effective to ensure there is no standing water in the kennel, as this can be a reservoir for infectious agents.

Section A

A2.13

The establishment must be connected to mains drainage or an approved, localised sewage disposal system.

A2.14

Waste water must not run off into adjacent pens.

A2.15

Adequate drainage must prevent pooling of liquids. A minimum gradient of 1:80 is advised to allow water to run off.

A2.16

Any drain covers in areas where dogs have access must be designed and located to prevent toes/claws from being caught

A2.17

Drainage channels must be provided so that urine is not allowed to pass over walk areas in corridors and communal access areas. There must be no access to the drainage channels by the dogs housed in the dog units.

Secure Area

- An enclosed secure area, for example a safety corridor, is essential to ensure that if a dog manages to slip out from its individual dog unit, it is still kept safely inside the kennels.

A2.18

There must be an escape-proof area beyond the kennel unit to ensure that dogs are unable to escape from the premises.

A2.19

For kennels where there are facing units accessed by an indoor corridor, the corridor must be at least 1.2 m wide. There must be facility for a dog to be able to hide to avoid visual contact with other dogs. Compliance can be achieved in various ways such as the use of indoor kennels or partitions.

(See Section D)

A2.20

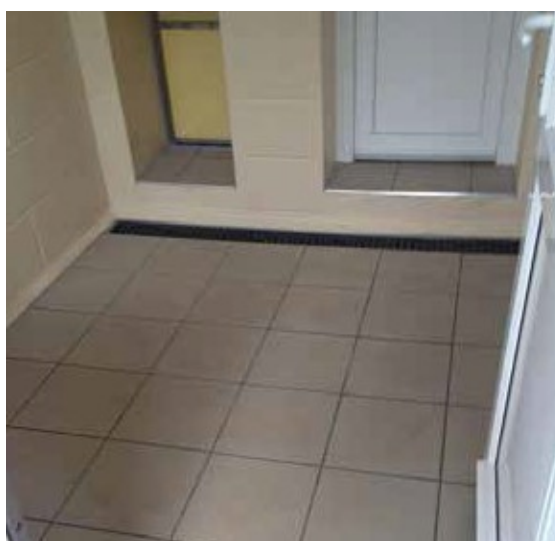
There must be a securable door from which the secure area of the kennels can be viewed from the outside and this must be kept closed when not in use.

A2.21

The door from the dog unit to the secure area must be escape-proof, securable, strong enough to resist impact and scratching, and to prevent injury. It must not be propped open.

A2.22

The floor must be finished to produce a smooth, non-slip, impervious surface which is easy to clean and disinfect. Holes or gaps between tiles or paving slabs are not acceptable.



Internal cleanable flooring

A2.23

External doors/gates must be lockable and staff must have easy access to keys in case of emergency.

A2.24

Sufficient lighting must be provided in the secure area to illuminate it all year round. Where practicable this should be natural light during the day.

A2.25

The secure area must not be used as an exercise area.

Roofing

A2.26

There must be a safe, secure, waterproof roof which should cover all of the sleeping accommodation and at least 50% of the attached individual run. For the run, roof materials used must be capable of filtering UV light and providing adequate shade.

A3: Dog Units



Kennels (new build)

A boarded dog is accommodated in a 'unit' comprising enclosed sleeping accommodation and an adjoining or designated individual run exclusive to that dog unit.

A3.1

Dogs from different households must not share dog units.

Lighting

- Lighting enables observation of the dogs and illumination for cleaning and working in the kennels.

A3.2

There must be sufficient light in the kennel unit during the day to work and observe the dogs. Where practicable this must be natural light, but artificial light must be available.

A3.3

Lights must be turned off to provide a period of darkness overnight.

Ventilation and Humidity

- Fresh air is essential for the maintenance of good health and well-being as well as limiting the spread of infectious disease. Proper ventilation removes heat, dampness, odour, airborne microbes and pollutant gases such as ammonia. High humidity

should be avoided as it prolongs the survival of infectious agents.

A3.4

Ventilation must be appropriate all year round (both cool in hot weather and avoiding cold draughts in winter). Localised draughts in the sleeping accommodation must be avoided.

Interior Surfaces

- For disease prevention dog units need to be easy to clean and disinfect.

A3.5

All interior surfaces to which dogs have access must be durable, smooth and impervious, capable of being cleaned and disinfected, and be kept in good decorative order and repair.

A3.6

Where concrete or other building blocks or bricks are used, they must be sealed to be smooth and impervious.

A3.7

Surfaces which are peeling, scratched, chipped or in disrepair must be repaired or resealed to an acceptable standard, or replaced.

A3.8

Ceilings must be capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected.

A3.9

Junctions between sections must be covered or sealed.

A3.10

Floors must be finished to produce a smooth, non-slip, solid surface and all surfaces must be capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected. (There must be no open gaps if using concrete slabs or tiling).

In new constructions, floors must be laid to a minimum fall of 1 in 80, leading to a shallow drainage channel, or effectively covered deep drainage channel – See Annex E: guidance for new build.

Accessing the Dog Units

- Each unit needs to be easily accessible and provide a means of identification for each dog.

Section A

A3.11

Each unit must be designed to allow staff to access and clean all parts of the dog unit safely. (For further information on cleaning see Section E – Health and Welfare).

A3.12

Each unit must be clearly marked (e.g. numbered) and a system in place which ensures that relevant information about the dog in that unit is readily available e.g. feeding or information on medicinal treatments.

A3.13

Each unit must have a securable, full height door for access.

A3.14

Kennel doors must be strong enough to resist impact, scratching and chewing. They must be fitted to ensure they can be effectively secured.

A3.15

Where metal bars and/or mesh and/or frames are used, they must be of suitable gauge (approximately British Standard 14 gauge) with spacing adequate to prevent dogs escaping or becoming entrapped. Where metal edging is used, this must not present a risk of injury to the dog.

A3.16

Gaps or apertures must be small enough to prevent a dog's head passing through, or entrapment of any limb or body parts. To protect against this any such gaps must prevent the passage of a 50mm sphere, or smaller if appropriate. Galvanised Weld Mesh must be a minimum of 2 mm (British Standard 14 gauge) in thickness.

A3.17

Large apertures in order to unlock a door must be avoided. See Annex E for further guidance

A3.18

Door openings must be constructed such that the passage of water/waste is not impeded, or allowed to gather due to inaccessibility.

A3.19

Doors must open inwards in order to protect the health and safety of attending staff.

A4: Sleeping Accommodation

- Dogs need sleeping accommodation which must be separate from the run and provide somewhere for the dog to hide. Most designs fall within the guidelines detailed here. The floor should be insulated to prevent extremes of temperature.

See Annex D for guidance on kennel sizes.

- A sleeping platform can improve barrenness, improve comfort and give a vantage point to small dogs

A4.1

The following principles must be achieved in order to give dogs a suitable and appropriate comfortable space, and for ease of cleaning and management. A dog must be able to sit and stand at full height, stretch and wag its tail without touching the sides. The floor area must be a minimum of twice that required for a dog to lay out flat i.e. at least twice the area taken up by the dog and also be a minimum of at least 1.9sqm/20sq feet. For two or more dogs sharing, the total area must be at least the sum of that required for each dog.



Full height separation kennels

A4.2

Kennels must have a minimum head room height of 1.8m (6 ft.) to facilitate adequate space for kennel staff to clean and handle the dogs.

Section A

A4.3

Partition walls between the sleeping accommodation of adjacent dog units must be of solid construction to a height sufficient to prevent direct nose to nose contact.

See Annex E: guidance for new build.



Kennel (sleeping accommodation)

Temperature in Sleeping Accommodation

- In kennels, dogs need an adequate ambient temperature and additional heating/cooling facilities if this cannot be guaranteed in times of excessively cold/hot weather. Breed, body condition, medical condition, coat and age can affect an individual's ability to maintain its body temperature.

A4.4

There must be a means of measuring, monitoring and recording temperature (maximum and minimum temperatures) representative of the temperature in the dog sleeping accommodation.

A4.5

Insulation and temperature regulation in the kennels must aim to keep the ambient temperature in the dog sleeping accommodation above an absolute minimum of 10°C and below a maximum of 26°C.

A4.6

There must be a documented policy in place for dealing with extremes of temperature and

weather conditions (both hot and cold). There must be documented evidence that this is being implemented i.e. any deviations from the temperature cited in A4.5.

A4.7

Dogs must be monitored to check if they are too hot or too cold. If an individual dog is showing signs of heat or cold intolerance then steps must be taken to ensure the welfare of the dog.

A4.8

The dog must be able to remove itself from a direct source of heat e.g. lamp.

A4.9

Heaters must not be sited in a manner or location where they present a risk of burning or electrocution to dogs or humans, or a risk of fire. Open flame appliances must not be used. All heating equipment must be installed and maintained in a safe condition.

A4.10

Any electrical sockets in the sleeping accommodation must be waterproof and protected against damage e.g. out of reach or the use of safety cages.

Bedding

- Bedding is important to help animals regulate their body temperature, to give traction and to keep animals comfortable. Old or infirm dogs can have difficulty rising if surfaces are slippery, and old, very young or infirm animals may have difficulty regulating their body temperature.

A4.11

There must be a clean resting place to provide comfort and warmth which is situated out of draughts. A raised bed may aid in the avoidance of draughts.

A4.12

A dog must not be left without bedding, unless instructed otherwise by the dog's owner. Soft bedding materials must be provided and adapted if necessary for old, young or infirm dogs to help regulate their body temperature. If a dog chews or destroys its bedding, it must be replaced with an alternative.

Section A

A4.13

Bedding must be made of a material that is easy to wash/disinfect, or is disposable.

A4.14

Bedding must be changed between dogs. Dog units and bedding must be cleaned and disinfected on being vacated.

A4.15

All beds and bedding areas must be kept clean and dry.

A5: Designated run (in addition to and not including sleeping accommodation)



Protected external runs (showing drainage)

- The attached run is an integral part of the individual dog unit.
- A dog should have free access, at least during working hours, between the sleeping accommodation and attached run so that it can easily and safely access all parts of its unit.
- Size of attached/designated run: This should be at least 2.42 sq m (26 sq feet) for dogs up to 60cm at the shoulder or 3.34 (36 sq feet) for larger dogs

See Annex E: guidance on new build.



Access to different areas

A5.1

Any part of the run to which the dog has access must be easily cleanable and maintained in good repair. Any replacement wood must be clad with a smooth impervious material.

A5.2

The floor must be finished to produce a smooth, impervious, slip-resistant surface and all surfaces must be capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected. There must not be any open gaps if using concrete slabs or tiling.

A5.3

Where dogs have access to mesh, the diameter of the wire must not be less than 2.0 mm (BS 14 gauge welded mesh). Mesh size must not exceed 50 mm in any direction.

A5.4

The run must not be used as the primary sleeping / bedding area.

A5.5

The attached run must be roofed to a minimum of half the area, sufficient to give the dog protection against the weather. The roofing material must be translucent material capable of filtering UV light and providing shade.

A5.6

The solid partition between individual attached runs must be sufficiently high to prevent direct nose to nose contact.

A5.7

Where a dog poses a health and welfare risk to other dogs, he or she should be kept in a dog unit with full height solid partition walls (these can be temporary).

A6: Outdoor exercise and exercise areas (separate from dog units)



Safe area outside kennels and hard surfacing

- Outdoor areas can provide opportunities for dogs to exercise, explore, investigate and interact with staff. Enrichment equipment and toys should be used as they can encourage activity and exploration of the area. Outdoor areas cannot have strict temperature regulation but need to protect dogs from extremes of weather.
- Outdoor exercise areas for common use can be beneficial in terms of exercise/change of environment but increase the risk of disease spread, in particular worms, and the potential for injury.
- There is a potential for injury if dogs from different households are allowed to exercise in the exercise area at the same time. In principle this should be avoided. However, if on occasion dogs which normally mix well socially are boarded at the same time and owners wish them to be able to exercise together in this area, then it is essential that informed consent for named dogs is sought.
- All areas should be provided with an impervious, cleanable surface at least at the entrances (concrete, laid to a suitable fall to prevent ponding and promote drainage).

A6.1

Dogs must be monitored whilst in outdoor exercise areas.

A6.2

Exercise areas must not be used by more than one dog at any one time unless they are from the same household or prior written consent has been obtained from owners, in accordance with the documented Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). The owner must stipulate what mixing is to take place i.e. whether it is mixing with dogs selected by the proprietor or with named dogs only.

A6.3

Exercise areas must be cleared of all potential hazards between dogs. Faeces must be picked up between dogs/occupancy and at least daily to prevent the roundworm *Toxocara canis* and other parasites from being established.

A6.4

Dogs must not be restricted to such an area when climatic conditions may cause them distress. They must have constant access to fresh, clean water and shade and shelter so that they can seek protection from the weather.

A6.5

Informed written consent from owners must be obtained to enable a dog to be walked outside the kennel facility.

A6.6

An outdoor exercise area must be safe. For example dogs should not be exercised on grass which has been treated with a chemical dangerous to dogs. Where artificial turf is used, it must be maintained in good repair to avoid ingestion hazards.

A6.7

Exercise areas for common use, if used, must be suitably drained. Surface ponding of water must not occur and land drainage should be provided where necessary if normal site drainage proves inadequate.

A6.8

Equipment such as tunnels, platforms and toys must be safe and maintained in a safe and clean condition.

A6.9

For Exercise: see Section C.

A7: Fire and other emergencies

Appropriate steps need to be taken to prevent fire and to protect dogs and staff in case of fire and other emergencies.

A7.1

A Fire Safety Risk Assessment and implementation of all necessary control measures must be in place.

A7.2

There must be a written emergency plan (acceptable to the local authority) which must be on display and known to staff, including a contingency plan should the premises be uninhabitable. This must include an evacuation plan for the dogs. An emergency telephone list must include fire, police and vets.

A7.3

Firefighting equipment must be provided and maintained in good working order. Records of maintenance and inspection must be kept and made available for inspection.

A7.4

Fire exits must be clearly marked and access left unrestricted.

A7.5

The premises must comply with current legislation with regards to electricity, gas and other services (if connected).

A7.6

There must be a residual current circuit breaker system installed on the electrical supply to each block of kennels.

A7.7

There must be adequate means of raising an alarm in the event of a fire or other emergency.

A model Emergency and Evacuation Plan is attached at Annex C.

Section B: DIET

Providing the dog(s) with an appropriate diet

Fresh clean water and a suitable diet are basic nutritional requirements for physical health.

B1: Drinking

- Water is essential for all dogs. It is especially important for those fed on dry food.

B1.1

Fresh water suitable for human consumption must be available at all times. Clean water must be provided daily in a clean container and changed or refreshed as often as necessary.

B1.2

Water bowls must be non-porous and easy to clean/disinfect or disposable. They must be cleaned at least once daily.

B2: Eating

- All dogs require a well-balanced diet to stay fit and healthy
- Dogs have dietary needs that can vary, dependent on a number of factors (i.e., breed, age, health status, activity, weight). Dogs should be fed a balanced diet that meets their nutritional requirements.
- Diet and frequency of feeding should be discussed and agreed with a dog's owner. Puppies, or dogs with specific needs, may need more frequent feeding.
- Steps should be taken to minimise the risk of cross-contamination such as when handling raw foods, the use of sealed containers and washing hands after handling food stuffs.

B2.1

There must be exclusive facilities (animal kitchens), hygienically constructed and maintained, for the storage and preparation of food for the dogs.

B2.2

Refrigeration facilities must be provided.

B2.3

A sink with an adequate supply of hot and cold water (suitable for human consumption) must be provided for the washing of food equipment and eating and drinking vessels. The sink must be connected to a suitable drainage system.

B2.4

A separate hand wash basin with an adequate supply of hot and cold water, soap and hygienic hand drying facilities, and connected to a suitable drainage system must be provided for staff to wash their hands.

B2.5

Clean, safe containers must be provided for the storage of foods and must be insect and rodent proof.

B2.6

Dogs must be fed a balanced diet of a quantity and frequency suitable for their age, health status, reproductive status and lifestyle. This should be at least once per day. The type of food, specific diet or prescription diet is usually by agreement with the owner.

B2.7

Food must be unspoilt, palatable, and free from contamination.

B2.8

Food must not be left for excessive periods to prevent it being spoiled and attracting flies. Unconsumed wet or fresh food must be removed from the dog unit before it deteriorates, and before the next feed time. Dry food can be fed as indicated by the manufacturer.

B2.9

One feeding bowl must be provided per dog.

B2.10

Food bowls must be non-porous and easy to clean and disinfect, or disposable.

B2.11

Food intake must be monitored daily and any problems recorded.

B2.12

Dogs must not remain inappetent (not eating) for longer than 24 hours without seeking veterinary advice. If there are specific concerns veterinary advice must be sought earlier.

B2.13

Dietary requirements, agreed with the owner, must be followed. If there are concerns about an individual dog's diet, veterinary advice must be sought.

B2.14

Dogs displaying significant weight loss/gain during their stay must be evaluated by a vet and treated as necessary.

See Annex B for body condition score sheet.

Section C: BEHAVIOUR

Ensuring dogs can exhibit normal behaviour

Good welfare depends on meeting both the psychological and physical needs of dogs. How a dog behaves can indicate how successfully an individual is coping in its environment.

C1: General points on dog behaviour

- Changes in behaviour are often the first signs of illness or injury, so staff need to be familiar with and able to recognise common behaviours associated with stress, fear, pain and anxiety, and behaviour changes, including a decrease in overall activity (see Annex F). Any change should be noted and followed up.
- Exercise is important, not just for physical fitness but to alleviate boredom and allows dogs to exhibit normal behaviours. See section A5
- Time away from the kennel can also provide opportunities for toileting, particularly for those dogs which only urinate or defecate on particular substrates, or away from their home enclosure.
- Encouraging dogs to play can be a good way of keeping them active and is to be actively encouraged. The provision of suitable toys and feeding enrichment can provide an outlet for natural behaviours including chewing, playing, investigating and exploring. Changing toys regularly can reduce boredom.
- Owners should be encouraged to provide toys for their dog. Toys provided by the owner should be the correct size and type for the individual dog and its behaviour. Toys should be kept within that dog's unit and used solely for that dog and returned to the owner and the end of the dog's stay.

C1.1

The behaviour of individual dogs must be monitored on a daily basis and changes in behaviour and/or behaviours indicative of stress, fear, pain and anxiety

must be recorded and acted upon. Those struggling to cope must be given extra consideration as per long stay dogs. See section C3.

C1.2

Any equipment used to walk dogs must protect the dog's welfare and must be correctly fitted and used. Items must be removed when the dog is returned to the kennel and kept in an easily accessible location. Items specific to a particular dog must be identified as such.

C1.3

All dogs must receive toys and / or feeding enrichment unless veterinary advice suggests otherwise. The kennel must obtain the owner's written consent and discuss the provision of toys with the owner. Toys must be checked daily to ensure they remain safe.

See Annex F regarding enrichment, including multi-dog units

C1.4

Dogs need to be exercised on a daily basis away from the kennel unit. This can be on lead or off lead in a secure exercise area. Dogs which cannot be exercised must be provided with alternative forms of mental stimulation. This can include positive interaction with people and additional forms of toy and food enrichment.



External runs protected (not full height)

C2: Noise

- Dog hearing is more sensitive than human hearing and thus noise levels uncomfortable for humans are likely to be very uncomfortable for dogs. Excessive noise contributes to adverse behavioural and physiological response. Dogs may be adversely affected by the sound of other barking dogs.
- The kennel environment should be as calm and quiet as possible with noise producing equipment located as far away from animals as possible.
- Soothing background music can be beneficial and may be provided but loud music may be stressful and should be avoided.

C2.1

Procedures, management and the kennel construction must contribute towards avoiding exposure to excessive / continuous noise.

C2.2

Dogs likely to be or showing signs of being nervous or stressed must be located in a suitable part of the kennels, bearing in mind their individual disposition.

This could include:

- Elderly dogs
- Nervous dogs
- Dogs on some medications

Where a dog is showing signs of being nervous or stressed, steps must be taken to address this.

C2.3

Dogs may be adversely affected by the sound of other barking dogs. This is particularly the case for puppies below the age of seven months, which can be susceptible to developing undesirable behaviour if stressed, frightened or anxious.

Puppies under 7 months of age, must be located in the quietest part of the kennel establishment.

C3: Long stay dogs

- Occasionally dogs stay in a boarding kennels for extended periods (e.g. over 3 weeks). These dogs require special consideration such as additional environmental enrichment, regular health checks and extra attention from staff. For guidance on environmental enrichment, see **Annex F**.

C3.1

A written Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) must be in place explaining how to ensure the health and welfare of long stay dogs.

Section D: COMPANY

Providing a dog with the company he/she needs

It is important from a welfare perspective to ensure that any need a dog has to be housed, with or apart from, other animals, is met. Dogs are sociable animals and most need and enjoy company. For many dogs, one of the greatest stressors upon arrival into a kennel environment is the separation from their familiar social group.

D1: Canine company and interactions

- It is the responsibility of the establishment to ensure that all dogs remain safe from physical injury, the stress of inappropriate interactions and disease. It is often difficult to practically and safely introduce unfamiliar dogs to one another within a boarding environment. Equally, not all dogs may benefit/tolerate interaction with other dogs. Therefore, in a boarding environment interaction with dogs from different households should be avoided.
- It is advised that a documented procedure to deal with in-season bitches is in place.

D1.1

Only dogs from the same household may share a dog unit.

D1.2

Dogs which share a dog unit must have sufficient space and adequate resources. **See A4.1 and D3**

D1.3

Dogs from different units must not share exercise runs or an exercise area at the same time unless prior consent is given. **See A6.2**

D1.4

Where possible dogs must be able to avoid seeing other dogs if they choose to. This facility should be included in the design for any new builds.

D1.5

Where a dog may pose a risk to other dogs he/she must be kept in a dog unit with solid partitions.

D2: Human company and interactions

- Most dogs enjoy and benefit from human company. Dogs socialised to humans can find human company and positive contact such as grooming, exercise, playing and petting (as appropriate for the individual animal and as advised by the owner) rewarding. They may show signs of stress when this interaction is decreased or absent. Other dogs will prefer minimal contact.
- Kennel staff should find out from the owner how the dog normally reacts to human contact and other animals and endeavour to provide an appropriate level of contact. Each dog should be monitored. Those dogs that do not want human contact need particular attention to environmental enrichment.
- A dog should not be forced to interact with a person/people unless necessary. A hiding place should be provided for a dog to avoid people should it wish.
- The layout of kennels should minimise the number of dogs that staff disturb when removing any one individual, and should also ensure the safety of staff when passing other dogs or with a dog on a leash. For example, in existing builds, staff can minimise disturbance by choosing a route that passes the fewest dogs or placing reactive dogs where few dogs need to go past.
- Suitable dog handling equipment (e.g. muzzles, grasper, gauntlets) should be available for use if necessary. Staff need to be adequately trained for its appropriate and safe use.

Section D

D2.1

All staff must have the competence to handle dogs correctly and be able to identify dogs that are anxious or fearful about contact. Dogs must be always be handled humanely and appropriately to suit the requirements of the individual dog.

D2.2

All dog handling equipment must be suitably maintained.

D2.3

A protocol must be in place for dealing with difficult dogs, to include members of staff appropriately trained in the use of dog handling equipment.

D2.4

Dogs must receive daily beneficial human interactions appropriate to the individual dog.

D3: Multi-dog units

- Dogs from the same family which normally live together may prefer to share a dog unit. Proprietors have a responsibility to monitor units where more than one dog is housed. Even though these dogs originate from the same household, dogs sharing a home may not necessarily get on, especially when confined. Therefore proprietors must monitor dogs to ensure that they are not experiencing fear/stress/distress/aggression from another dog. Only dogs from the same household can share a unit.

D3.1

For any multi-dog unit (only appropriate for dogs from the same household) written authorisation must be obtained and dogs must be monitored. Consent from the owner must also include authority for separating dogs, should problems arise (e.g. dogs fighting or appearing 'stressed'). Agreeing to a kennel's Terms and Conditions will satisfy this.

D3.2

There must be multiples of all resources (food and water bowls and sleeping areas), equal or greater than the number of dogs in the unit, to ensure that some dogs cannot monopolise resources and prevent the others from accessing them. Dogs must be carefully monitored, especially at feeding time.

D3.3

There must be sufficient space for multiple dogs in the dog unit. **See A4.1.**

D3.4

A separate bed must be provided for each dog.

D4: Handling dogs

D4.1

All handling must be safe and minimise fear, stress, pain and distress and dogs must never be punished so that they are frightened or exhibit aversive behaviour.

D4.2

All staff must have the competence to handle dogs correctly. **See training, page 6.**

D4.3

Harsh, potentially painful or frightening equipment must not be used by kennel staff e.g. electric shock collars, spray collars, pinch/prong collars, choke/check chains. If such equipment is present when the dog arrives, these must be removed once the dog is in its kennel unit. Alternative handling equipment must be used throughout the kennel stay.

D4.4

When removing individual dogs from dog units, staff must try to minimise disturbance to dogs in neighbouring dog units, e.g. staff must choose the exit that passes the fewest dogs.

Section E: HEALTH AND WELFARE

Protecting the dog(s) from pain, suffering, injury and disease

Many points covered under the previous four sections (A – D) can be considered to relate to Section E and assist in protecting dogs from pain, suffering, injury and disease.

E1: Keeping records

- In order to keep dogs healthy the proprietor needs to have an organised system for registering all dogs at the kennels.
- It is useful to know if dogs are insured, should problems occur.
- The Control of Dogs Order 1992 requires that all dogs, whilst in a public area, must wear a collar and tag stating the name and address of the owner. It is recommended that all dogs boarded at the establishment should wear a collar and tag identifying the name and telephone number of the owner, or have the collar and tag secured immediately outside the kennel unit.
- Under The Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2015 all dogs over the age of 8 weeks in England must be fitted with a microchip, unless a veterinary surgeon has certified (on an approved form) that a dog should not be microchipped for reasons of the animals health.

E1.1

A register must be kept of all dogs boarded and available to key members of staff and to local authority inspectors if requested. Information must include:

- Date of arrival and departure.
- Name, age, sex, description of dog/breed and microchip number.
- Number of dogs sharing from same household.

- Name, address, phone number and email of owner (including emergency contact details).

- Name, address, email and phone number of emergency local contact (who may be able to take the dog if necessary).

- Dog's veterinary surgeon and details of dog's insurance.

- Neuter status.

- Dog's diet and relevant requirements.

- Dog's relevant medical/behavioural history, including treatment for parasites and restrictions on exercise.

- Dog's body condition score / weight.

- Consent forms eg veterinary treatment, consent to share or separate dogs if needed, consent regarding toys / interaction preferences, record of baskets left at the kennels (Check vet consent forms i.e. own vet or designated vet if not in area).

- Record of date of most recent vaccination.

- Record of any international travel the dog has had.

- Any medical treatment the dog is receiving must be recorded and made visible to prevent mis-dosing.

E1.2

If records are kept electronically they must be backed up. All records are to be kept for a minimum of 24 months in a manner that allows an authorised officer easy access.

E1.3

If a dog on the Index of Exempted Breeds to be boarded the owners must produce a copy of the dog's licence and insurance certificate in order to

Section E

admit the dog. The exemption certificate must be produced and be complied with throughout the dogs' stay in kennels. Dogs must not participate in any communal activities. Inspectors have authority to demand paperwork relating to boarders. The paperwork must be produced on demand and be appropriate and correct.

E1.4

Dog units must be numbered and referenced with the records kept.

E2: Monitoring dogs

- In order to keep dogs healthy and to avoid suffering the proprietor needs to have an organised system for monitoring all dogs at the kennels.
- It is recommended that in addition to regular daytime checks an evening round be carried out to check on all dogs, heating etc. An evening visit may be appropriate but needs to be balanced against the possibility of disturbing the dogs and causing noise nuisance.
- It is recommended that dogs that are boarded for longer than 2 weeks are assessed at least every 2 weeks e.g. by body condition score and / or weight and the information recorded. This should be more frequent if there is cause for concern. **See Annex B: Body condition score sheet**

E2.1

All dogs must be observed regularly throughout the day. Dogs must be checked daily for signs of illness, injury, stress, fear, anxiety and pain, and/or abnormal behaviour for that dog and to ensure that their needs are being met. Any signs of ill health or unusual behaviour must be recorded and advice sought without delay.

E2.2

The kennel proprietor or responsible person must visit the dogs at regular intervals (of no more than 4 hours apart during the working day e.g. starting at 8.00 am, until 6.00pm), or as necessary for the individual health, safety and welfare of each dog.

E2.3

Presence or absence of faeces and urine must be monitored daily. Any abnormalities in excreta must be recorded or acted upon as appropriate.

E3: Disease control

- Dogs are vulnerable to a range of serious infectious diseases, therefore disease control and rapid response to any signs of illness is critical. Infectious agents are spread in various ways such as direct contact, contact with infected surfaces/objects and aerosol spread.
- The potential for infectious disease problems escalates where many dogs are kept together and a dog's immune system can also be affected by stress.
- Disease spread can be minimised by:
 - Using materials and design which are easy to clean and keeping them well maintained (Section A).
 - Preventing contact between unfamiliar dogs.
 - Ensuring excellent hygiene protocols within the kennels.
 - Proper construction and hygiene management of the outdoor exercise areas (if used).
 - Ensuring management protocols to minimise stress.
 - Minimising and supervising movement of non-kennel staff through the kennels.
 - Preventive treatments such as worming and vaccination.
- Injury can be minimised by:
 - Ensuring correct construction.
 - Managing dog handling.
 - Observing interactions between dogs from the same household sharing a unit.
 - Ensuring dogs from different households do not share an outdoor exercise area at the same time.
 - Managing risks during dog walking if it occurs.

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E3.1

Documented Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) must be in place and followed to prevent spread of disease, and staff trained in these procedures.

E3.2

Dogs must not share a dog unit with another dog unless it is from the same household.

E3.3

Dogs must not be allowed to roam in the secure area (safety corridor).

E3.4

All dog units, corridors, common areas, kitchens etc. must be kept clean and free from accumulations of dirt and dust and must be kept in such a manner as to be conducive to maintenance of disease control and dog comfort.



Kennel runs (corridor and screens)

E3.5

Generally, dogs must remain in their assigned unit and must not be moved to other units (rotation) or to a holding unit, except for moving to an isolation facility or in the interest of the dog's welfare.

E3.6

Facilities must be provided for the proper reception, containment and disposal of all waste in compliance with relevant waste legislation. Particular care should be taken to segregate waste arising from the treatment and handling of dogs with infectious diseases.

E3.7

Isolation facilities must be available. **See E6**

E3.8

When there is any cause for concern regarding the health status of a particular dog, the dog must be isolated and the disease control SOP activated.

E3.9

Any other activity undertaken by the proprietor, such as work with rescue dogs, stray dogs, or the breeding of dogs must be kept completely separate, and extra precautions taken to prevent the spread of disease, including separate facilities away from boarded dogs.

E4: Cleaning regimes



Cleaning equipment for kennels

- Cleaning regimes need to be implemented and checked. Proper cleaning and disinfection helps to reduce the spread of infectious disease to both animals and people. Cleaning regimes may include daily, weekly and monthly activities as appropriate.

Cleaning and Disinfectant Products:

E4.1

Products must be suitable to use and effective against the pathogens, (especially canine parvovirus) for which the dogs are at risk and under the conditions present in the environment in which they are used.

E4.2

Cleaning agents and disinfectants must be non-toxic to dogs if and when used appropriately.

E4.3

The compatibility of different bactericides, fungicides and virucides (if used together and/or with a detergent) must also be taken into account.

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E4.4

Manufacturers' recommended guidelines for use, correct dilutions and contact time for use in cleaning and disinfection procedures must be followed. Standing water must not be allowed to accumulate in areas around the dog units due to the possibility of pathogens residing in these moist environments.

Cleaning and disinfecting routines for units when dogs are resident:

- Dogs need clean, comfortable dry bedding. Bedding should not be a source of infection.
- Dogs can ingest infective agents from dirty dishes. Clean and disinfected dishes reduce the risk of disease. It cannot be guaranteed that the same dog will get the same dish each time, hence the importance of disinfection (or disposal after single use).
- On a daily basis (and more often if necessary) the unit needs to be spot cleaned, any obvious food or waste removed, and all excreta and soiled material removed from all areas used by dogs.

E4.5

There must be cleaning and disinfection routines in place for day-to-day management of the dogs and for ensuring a dog unit and all equipment is cleaned and disinfected effectively before a new dog comes in.

E4.6

Beds and bedding material must be checked daily and be maintained in a clean, dry and parasite-free condition.

E4.7

Drinking and feeding vessels must be changed/cleaned and disinfected at least once a day, or disposed of.

E4.8

Food and water dishes need to be cleaned and disinfected. This must not be at the same time, and preferably not in the same place, as other soiled items e.g. toys.

E4.9

Grooming equipment must be kept clean and in a good state of repair and serviced according to manufacturer's guidelines. If provided by the owner, it must only be used on that dog and must be sent home with the dog.

E4.10

Any equipment that has been used on an infectious or suspected infectious animal must be cleaned and disinfected after use.

E4.11

Toys must be cleaned and disinfected between use for different dogs, disposed of, or returned to the dog's owner (if they came in with the dog).

E4.12

Each kennel must be thoroughly cleansed, disinfected and dried between dogs. All fittings and bedding must also be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected at that time.

E4.13

Kennels of long stay dogs will require periodical thorough cleaning, disinfection and drying.

Handling Dogs

- Hand washing facilities should be readily available in appropriate locations and easily accessible.
- Frequent hand washing should take place.

E4.14

A suitable range of muzzles of varying sizes and a suitable dog catching device must be kept on site. Staff must be trained and competent in the safe and effective use of such items. **See D2**

E.5: Vaccination, Fleas, Worms and other Parasites

- Vaccination is a vital part of disease control and kennels should understand the potential consequences of dogs that have not been adequately vaccinated in terms of the risk to those particular dogs, other dogs and their own insurance.
- If owners have treated their dogs for worms and fleas before entry to the kennel, the proprietor must note when this occurred and what products were used.
- Vaccination against kennel cough (infectious tracheobronchitis) should be recommended.

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E5.1

There must be a documented policy for dogs coming to the kennels having protection against appropriate diseases (Occasionally there will be veterinary advice on a specific dog regarding vaccination and its health status and this should be taken into account).

E5.2

An up-to-date veterinary vaccination record must be seen to ensure that dogs boarded have current vaccinations against canine parvovirus, canine distemper, infectious canine hepatitis (adenovirus) and leptospirosis. The date of the most recent vaccination must be recorded preferably with a valid until date.

Certification from a veterinary surgeon of a recent protective titre test may be accepted in individual cases as evidence of protection against adenovirus, distemper and parvovirus. The certificate must state that it is valid for the period of stay at the kennels. It is the decision of the kennel proprietor whether to accept such a certificate.

E5.3

Primary vaccination courses must be completed at least 2 weeks before boarding.

E5.4

Homoeopathic vaccination is not acceptable as it will not protect against infectious diseases.

E5.5

If there is evidence of external parasites (fleas, ticks, lice) the dog must be treated with an appropriate and licensed insecticide. Treatment must be discussed with a veterinary surgeon before administering. Consent from the owner will be required.

E6: Isolation Arrangements

- All establishments need to have a means of providing appropriate isolation that will allow for the care of sick dogs which develop signs of infectious diseases, to minimise the risk to other dogs. How this is physically provided (ranging from being able to shut off an end unit of the kennels and using a separate door, to having a separate building) may vary. In many kennels the dog is taken straight to the vet.

E6.1

All establishments must provide appropriate isolation to allow for the care of sick dogs that develop signs of infectious diseases.

E6.2

If the isolation facilities are provided by the attending veterinary practice, a letter must be provided by the practice stating that they are prepared to provide such facilities. If not, the stated isolation protocols must be followed.

E6.3

The isolation area must provide separate, self-contained facilities for the isolation of suspected infected dogs and must have a separate entrance to the rest of the dog units.

E6.4

Protective clothing and footwear must be worn when handling dogs in the isolation facility, and sanitation protocols adhered to, to avoid the transmission of disease. Whilst in use, the clothing should be kept in the isolation unit and not be removed other than for cleaning and disinfection.

E6.5

Protective garments must be changed and laundered with an appropriate disinfectant or disposed of immediately after handling a dog with a suspected infectious disease.

E6.6

Hands must be washed and disinfected between handling dogs.

E6.7

Separate feeding and water bowls, bedding and cleaning utensils must be stored in the isolation unit ready for immediate use. The use of different coloured cleaning utensils to the rest of the kennels may help with this.

E6.8

Any dogs in the isolation facility must be checked regularly and unless a separate person is caring for them, they should be visited after the other dogs.

E6.9

A documented Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is required for barrier nursing.

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E6.10

Should a dog need to be removed from its unit it must wear a collar and tag.

E6.11

In emergency cases, such as admission of unvaccinated dogs because of owner hospitalisation, there must be provision to be able to place these animals in isolation.

E7: Veterinary Treatment and Healthcare

- Access to veterinary care is vital for any dog, and is a legal requirement.

E7.1

If medication is necessary, it must **only** be used for the dog for which it is intended and written instructions for use must be followed.

E7.2

A veterinary practice must be appointed for the establishment. The name, address and telephone contact number, including out of hours provision, of the veterinary surgeon used by the establishment must be displayed in a prominent place, close to the telephone and accessible to all members of staff.

E7.3

Where dogs require wiping of eyes, grooming or other cleaning regimes, these must be carried out frequently enough to keep the dog clean and comfortable providing it is safe to do so.

E7.4

When a dog is suspected of being ill or injured (staff should be trained to recognise when a dog requires veterinary care), a veterinary surgeon (and where possible, this should be the dog's own vet) must be contacted for advice immediately. Any instructions for treatment given by a veterinary surgeon must be recorded and strictly followed with further advice sought if there is ongoing concern.

E7.5

Medicines must be stored safely and securely in a locked cupboard, at the correct temperature and used in accordance with the veterinary surgeon's instructions. Any unused medications must be returned to the owner or prescribing vet.

E7.6

Procedures must be in place in case of death or escape

and all staff must be made fully aware of these procedures. Arrangements for the storage of cadavers must be in place until the owner can be contacted e.g. prior written agreement with the attending vet. Contact with the owner must be made as soon as possible.

E8: Holding Kennels

- Routine use of holding units is not recommended as they are an additional source of cross infection to dogs.

E8.1

Holding kennels may be provided for temporarily kennelling a dog for not more than 12 hours. Holding kennels, if provided, must comply with conditions as required for main kennels. Holding kennels must be a minimum area to allow the dog to exhibit normal traits i.e. dog must be able to sit and stand at full height, stretch, lie flat and wag its tail without touching the sides.

E8.2

Dogs must be provided with a bed, food and water.

E9: Transportation of Animals

- Transportation can increase risk for dogs, both of disease (from unclean vehicles or carriers) or of escape. A vehicle should be viewed as an extension of the premises and therefore the same principles of hygiene, care and disease control apply. If the journey is long, appropriate resources must be provided.

E9.1

Any relevant transport legislation must be complied with to protect welfare, prevent injury or unnecessary suffering.

E9.2

Dogs must be comfortable and suitably restrained whilst in transit.

E9.3

All vehicles and equipment must be kept clean and disinfected after each collection or delivery.

E9.4

Dogs must not be left unattended in vehicles.

E9.5

External temperature can pose a risk to a dog's welfare; therefore vehicles must have adequate ventilation and temperature control.

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Annex A

Annex A: Licence Conditions Inspection Sheet for Dog Boarding Establishments

LICENCE CONDITIONS INSPECTION SHEET FOR DOG BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS										Tick boxes v/x
Name of Kennels		Date of Inspection		+ Home Boarding	+ Breeding	+ Rescue	+ Cattery			
Address of Establishment		Person seen		Signature		Full Inspection	Part Inspection	Revisit		
		Inspectors name(s)				Comments:				
		1								
		2								
		3								
Licence on Display	Insurance	Pest Control policy/contract		Boarding Vet details displayed		Accident Book (H&S)	Emergency Contact displayed			
Has copy of Licence Conditions and Legislation	Register and Back up									
Outdoor units	Indoor units	Semi Indoor/Outdoor units								Number of Units
Metal	Brick	Timber	uPVC		Other					
						Number of Staff				

Index

Identification code	Section	
A	Environment	Kennel: Unit design: Drainage: Exercise Area and Run: walls, floors, ceilings, doors, occupant nos., security, bedding, cleanliness. Interior Surfaces: Lighting: Roofing: Safety Corridors: Sizes: Temperature: Ventilation and Humidity: Fire/Emergency/Evacuation Plan
B	Diet	Drinking: Eating: Refrigeration: Storage of foods: Washing equipment: Kitchen facilities
C	Behaviour	Monitoring of Behaviour: Health and Welfare Plan: Environmental Enrichment: Toys: Noise: Long Stay Dogs
D	Company	Social Interactions: Multi-Dog Units: Handling Dogs
E	Health and Welfare	Keeping Records: Boarding Register: Monitoring of Dogs (general): Disease Control: Vaccinations: Isolation Facilities: Holding Kennels: Standard Operating Procedures: Cleaning Regimes: Transportation of Dogs
Notes	1. 2. 3.	Comments:

Area	Identification Code	Description	v	x	Actions or Comments	Done v
Records	E1.1 – E1.4	Register and Back up				
Records	E2.1 - E2.3	Monitoring of Dogs				
Records	C3.1	Long Stay Dogs SOPs				
Records	A6.2, A6.5, B2.6, B2.11 + E3.1	SOPs Incl. Feeding, Exercise Regime / Consents				
Records	Additional SOP's	Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's)				
Records	D1.3, D3.1	Multi – Dog Consent				
Records	E5.1	Vaccination Policy				
Records	E5.2	Vaccinations and Health records				
Records	E6.2, E6.10, E6.11	Barrier nursing SOPs and Isolation Cases				
Records	E7	Veterinary details/displayed/health screening				
Records	A7.2	Written Emergency Plan and Risk Assessment				
Records	A7.3	Fire equipment and other emergencies records				
Records	A4.4, A4.6	Temperature records and Policy				
Records	C1, C1.1, C1.3	Behaviour and Environmental Enrichment				
Records	D1, D2.3	Monitoring of Dogs for Human Contact/ Interactions				
Records	E.9	Transport (Journey times)				
Records	STR	Staff Training records				
Kitchen/Eating	B2.1	Exclusive facilities				
Kitchen + Units	B2.1, E3.4 – E3.6	Cleanliness				
Kitchen/Eating	B2.2	Refrigeration				
Kitchen/Eating	B2.3 – B2.4	Washing equipment				
Kitchen/Eating	A2.11, B2.5	Storage of foods and quantity kept				
Kitchen/Eating	B2.6 – B2.10	Feeding regime and Food Bowls				

Annex A

Area	Identification Code	Description	✓	x	Actions or Comments	Done ✓
Kennel Unit	A1, A2.1	Sound and safe construction				
Kennel Unit	A2.2 – A2.12	Suitable Construction Materials				
Kennel Unit	A4.1 – A4.3	Sleeping accommodation sizes				
Kennel Unit	A2.6, A2.7, A2.8, A3.13, A3.14, A3.18	Secure windows, doors and fencing				
Roofing	A2.26	Safe and Waterproof roofing				
Unit/Drainage	A2.13 – A2.17	Drainage/Drain covers				
Kennel Unit	A2.18, A2.25	Escape-proof area				
Door and corridor	A2.19, A2.20, A2.21, A2.23, E3.3	Secure Corridor and width/secure doors				
Kennel Unit	A2.22, A3.10	Flooring				
Kennel Unit	A2.24, A3.3	Lighting				
Kennel Unit	A2.5, A2.9, A2.10, A4.3	Walls and Petitions				
Ventilation	A3.4	Ventilation/Draughts				
Kennel unit	E3.4, E4.1 – E4.12	Cleanliness				
Interior	A2.1, A2.5, A3.5 – A3.10	Good repair, clean and sealed joints				
Temperature	A4.5, A4.7, A4.8	Max-Min Thermometer/Temperature				
Unit/Temperature	A4.9, A4.10, A7.3 – A7.7	Safe Appliances/Firefighting: Waterproof Sockets				
Kennel Unit	A2.5	Sharp edges/Other hazards				
Kennel Unit	A3.11, A3.12, A3.15 – A3.17, A3.19	Accessing the Dog Units				
Bedding	A4.11 – A4.15, E4.6	Sleeping Accommodation				
Exercise Run	A5.1 – A5.7	Designated Run; sizes, Roofing, flooring				
Outdoor Exercise Areas	A6.2 – A6.4, A6.6 – A6.8	Outdoor Exercise Areas – Clean and Secure				
Dog Behaviour	C1.2, C1.4, C2.1 – C2.3	Behaviour and Noise				
Area	Identification Code	Description	✓	x	Actions or Comments	Done ✓
Dog Behaviour	C1.3, E4.10, E4.11	Toys/Environmental Enrichment				
Long Stay + Handling	D4.1 – D4.4 + E4.14	Handling of Dogs				
Company/Multi Units	D1.1 – D1.5, D3.2 – D3.4, E3.2	Shared Units, Exercise Areas and Interactions				

Area	Identification Code	Description	✓	x	Actions or Comments	Done ✓
New Build Units	NBU1 (Annex E)					
Disease Control	E4.13, E7.1-E7.6	Handling Dogs and Healthcare				
Vaccinations	E5.1 – E5.5	Vaccination, Fleas, Worms and Other Parasites				
Escape/death	E7.6	Procedures in cases of death / escape of dog				
Isolation	E6.4 – E6.10, E6.12	Hygiene protocols and protective garments				
Isolation	E5.4, E7.4, E7.5	Veterinary instruction				
Isolation	E3.8, E3.9, E6.1 – E6.3	Location of Isolation				
Isolation	E3.6, E4.1 – E4.13	Cleanliness and procedures for use				
Isolation + Holding	E6.13, E8.1, E8.2	Isolation and Holding Kennels				
Transport	E9.1 – E9.5	Use of vehicles for transportation				

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Annex B

Annex B: Body Condition Score Sheets

During periods of longer term kenneling it is essential that dogs are carefully monitored to ensure they are maintaining condition. Kenneling dogs can be stressful and significantly impact dogs' nutritional status.

The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) Global Nutrition Committee have produced guidelines and toolkits¹ to give advice on appropriate nutrition and monitoring of animals.

<http://www.wsava.org/guidelines/global-nutrition-guidelines>

Body Condition Scoring evaluates body fat of individual dogs and is a validated scoring system using a 9-point scale.

WSAVA Global Nutrition Committee

Body Condition Score

UNDER IDEAL

- 1** Ribs, lumbar vertebrae, pelvic bones and all bony prominences evident from a distance. No discernible body fat. Obvious loss of muscle mass.
- 2** Ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones easily visible. No palpable fat. Some evidence of other bony prominences. Minimal loss of muscle mass.
- 3** Ribs easily palpated and may be visible with no palpable fat. Tops of lumbar vertebrae visible. Pelvic bones becoming prominent. Obvious waist and abdominal tuck.

IDEAL

- 4** Ribs easily palpable, with minimal fat covering. Waist easily noted, viewed from above. Abdominal tuck evident.
- 5** Ribs palpable without excess fat covering. Waist observed behind ribs when viewed from above. Abdomen tucked up when viewed from side.

OVER IDEAL

- 6** Ribs palpable with slight excess fat covering. Waist is discernible viewed from above but is not prominent. Abdominal tuck apparent.
- 7** Ribs palpable with difficulty, heavy fat cover. Noticeable fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent or barely visible. Abdominal tuck may be present.
- 8** Ribs not palpable under very heavy fat cover, or palpable only with significant pressure. Heavy fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent. No abdominal tuck. Obvious abdominal distention may be present.
- 9** Massive fat deposits over thorax, spine and base of tail. Waist and abdominal tuck absent. Fat deposits on neck and limbs. Obvious abdominal distention.

Samson A, et al. Comparison of a bodycondition score with dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry to determine correlation of percentage body fat in dogs. JAVMA 2012;192(11):1253-1259.
 Jansson L, et al. Effect of breed on body composition and comparison between various methods to estimate body composition in dogs. Res Vet Sci 2010;93:227-230.
 Keady RL, et al. Effects of age, sex and breed on age-related changes in dogs. JAVMA 2003;184(11):1315-1320.
 Laflamme DP. Development and validation of a body condition score system for dogs. Canine Pract 1997;22:18-19.
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wsava.org

Body condition score chart is part of the Global Nutrition Committee Toolkit and is provided courtesy of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association

¹ These Guidelines were first published in JSAP, July 2011; 52(7):385-96, published by John Wiley and Sons Ltd and are published with permission

Annex C

Annex C: Emergency Evacuation Plan

Introduction

The sample emergency evacuation plan detailed in this annex focuses on what to do in the event of a fire. It is important to bear in mind that other emergencies can occur. Therefore, consideration should be given to developing plans for the following situations:

- General evacuation plan
- Flooding
- Lack of heat
- Lack of water

Fire Emergency Evacuation Plan

Prior to formulating an Emergency Evacuation Plan (EEP) carry out a Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) to identify any potential fire risk hazards within your establishment.

Emergency situations and the requirement to evacuate from the establishment can arise from a number of situations like; Fire, Flooding, Damage to building, Power failure and disease.

Being prepared and planning a simple but well understood procedure to be carried out in the event of an emergency is essential to offer maximum protection for you, your staff and the animals in your care. This need not be a lengthy document but should be readily available for viewing by all staff with a plan of the site giving exit points, location of telephone, emergency equipment (fire extinguishers and storage of leads/baskets/cages) RVP (rendezvous point) and designated holding area for animals. The emergency contact details of a supervisor or the proprietor and the establishment's Veterinary Surgeon should also be displayed.

Fire Risk Assessment

1. Identify potential fire risk hazards in the workplace
2. Decide who might be in danger (staff, visitor, animal) in each area

3. Evaluate the risks arising from hazards and what can be done
4. Record your findings
5. Keep assessment under review

In the event of a fire breaking out within your establishment, remember that your safety and those of your staff is of prime importance and no risks should be taken which may compromise any person's safety. No task in tackling the fire or evacuating animals should be undertaken unless it is safe to do so.

Upon Discovery of Fire

- Leave fire area immediately
- Close all doors behind you
- Alert occupants of building by sounding alarm (if present) or yell "Fire"
- Telephone Fire and Rescue Services dialling 999 from a safe location
- Evacuate animals when it is safe to do so to the designated holding area
- Use exit to leave building

Upon Hearing of a Fire Alarm Warning

- If safe, staff can assist with evacuating animals / occupants
- Leave building via nearest safe exist
- Close doors behind you
- Remain Calm
- Proceed to the designated RVP area

Annex C

Fire and Evacuation Action Plan

Planning Your Escape

- You only have a short time to get out so prepare a plan of escape in advance rather than waiting until there is a fire or evacuation of the establishment.
 - Think of another way out in case the normal route is blocked.
 - Know where door and window keys are kept.
 - Know where spare leads / baskets/ cages are stored.
 - Know where the RVP/Holding areas are.
-

If You Discover a Fire

- Leave fire area immediately.
 - Close all doors behind you.
 - Sound the alarm and call 999 from any phone.
 - Stay calm, speak clearly and listen to the operator.
 - Where safe to do so, assist others to evacuate and remove animals to the safe holding area.
 - If there is a fire elsewhere in the establishment, stay where you are and await instructions or if you have to move remember to check doors with the back of your hand before opening. If it feels warm, do not open it and go another way.
 - If there is a lot of smoke, crawl along floor where the air will be cleaner.
 - If in doubt – Get out, Stay out and get the Fire & Rescue Services Out.
-

Contacts in an Emergency

(enter details here)

- Proprietors name and Telephone Number(s)
 - Supervisors Name and Telephone Number(s)
 - Establishments Veterinary Surgeons Name(s) and Telephone Number(s)
 - Telephone at (enter location)
 - Emergency equipment at (enter location)
 - RVP at (enter location)
 - Animal Holding area at (enter location)
 - Fire Extinguishers located at (enter location)
 - Keys kept at (enter location)
-

RVP = Rendezvous Point

Annex C

The onus is on the boarding establishment to ensure adequate fire prevention precautions are in place.

It is recommended that plans and details for large boarding establishments are lodged with the police and fire authorities. Fire prevention advice may be sought from the Fire Prevention Officer based at your local fire and rescue service. This officer can give advice on fire drills, fire escapes, equipment and should be consulted when new builds are constructed or existing buildings modified.

Smoke detectors are recommended and you must make sure that fire detection and fighting equipment are easily accessible and regularly tested. Exit routes should be kept clear. Staff should be familiar with the fire evacuation procedure by the use of fire drills and how to use the fire extinguishers. All fire safety requirements are set out in the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

Annex D

Annex D: Useful Information: Kennel Unit/Run Sizes

The following information describes the different space allowance requirements for dogs kept for the purposes of boarding, seizure, scientific purposes and quarantine. This is for information only; the reader is referred to the figures for new builds in **Annex E**.

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (1995) Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Dog Boarding Establishments: Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963¹

- 4.2.1 For new kennels each kennel must be provided with a sleeping area of at least 1.9 m².
- 4.2.3 For new kennels each kennel must be provided with an exercise area of at least 2.46 m² for dogs up to 24 inches high at the shoulder or 36 sq ft for larger dogs.

The welfare of seized dogs - an RSPCA good practice guide²

- 1.3c For all new builds, the minimum kennel size must be at least 4m² for dogs under 20kg, and 8m² for dogs over 20kg. This should be increased in relation to the size and number of dogs, so that both the length and width are sufficient for each and all the dogs to lie outstretched at all angles, with neither their tail nor snout touching the walls or another individual.

Home Office. Code of Practice for the Housing and Care of Animals Bred, Supplied or Used for Scientific Purposes³

- Post weaned stock – Until December 2016

Weight of animal (kg)	Minimum pen size (m2)	Minimum floor space per group housed animal (m2)	Minimum height (m)
2-5	4.5	0.5	2.0
5-10	4.5	1.0	2.0
10-15	4.5	1.5	2.0
15-20	4.5	2.0	2.0
>20	4.5	2.25	2.0

1 http://www.cieh.org/uploadedFiles/Core/Policy/Publications_and_information_services/Policy_publications/Publications/Dog_Boarding_Guide.pdf

2 <http://politicalanimal.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/RSPCA-Guide-The-welfare-of-seized-dogs-in-kennels.compressed.pdf>

3 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-practice-for-the-housing-and-care-of-animals-bred-supplied-or-used-for-scientific-purposes>

Annex D

- Post weaned stock, brood stock and stud dogs - From January 2017

Weight of animal (kg)	Minimum pen size (m ²)	Minimum floor space per group housed animal (m ²)	Minimum height (m)
<5	4.5	0.5	2.0
5-10	4.5	1.0	2.0
10-15	4.5	1.5	2.0
15-20	4.5	2.0	2.0
>20	4.5	2.25	2.0

- Voluntary Code of Practice on the welfare of dogs and cats in quarantine premises - recommended minimum internal measurements for individual dog units⁴

Size of dog	Weight Range	Sleeping area- Minimum internal measurements	Adjoining exercise area- minimum internal measurements
Small	Less than 12kg (26lbs)	Not less than 1.1m ² , width and length not less than 0.9m (3 feet)	Not less than 5.5 m ² (60 sq feet), width not less than 1.2 m (4 feet)
Medium	12kg (26lbs) to 30kg (66lbs)	Not less than 1.4 m ² (16 sq feet), width and length not less than 1.2m (4 feet)	Not less than 5.5 m ² (60 sq feet), width not less than 1.2 m (4 feet)
Large	More than 30kg (66lbs)	Not less than 1.4 m ² (16 sq feet), width and length not less than 1.2 m (4 feet)	Not less than 7.4 m ² (80 sq feet), width not less than 1.2 m (4 feet)

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pet-travel-quarantine#welfare-of-pets-in-quarantine>

Annex E

Annex E: Guidance for New Builds

When planning a new build boarding establishment initial planning needs to consider the number, period of time and types of dogs to be accommodated.

Advice must be sought from the Local Authority, Fire Protection Officer and where possible a recognised animal behaviourist. Building regulations must be followed at all times.

As knowledge and material change, recommendations for better construction and care can change. For anyone undertaking a new build boarding establishment, the following advice and recommendations must be followed. When replacing (or adding to) parts of an existing facility, new build advice must be followed.

Throughout the planning of new establishments all aspects should ensure excellent animal welfare, good staff working conditions and a good customer experience.

Size of kennel unit

- Dog units must have a minimum height of 1.8m and there should be full height solid partitions between kennel units to prevent nose to nose contact.
- The minimum size of dog units below are recommended sizes and it is expected that many new boarding establishments will be significantly larger than this. The recommended sizes are derived from the space allowance requirements for dogs kept for the purposes of boarding, seizure, scientific purposes, rescue and quarantine and ensure that as a minimum they are consistent with the January 2017 Home Office Code of Practice for the Housing and Care of Animals Bred, Supplied or Used for Scientific Purposes.
- For dogs below 20kg, the minimum recommended sleeping area must be at least 2.0m² and exercise area, 2.5m².
- For dog greater than 20kg, the minimum recommended sleeping area must be at least 2.0m² and exercise area, 6.0m².

Structure

- All areas of new animal units must be built on a concrete base with insulation and a damp proof membrane. Floors should ensure no pooling of liquids can occur so that cleaning and drying are easily facilitated. A minimum gradient of 1:80 is recommended.
- Particular importance should be taken with the safety of the structure to ensure the used are able to withstand scrubbing, disinfecting, hosing pressure washing and steam cleaning. It must also be non-porous and chew/scratch resistant.
- Wood should be avoided in new build structures. Where concrete/bricks are used these should be smooth, sealed and impervious. Moulded plastic, reinforced plastic coated glass, pre-formed plastic surfaced board are also suitable materials.
- There must be no apertures that can trap dog body parts. This is essential around door handles, locks and windows. Any apertures greater than 50mm should be protected from the interior of the kennel either by metal plates or wire mesh to ensure that dogs are safe within the boarding environment.

Kennel Design

- The design and layout of kennels must allow dogs to control their visual access to their surroundings and dogs in other kennels. This means having the ability to both avoid and enable visual contact with other dogs and their surroundings.
- Planning should ensure ability to remove dogs from kennels with minimal disturbance to other dogs and the safety of staff.
- New kennels must be positioned so that individual units are not exposed to excessive light, sun or darkness during the day.
- Dogs are particularly sensitive to noise. The use of sound minimising material and sound proofing should

Annex E

be considered. Noise control should also consider the maximum number of dogs per block and facility to have different areas for varying age groups.

- From the planning stage the flow of liquids through the buildings as a whole must be considered, including the location of drains and level of fall. Drainage channels should be positioned close to doors so that urine does not pass over walk ways.
- The ventilation system should be designed to minimise draughts and noise disturbances. New build structure should include automatic systems to ensure heating/cooling and ventilation is appropriate.

Outdoor exercise area

Of the dog unit

- The outdoor area must contain sufficient shelter to give the dog protection against the weather whilst still providing security and allowing sufficient ventilation and daylight.
- Some of the roofing material should be translucent and filter UV radiation and provide adequate shade.
- There should be a secure safety area to which all exercise areas open to ensure any escaped dogs are contained and as a safe place for staff to retreat to.

Communal exercise area

- Communal exercise areas must be suitably drained to ensure pooling of water does not occur. Land drainage needs to be provided where necessary if normal site drainage is not sufficient.
- Entrances must be reinforced, concreted or paved to ensure a hazard free, cleanable entry and exit route.

Isolation

- The ability to separate dogs is important. This can be to isolate during a disease outbreak, for behavioural reasons or due to varying age groups requiring alternate environments.
- Each establishment should have isolation facilities that are physically isolated from other dogs.

Annex F

ANNEX F: Behaviour / Environmental Enrichment

1. Monitoring of behavioural signs

Individual dogs respond in different ways when they are feeling anxious, frightened, stressed or in pain. It isn't therefore possible to provide a definitive list of signs but some of the signs which might be seen include²:

- emergence of fearful behaviour e.g. cowering, hiding, aggression
- yawning
- lip-licking
- snout licking
- avoidance of eye contact
- over-grooming or self-mutilation
- performance of repetitive behaviour e.g. pacing, spinning, circling, bouncing
- shivering
- trembling
- paw-lifting
- weight loss
- loose faeces
- consumption of faeces (coprophagy)
- prolonged periods of vocalisation e.g. barking, howling, whining
- kennel chewing

Spending time and becoming familiar with each and every dog is highly recommended as that will make it easier for people to recognise when a dog is finding it difficult to cope in kennels.

2. Environmental enrichment

Environmental enrichment applies to various ways of providing dogs with control and choice over their physical and social environment and increasing species-typical behaviour to improve their well being. However, it is often limited to the provision of toys and feeding devices. Although these are important, there are other methods which can be used. This section provides information about a variety of methods of enrichment which can be used in a kennelled environment.

Providing contact with people

Dogs are sociable animals and most need, enjoy and value company. Many will miss the companionship of their owner(s) whilst being boarded and being away from their family group can be one of the most stressful aspects when kennelled. It is therefore important that, where appropriate for the individual dog, individual circumstances, and it is safe to do so, company with people is provided.

Time with people can be increased through activities such as grooming, exercise, playing and petting. Some owners may also be agreeable to short periods of reward-based training. Dogs which are fearful or anxious may not want to be groomed or played with but can still benefit from having someone close by so spending a period of time sitting outside the kennel talking or feeding treats may help.

Providing contact with other dogs

Dogs have a natural desire for contact with one another and many value and enjoy each other's company. However, providing contact with other dogs in a boarding environment is normally restricted due to health and safety concerns for individual dogs. Where dogs are from the same family keeping them apart from one another may cause distress and so where there are adequate resources e.g. size of kennel, sleeping area, food and water bowls, consent from the owner and the dogs are able to be monitored, it is recommended that they are housed together.

² Rooney, NJ, Gaines, SA and Hiby, EF. 2009. A practitioner's guide to working dog welfare. *Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research*. 4: 127-134.

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Providing toys

Toys can help increase play and reduce boredom but interest can often quickly reduce. To maintain novelty and interest, different toys should be offered on a regular basis and, if possible, should involve staff; dogs find toys especially exciting when they are part of, or the focus of, a game. They should also be presented appropriately, be safe, a suitable size and provided as part of a consistent routine, wherever possible.

Most dogs find chewing toys and bones rewarding and relaxing and many seem to prefer chewable toys. Providing a chewable toy is recommended. If little interest is shown, in one particular item, there is a wide range of manufactured chew toys and bones on the market, so trying others may help.

Whenever new devices or toys are provided, it is important to ensure that they don't cause stress to the animal and they should be monitored closely when first introduced.

It is often feared that providing toys or chews to dogs leads to possessive behaviour but research has shown that not to be the case for the majority of dogs. Fear most often causes possessive behaviour due to the dog having been punished previously for not giving up objects. This can be avoided by using distractions such as taking the dog for a walk, or giving it another toy or food treat when removing the chew toy. Dogs can also be trained to leave objects on command in return for treats.

Where dogs are housed in the same unit, it is advised, for safety reasons, not to leave dogs alone with toys.

Providing feeding devices

A variety of feeding devices are available but probably the most widely used are commercially available rubber cone-shaped toys. Research³ using this specific type of toy has shown that dogs often find them rewarding and relaxing and can prevent or reduce signs of compromised welfare. Research⁴ has also shown that when dogs that interact regularly with them have them removed, a significant increase in stress hormones

is experienced and many also show an increase in behaviour indicative of poor welfare. It is therefore very important that the provision of these specific types of toy is predictable e.g. that they are provided each and every day and around the same time. The correct size and type of feeding device must also be chosen.

Feeding devices do not have to be bought however and alternative feeding devices are fairly easy to prepare and depending on what is chosen, can also provide opportunities for other behaviour:

- Paper bags rolled down to contain food
- Scrunched up pieces of paper
- Cardboard tubes with the ends flattened or folded down to make it more challenging
- Frozen cubes of diluted broth
- Biscuits frozen in ice cubes
- Rope/chew toys (natural fibres only) soaked in gravy and then frozen
- Fresh, crunchy fruits and vegetables, such as carrots, wedges of cored apples and cucumbers.

(American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals).

Similar to toys, there are concerns about the provision of feeding devices leading to possessive behaviour and the advice provided about toys is also relevant here.

Where dogs are housed in the same unit, it is advised, for safety reasons, to separate dogs before providing with feeding devices.

Kennel furniture - Platforms

Kennels can be barren environments offering little opportunity for dogs to carry out natural behaviours or provide little choice within their environment. Platforms can help with this by increasing complexity

3 Schipper, LL, Vinke, CM, MBH, Spruijt, BM 2008. The effect of feeding enrichment toys on the welfare of kennelled dogs (*Canis familiaris*). *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 114, 182-195. Gaines, SA, 2008. Kennelled dog welfare - effects of housing and husbandry, University of Bristol

4 Hiby, EF, 2005. The welfare of kennelled dogs. PhD Thesis, University of Bristol.

Annex F

and available three-dimensional space. This can provide a dog with somewhere to hide or a vantage point from which to carry out lookout behaviours that can be particularly important for smaller dogs, which may not otherwise be able to see out of the kennel without standing on their hind legs. Platforms also offer protection from a cold or wet floor, providing a more comfortable and warmer area to rest.

Although staff may have concerns about the safety issues of platforms e.g. when entering the kennel, the dog could be at their head height, this can be avoided. For example, if the platform is in the sleeping area, staff could remove the dog from the exercise area and vice versa. Alternatively, the dog could be trained to jump off the platform so that situations of potential conflict are avoided. In some cases, a platform may be unsuitable, for example, for an elderly dog or one with reduced mobility and in such situations alternatives ways for the dog to hide, be comfortable etc. should be provided.

Furniture in outdoor exercise areas

Enrichment does not have to be confined to the kennel environment but can also be incorporated into exercise areas or paddocks. Platforms are beneficial in outdoor areas providing opportunities for exploratory as well as vigilance behaviours. Whilst tunnels and pipes offer the same behavioural opportunities, they are also areas in which to seek shade. Paddocks provide sufficient space to include boxes which when filled with sand allow dogs to dig. Natural furniture can also be considered such as the use of safe and non-toxic plants, bushes and shrubs for dogs to push through and explore as well as trees which dogs can investigate and mark.

Putting enrichment into practice

Every dog is an individual and will vary in what they find valuable so it is important that different methods of enrichment are tried to identify what it is that each dog likes and gains from. As well as the different types of enrichment listed above, odours and sounds

can also be beneficial to dogs and can be cheap and easy to introduce. For example, diffused odours such as lavender and camomile have been found to be beneficial for kennelled dog welfare⁵ as well as classical music played at conversational level⁶.

Note

The content of this guidance is largely based on Appendix II: Environmental Enrichment in 'The welfare of seized dogs in kennels - a guide to good practice. An RSPCA guide produced in consultation with Police Dog Legislation Officers, Local Authority Dog Wardens and Animal Welfare Officers'.

For further information on enrichment and kennelled dog welfare:

- Rooney, NJ, Gaines, SA and Hiby, EF. 2009. A practitioner's guide to working dog welfare. *Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research*. 4: 127-134.
- RSPCA. 2015. The welfare of seized dogs in kennels - a guide to good practice. An RSPCA guide produced in consultation with Police Dog Legislation Officers, Local Authority Dog Wardens and Animal Welfare Officers. <https://view.pagetiger.com/RSPCAKennellingGuide2014/issue1/page3.htm>
- Care and Respect Includes All Dogs. Enhancing and enriching the experience of dogs. <https://cariadcampaign.wordpress.com/guides/>

5 Graham, L., Wells, D.L., Hepper, P.G., 2005. The influence of olfactory stimulation on the behaviour of dogs housed in a rescue shelter. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 91, 143-153

6 Graham, L., Wells, D.L., Hepper, P.G., 2002. The influence of auditory stimulation on the behaviour of dogs housed in a rescue shelter. *Animal Welfare* 11, 385-393

Kogan, L.R., Schoenfeld-Tacher, R., Simon, A.A., 2012. Behavioural effects of auditory stimulation on kennelled dogs. *Journal of Veterinary Behaviour. Clinical Applications and Research*, 5. 268-275

Annex G: Disease, Vaccination and Disinfection

Infectious diseases can spread in many ways and adequate precautions should be taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious and contagious diseases and parasites among dogs.

Some infectious diseases are zoonotic i.e. they can be spread from animals to humans and so appropriate cleaning and good hygiene is essential to ensure there is no spread of disease among dogs and visitors. For example, urine should be carefully handled as the human form of leptospirosis is Weil's disease. Infections by zoonotic diseases can affect any age group but immuno-compromised people, the young or elderly are particularly at risk and as such not be in contact with potentially infectious dogs.

It is important that kennel proprietors and their staff are trained to recognise signs of ill-health so that they can seek veterinary attention accordingly. These may include, but is not limited to, vomiting, diarrhoea, coughing, loss of appetite, ocular/nasal discharges, lethargy, excessive drinking. If there is any concern about the health of a particular dog, veterinary advice should be sought.

The diseases listed below are potentially fatal. Vaccination is available in the UK and is a requirement prior to boarding (see Section E).

- **Canine parvovirus:** causes severe vomiting and diarrhoea and is easily spread on hands, clothing, shoes, leads and from the environment. This virus can remain in the environment for a long time and can be very resistant to cleaning. The source is from the faeces of an infected dog.

(Additionally, other infectious diseases affecting the gastrointestinal tract including Giardia, Coronavirus, Salmonella and Campylobacter can also be spread via contact with infected faeces).

- **Canine Distemper (morbillivirus):** this causes a wide range of clinical signs including fever, nasal discharge, thickened pads, depression, diarrhoea, and neurological signs. This is spread by sneezing droplets but the virus can persist in the environment in appropriate conditions and this is therefore a source of contamination.

- **Canine Adenovirus (infectious canine hepatitis):** causes gastrointestinal and hepatic disease. The virus is spread by close contact with body fluids from infected dogs, however due to its ability to persist in the environment this is also a source of infection.

- **Leptospirosis:** this is a bacterial infection which causes serious liver and kidney disease in dogs. It is spread by contact with infected urine and vaccination does not always prevent the shedding of the leptospires (infectious agents) from the urine. Foxes can also spread the disease. Careful handling of urine is therefore essential.

Vaccination against Kennel Cough (infectious tracheobronchitis) is also available and recommended:

- **Kennel Cough:** This is a complex of respiratory pathogens, the most common being Bordetella bronchiseptica, causing harsh, retching coughing. This can be particularly problematic in the kennel environment, as such staff should be aware of clinical signs. Vaccination is aimed at decreasing the shedding of the disease by infected dogs and reducing clinical signs. The disease is spread by contact with infected sneeze and cough droplets.

Biosecurity, Cleaning and Husbandry

Whilst vaccination is available and an important part of disease management, good husbandry is also essential. This includes not only managing the dogs in terms of avoiding contact and minimising stress, but also cleaning routines and recognising how the behaviour of staff can impact the transfer of disease.

Cleaning products should have bactericidal, virucidal and parvocidal activity for removal of infectious organisms. i.e. they must have the ability to kill bacteria, fungi and viruses. Surfactant components are needed to clean the residual dirt from the environment prior to disinfection. It might be a combination of products is needed but it is essential they are compatible for use together.

Bleach is commonly thought of as a disinfectant. It is not as effective at killing bacteria, fungi and viruses as more commonly used commercial disinfectants. It may cause toxic effects to animals and staff as well as

degrading the structure of the building. It can also be corrosive due to its oxidative effects. Although it can have disinfection properties at certain concentrations generally due to the risks involved it is not a suitable disinfectant for use in animal premises.

All chemicals and substances must be safe and appropriate for the environment they are being used in. It is important that instructions, both in terms of dilution and contact time with the surface they are meant to be affecting, are strictly adhered to.

Cleaning regimes should be in place for daily, weekly and monthly cleaning. For example:

Daily: remove all soiled material and wash contamination away using detergent if necessary. Dry after cleaning. Remove soiled bedding and replace with clean. Hose down and dry exercise areas where impervious material is used. Dispose of faeces according to waste regulations.

Weekly: remove all furniture from kennels, hose down using disinfectant and allow to dry before returning furniture.

Notes

Standing water is a source of infection of certain diseases such as Giardia. Thorough drying of surfaces is essential after cleaning.

Disinfectant will not be effective against solid organic material. It is therefore essential that cleaning takes place *prior to* disinfection.

Useful contacts

Animal and Plant Health Agency

Woodham Lane Addlestone Surrey KT15 3NB

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency>

Animal Welfare Foundation

7 Mansfield Street, London W1G 9NQ Tel: 020 7908 6375

Email: bva-awf@bva.co.uk

British Veterinary Association

7 Mansfield Street, London W1M 0AT Tel: 020 7636 6541

Email: bvahq@bva.co.uk

British Small Animal Veterinary Association

Woodrow House, 1 Telford Way Waterwells Business Park, Quedgeley, Gloucestershire GL2 2AB

Tel: 01452 726700

Website: www.bsava.com

Email: administration@www.bsava.com

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Chadwick Court, 15 Hatfields, London SE1 8DJ Tel: 020 7928 6006

Web site: www.cieh.org

City of London Corporation

ARC, Beacon Rd. Heathrow Airport. TW6 3JF

Tel +44 (0)208 745 7894 E-mail: veterinary.harc@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Web site: <http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk>

Local Government Association Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ Tel: 020 7664 3000

Website: www.local.gov.uk Email: info@local.gov.uk

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Nobel House, 17 Smith Square London SW1P 3JR Tel: 08459 33 55 77

Website: www.defra.gov.uk

Email: defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk

The Dogs Trust

17 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7RQ Tel: 0207 837 0006

Website: www.dogstrust.org.uk Email: info@dogstrust.org.uk

Health and Safety Executive

Website: www.hse.gov.uk

The Kennel Club

1-5 Clarges Street, Piccadilly London W1J 8AB Tel: 0844 463 3980

Web site: www.the-kennel-club.org.uk

PIF (Pet Industry Federation)

Unit 1a

Bedford Business Centre 170 Mile Road

Bedford MK42 9TW

Tel 01234 273 933

Email Info@petfederation.co.uk

Web site: <http://www.petfederation.co.uk>

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Belgravia House, 62-64 Horseferry Road London SW1P 2AF

Tel: 020 7222 2001

Email: info@rcvs.org.uk

Website: <http://findavet.rcvs.org.uk>

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Wilberforce Way, Southwater Horsham,

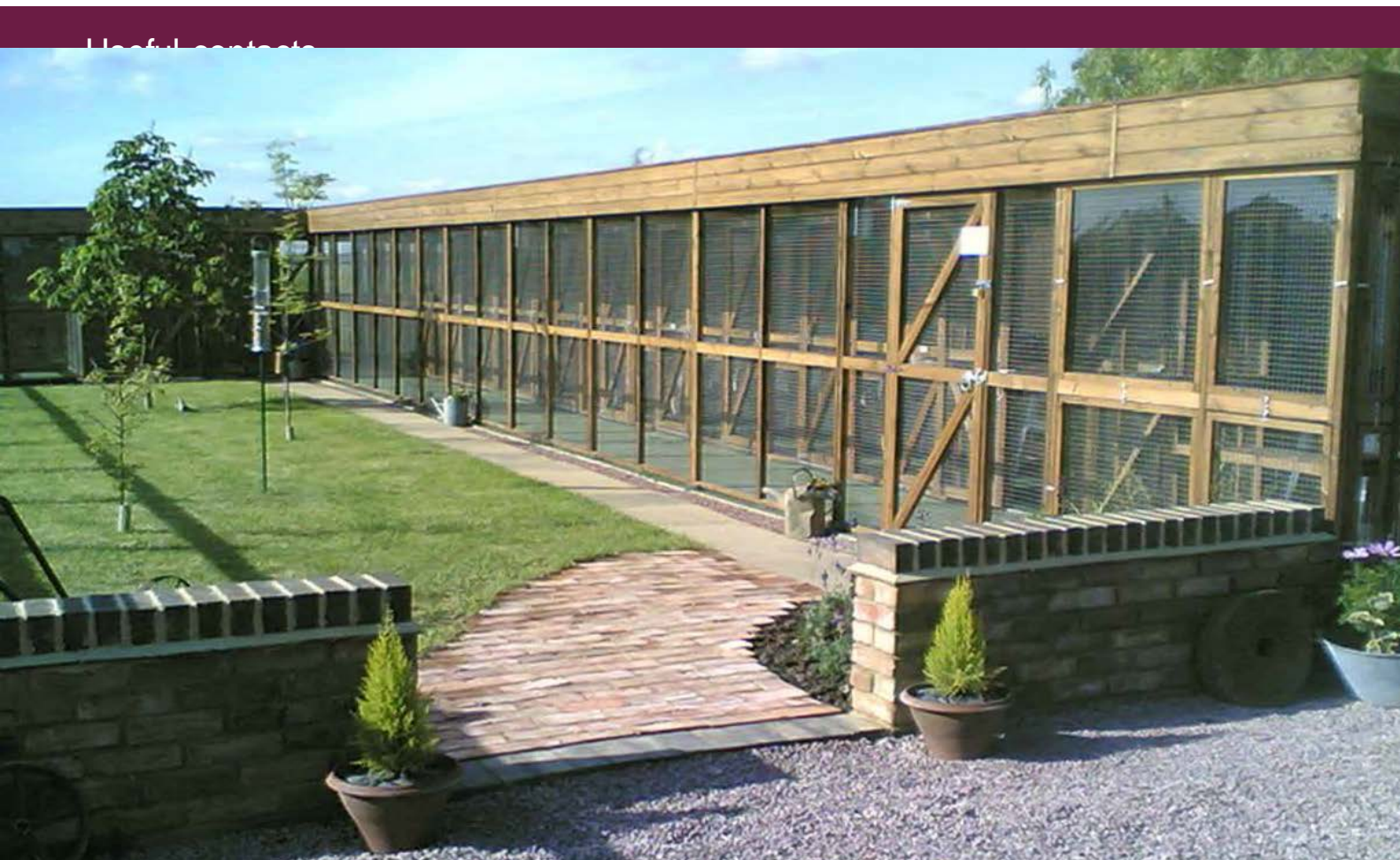
West Sussex RH13 9RS Website: www.rspca.org.uk

Borough Council of Wellingborough

Licensing Section Swanspool House Doddington Road Wellingborough

Northamptonshire NN8 1BP

Email: licensing@wellingborough.gov.uk Telephone: (01933) 229777



CIEH Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Cat Boarding Establishments 2013



June 2016 (Revised)

This document has been prepared in the best interests of animal welfare and to advise those tasked with inspecting, advising and licensing catteries under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963. No liability rests with contributing bodies for the circumstances arising out of the application of conditions contained within the document.

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Introduction

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) model licence conditions and guidance for cat boarding establishments was first produced in 1995.

Since then there have been developments in understanding of animal welfare and also the introduction of the Animal Welfare Act in 2006. It was, therefore, felt timely to revise and update this document so that it better reflects the legal and animal welfare considerations inspectors should consider when looking at catteries and making recommendations for licensing and any conditions applicable.

This document is aimed at all those who are tasked with inspecting, advising and licensing catteries under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 ('the 1963 Act'). It may also be useful to owners and managers of catteries and those planning to build boarding catteries who wish to better understand what their legal requirements are under both the 1963 Act and the Animal Welfare Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act') as well as other related legislation.

The main legal requirements

There are two main pieces of legislation that attention should be drawn to, namely; the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963, and the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

1. Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

The 1963 Act requires anyone who wishes to keep a boarding establishment (i.e. in this context a cattery) to be licensed by the local authority and abide by the conditions of the licence. If they do not they are in breach of the law. In particular the local authority will consider the ability of the establishment to ensure:

- accommodation is suitable as respects construction, size, number of occupants, exercising facilities, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness,
- adequate supply of suitable food, drink and bedding material for the animals and that they are adequately exercised, and visited at suitable intervals,

- all reasonable precautions are taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious or contagious diseases, including the provision of isolation facilities,
- appropriate steps are taken for the protection of animals in the case of fire or other emergency,
- a detailed register is maintained of any animals received into the establishment that is available for inspection at all times.

Those responsible for a cattery must ensure that a copy of the licence and its conditions (maximum number of cats and number of holding units) is displayed prominently in the boarding establishment.

No animals other than cats are to be boarded within the licensed facilities without the written approval of the local authority.

2. Animal Welfare Act 2006

Sections 1 and 2 of the 2006 Act set out which animals are protected. This includes any animal (vertebrate) other than man (section 1) which is commonly domesticated in the British Isles, or under the control of man whether on a permanent or temporary basis, or is not living in a wild state (section 2). Thus cats and kittens are protected by this piece of legislation.

Section 3 of the 2006 Act sets out who can be found to be responsible for an animal and this includes on a permanent or temporary basis as well as being in charge of it or owning it. Therefore, the establishment owner as well as their employees can be found liable under this piece of legislation. No one under the age of 16 years can be deemed to be responsible for an animal.

Section 4 of the 2006 Act sets out offences concerning unnecessary suffering. An offence is committed here if someone's act or failure to act causes an animal to suffer, whether the person knew (or ought to have reasonably known) that the act (or failure to act) was likely to cause such suffering - it is still an offence as the suffering was unnecessary. An offence can also be committed whereby someone permits this to happen. Again, this can apply

to not just employees of an establishment but also an owner. In particular the suffering may be deemed unnecessary if it could reasonably have been avoided or reduced, if it was not in compliance with relevant legislation, licence, or codes of good practice, if it was not for a legitimate purpose, if it was not proportionate, if it was not the conduct of a reasonably competent and humane person.

Under Section 9 of the 2006 Act those responsible for animals (in England and Wales) have a duty to ensure reasonable steps are taken to ensure the welfare needs of the animals are met to the extent required by good practice. This includes:

- its need for a suitable environment,
- its need for a suitable diet,
- its need to be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns,
- any need it has to be housed with, or apart from, other animals, and
- its need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease.

This guidance also notes that additionally there are Codes of Practice concerning cats that the Welsh Government and DEFRA have produced and they provide further information on these points. To access copies of these Codes please see –

www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69392/pb13332-cop-cats-091204.pdf

www.wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/110817catcodea5en.pdf

Other current relevant regulations and legislation:

Other Legislation which is relevant to the running of a boarding cattery includes, but is not restricted to the following:

- The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
- Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974
- Environmental Protection Act 1990

- Electricity at Work Regulations 1989
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1988
- Controlled Waste Regulations 1992
- Town & Country Planning Act 1990
- Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006
- Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Wales) Order 2006
- Regulation on the protection of animals during transport (EC) 1/2005

Further information on the above is available from Business Link – www.businesslink.gov.uk

Training

All staff who handle and care for cats must be adequately trained in ensuring the cats' welfare (as per the Animal Welfare Act) as well as their safe handling.

Staff must also be trained in emergency procedures to follow, and all other aspects of the licence conditions which are pertinent to their work. Obtaining relevant qualifications is strongly recommended.

This guidance document recommends that written policies and procedures setting out how the cattery will ensure all aspects of the welfare of cats in their care as well as their staff should be provided. It further recommends that a systematic training programme should be implemented including provision of evidence of its use for permanent, temporary, and part-time employees and regular reviews of training.

Supervision/responsibility

The cattery proprietor or a responsible person over the age of 18 years should always be present to exercise supervision and deal with any emergencies whenever cats are boarded at the premises.

It is strongly recommended that the cattery proprietor or a responsible person lives on site or a key-holder must live within a reasonable distance of the cattery. An emergency contact number must be clearly displayed at the entrance to the cattery.

The groups consulted included:

- British Small Animal Veterinary Association
- British Veterinary Association
- Cats Protection
- Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
- Corporation of London
- Daisy Bank Kennels & Cattery
- Dogs Trust
- Epping Forest DC
- International Cat Care (Formerly Feline Advisory Bureau)
- Kennel Design (David & Kay Key)
- Pet Industry Federation (Formerly Pet Care Trust)
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

How to use this document:

Each of the sections relates to a Requirement, elaborating why it is important to meet this from the perspective of the cat and/or legal requirements where applicable. Good care is based on some simple principles and these are shown

In order to link the licence guidelines with the check lists for use by Licence inspectors, each factor which enables the associated legal requirement to be met has been given an individual code linking it to the appropriate section. These must be followed in order to achieve the licence. It should be noted that the order in which the requirements are listed under each section is arbitrary and does not indicate any order of importance. All requirements listed under the sections are equally important.

The Identification code is made up of a 'letter. number' combination, the letter indicating the section (relating to each of the 5 welfare needs as stipulated under the Animal Welfare Act 2006), and the number relating to the requirement's numerical order within that section:

SECTION	IDENTIFICATION CODE
Environment	A
Diet	B
Behaviour	C
Company	D
Health and welfare	E

Attached at Annex A is a Model Licence Conditions Inspection Sheet for Cat Boarding Establishments.

Section A – Environment: Providing the cat(s) with a suitable place to live/stay

Good care is based on some simple principles and these are shown where relevant as bullet points (•) in the document.

Poor housing has a substantially negative impact on both the health and wellbeing of cats. Housing systems must be suitable for the needs of the species in question. The cattery must be designed, built and managed to provide safe, disease free, comfortable, clean, draught free, animal friendly conditions, which are minimally stressful and which offer environmental choice for the animal, sensory stimulation, physical and mental exercise.

The following requirements list what must be present in a cat's environment, and details further measures that can be taken. Please note that the requirements are not presented in any order of importance but all hold equal standing with respect to the environmental needs of cats.

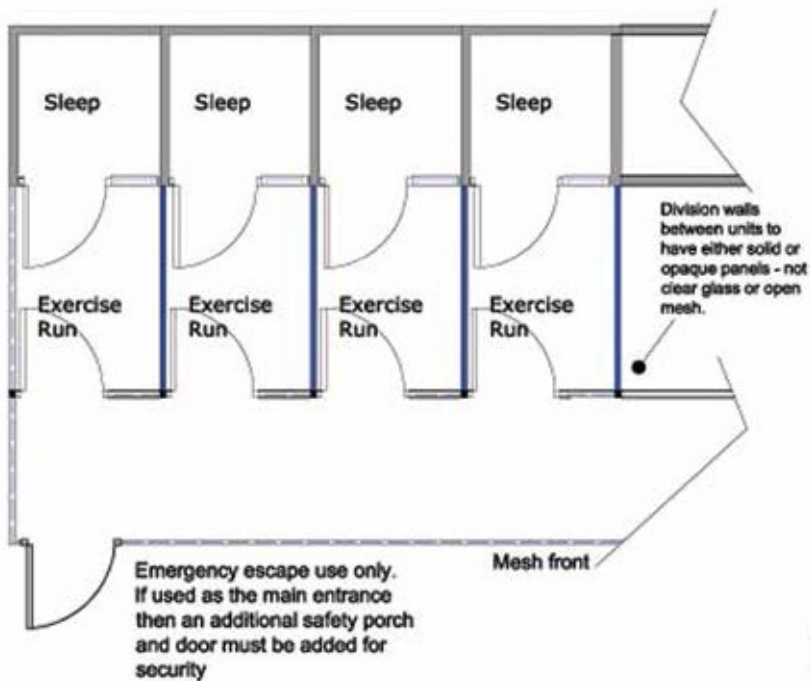
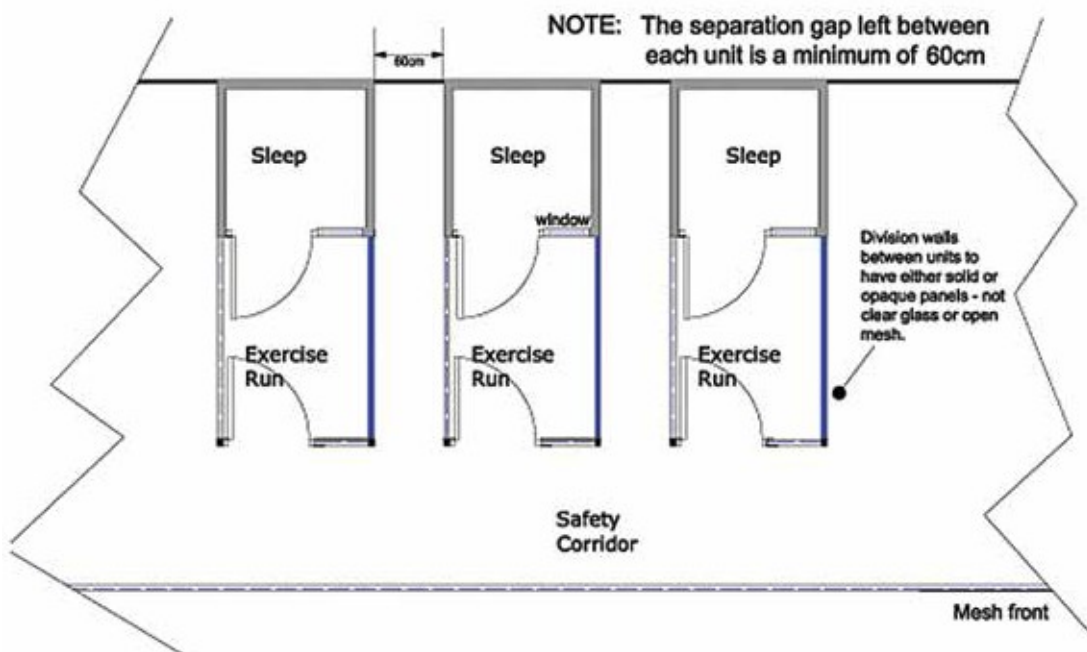
Cattery construction and principles of design

- The correct design and construction of a cattery is vital to prevent escape, minimise disease spread and stress to the cats, and to make maintenance and hygiene management straightforward and achievable by cattery proprietors.
- For disease control there must be no possibility of cats within the cattery (other than those from the same household), or other animals outside the cattery, coming into direct contact with each other or contacting droplets sneezed out by cats (for further information see Section E – Health and Welfare).
- **Designs MUST include:**
 - Cat units with sleeping accommodation (with solid sides) and an individual attached run.
 - Full height, full width, sneeze barriers between units. Alternatively, some catteries have gaps between units (minimum 0.6 m (see page 29/30 – New Build).

- An enclosed area (corridor or lobby) outside the cat unit to minimise risk of escape.
- Provision to isolate cats if necessary.
- Ancillary facilities including a separate kitchen with hot and cold running water and refrigeration for food.
- A separate hand-washing facility for staff.
- A litter tray cleaning area.
- A reception area.

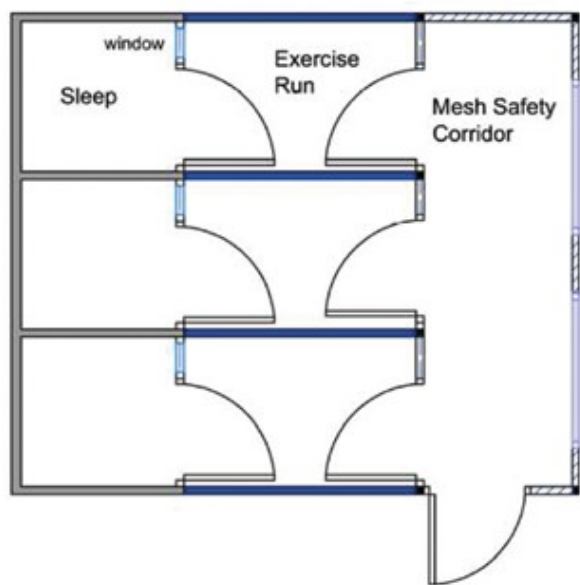
- Cattery design usually falls into three categories with the sleeping accommodation comprising of a full-height walk-in area or a penthouse (see A3):

Outdoor – catteries with indoor sleeping accommodation and individual covered outdoor exercise runs – accessed individually from a covered outdoor safety corridor.



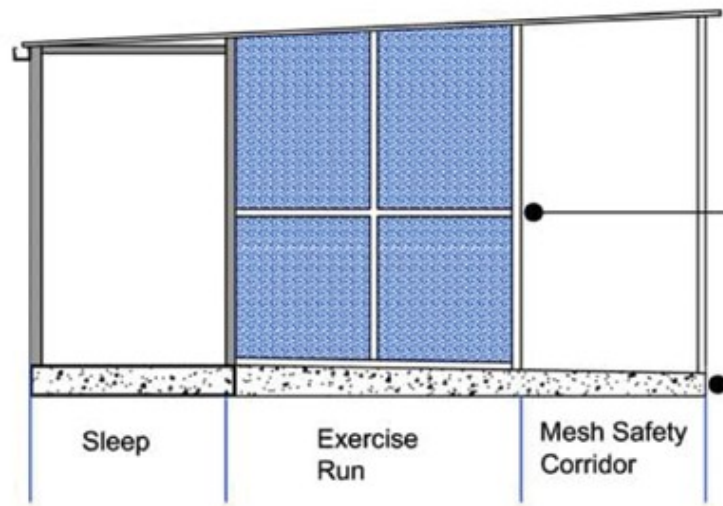
Not to scale

Semi-outdoor/indoor – catteries with indoor sleeping accommodation and individual covered outdoor exercise runs – usually accessed individually from a common indoor safety corridor.



Staff access the sleeping and exercise run via the safety corridor in front of the units

Typically the safety corridor has a solid appearance with large opening windows with mesh safety guards to allow light and fresh air into the units

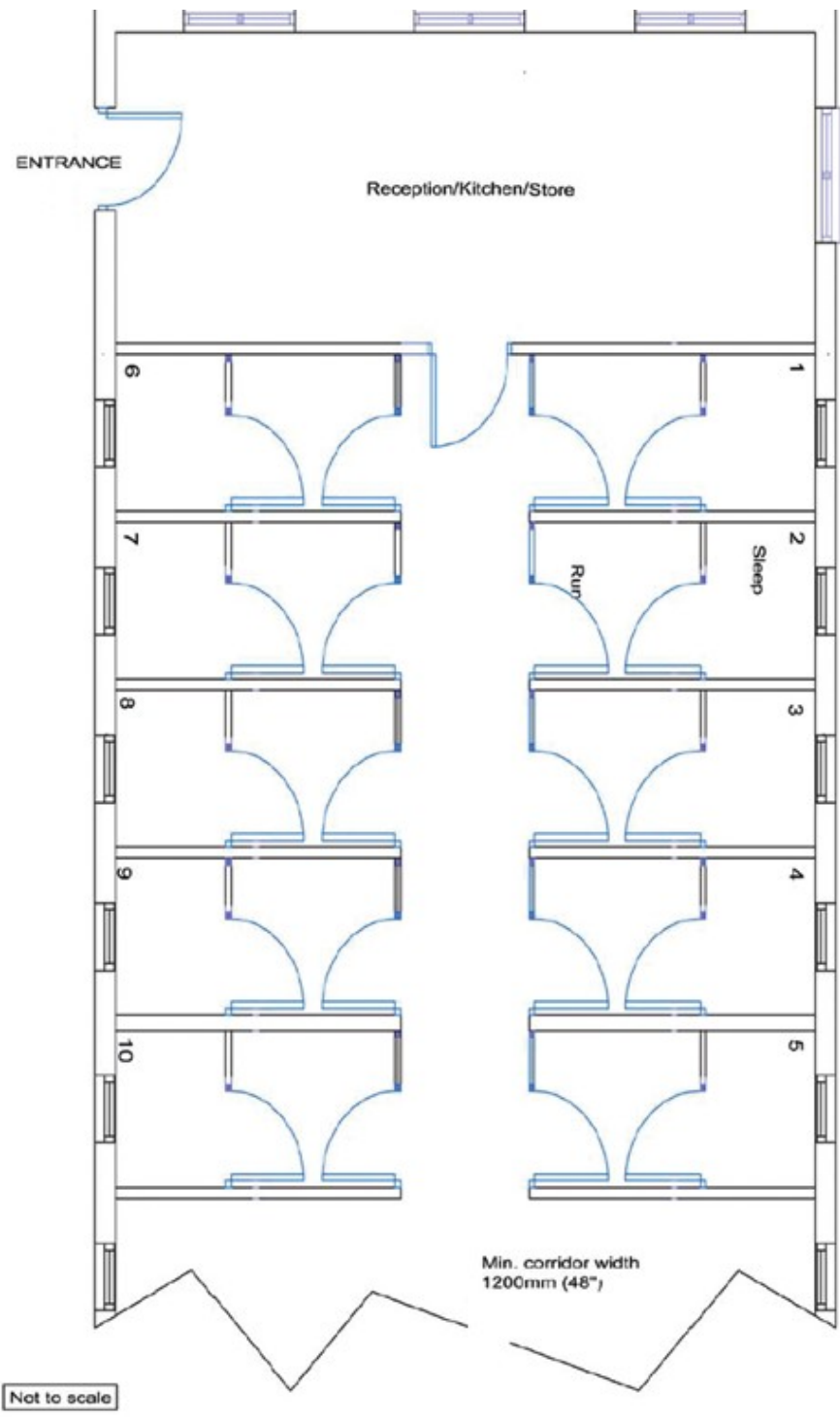


Division walls between units to have either solid or opaque panels – not clear glass or open mesh

Concrete surface laid to fall to allow rain water to drain

2013 minimum size (suitable for up to 2 cats):
 Sleep – 1.5m² (1.2m x 1.25m)
 Run – 2.2m² (1.2m x 1.85m)

Totally indoor – catteries with indoor sleeping accommodation and indoor exercise runs – usually accessed individually from a common indoor corridor.



A.1 Physical construction and integrity

General

- The cattery must be safe, secure and free from hazards, to minimise any chance of injury to a cat or escape of a cat.

- A.1.1 The cattery must be structurally sound.
- A.1.2 The cattery must be constructed of materials that are robust, safe and durable and be well maintained in good decorative order and repair.
- A.1.3 Materials used in construction or maintenance must not expose cats to any harmful chemicals.
- A.1.4 The cattery must be built in compliance with good building practice (e.g. local authority guidelines), on a concrete base with a damp proof membrane. Where Building Regulations apply these must be adhered to.
- A.1.5 There must be no sharp edges, projections, rough edges or other hazards which present risk of injury to a cat.
- A.1.6 Windows must be escape-proof at all times.
- A.1.7 Doors must have secure latches or other closing devices.
- A.1.8 All wire mesh/fencing must be strong and rigid and kept in good repair to provide an escape-proof structure.
- A.1.9 Timber, if used, must be of good quality, well maintained and any scratched areas sealed or over-clad.
- A.1.10 Any storage areas must be dry and free from vermin.
- A.1.11 Electrical equipment must be installed in line with current legislation and maintained in a safe condition.

Drainage

- Drainage must be effective to ensure there is no standing water in the cattery, as this can be a reservoir for infectious agents.
- A.1.12 Waste water must not run off into adjacent pens.

A.1.13 Adequate drainage must prevent pooling of liquids.

A.1.14 Any drain covers in areas where cats have access must be designed and located to prevent toes/claws from being caught.

Safety corridor/entrance lobby

- An enclosed area (safety corridor/entrance lobby) is essential to ensure that if cats manage to slip out from their individual cat unit, they are still kept safely inside the cattery.

A.1.15 There must be an escape-proof area (safety corridor/entrance lobby) at the exit of each cat unit.

A.1.16 For catteries where there are facing units accessed by an indoor corridor, the corridor must be at least 1.2 m wide, or the doors of the units must be solid or have sneeze barriers.

A.1.17 At the end of the safety corridor there must be a securable door through which the inside of the cattery can be viewed from the outside and this must be kept closed when not in use.

A.1.18 The door from the cat unit to the safety corridor must be escape-proof, securable, strong enough to resist impact and scratching and kept closed at all times.

A.1.19 The floor must be finished to produce a smooth, impervious surface which is easy to clean and disinfect. Holes or gaps between tiles or paving slabs are not acceptable.

A.1.20 Outdoor safety corridors must be roofed.

A.1.21 External doors/gates must be lockable and staff must have easy access to keys in case of emergency.

A.1.22 Sufficient lighting must be provided in the safety corridor to illuminate all year round. Where practicable this should be natural light during the day.

A.1.23 The safety corridor must not be used as an exercise area.

Roofing

- Roofing provides protection from the weather and prevents escape of cats. In a timber construction it is strongly recommended that the run should also be roofed with wire mesh, as an added precaution against escape. The mesh should extend over the top of the run under the roof and be attached firmly to the framework.

In catteries where substantial roofing is placed over the whole cattery (including the safety corridor) the need for wire mesh roofing is diminished. However, care must be taken to ensure that no gaps appear to allow escape of a cat.

- A.1.24 There must be a safe, secure, waterproof roof over all of the cat units (sleeping accommodation and run) and the safety corridor. For the run, materials used must be capable of filtering UV light and providing adequate shade.

A.2 Cat units

- A boarded cat is accommodated in a 'unit' comprising enclosed sleeping accommodation and an adjoining individual covered exercise run.

- A.2.1 Cats from different households must not share cat units.

Lighting

- Lighting enables adequate observation of the animals and for cleaning and working in the cattery.

- A.2.2 There must be adequate lighting in the cat unit.

Ventilation and humidity

- Fresh air is essential for the maintenance of good health and well-being as well as limiting the spread of infectious disease. Proper ventilation removes heat, dampness, odour, airborne microbes and pollutant gases such as ammonia.

- A.2.3 Ventilation must be appropriate all year round (both cool in hot weather and avoiding cold draughts in winter). Localised draughts in the sleeping accommodation

must be avoided.

Interior surfaces

- For disease prevention units must be easy to clean and disinfect.

- A.2.4 All interior surfaces to which cats have access must be durable, smooth and impervious, capable of being cleaned and disinfected, and be kept in good decorative order and repair.

- A.2.5 Where concrete or other building blocks or bricks are used, they must be sealed to be smooth and impervious.

- A.2.6 Surfaces which are peeling, scratched, chipped or in disrepair must be repaired or resealed to an acceptable standard, or replaced.

- A.2.7 Ceilings must be capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected.

- A.2.8 Junctions between sections must be covered or sealed.

- A.2.9 Floors must be finished to produce a smooth, non-slip, solid surface and all surfaces must be capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected. (There must be no open gaps if using concrete slabs or tiling).

Accessing the cat unit

- Each unit needs to be easily accessible and provide a means of identification for each cat.

- A.2.10 Each unit must be designed to allow staff to access and clean all parts of the cat unit safely. (For further information on cleaning see Section E – Health and Welfare).

- A.2.11 The unit must have a securable, full height door for access.

- A.2.12 Each unit must be clearly marked (e.g. numbered) and a system in place which ensures that relevant information about the cat in that unit is readily available.

Litter trays

- Cats are meticulous animals and a dirty litter tray may deter use. Natural behaviour is to scratch in loose material (litter), to dig a hole or cover waste. The tray should be large enough (average size is 30 x 42 cm (12" x 16") to let the cat turn around and the litter deep enough (a minimum of 3 cm is recommended) to allow digging activity. Loose sawdust, shredded or sheet newspaper, or soil, are not considered acceptable as litter material.
- A.2.13 Litter trays of a suitable size or type must be provided at all times.
- A.2.14 Each unit must have space to allow for at least 60 cm separation between the litter tray, resting place and feeding area. This allows cats to sit, rest and eat away from areas where they urinate and defecate.
- A.2.15 Trays must be impermeable, easy to clean and disinfect, or be disposable.
- A.2.16 A safe and absorbent litter material must be provided.
- A.2.17 In a multiple cat unit the number of trays must be appropriate to the number of cats (see also D3).
- A.2.18 Trays must be regularly and appropriately cleaned (See section E – Health and Welfare, for information on cleaning protocols, and waste disposal).

A.3 Sleeping accommodation

- Cats need separate sleeping accommodation which in most cases (except some indoor catteries) must be separate from the run and provide somewhere for the cat to hide away. Most designs fall within the guidelines detailed here:

Full-height unit – cat sleeping accommodation in the form of a full-height ‘shed’ which opens into the exercise run and is accessed via a full-height door.

Penthouse unit – cat sleeping accommodation in the form of an enclosed raised ‘box’ which opens into the exercise run and is accessed via a ramp from the cat flap.

It can also be accessed by opening the front door(s) to the box.

The sleeping accommodation must be large enough to allow cats to move and lie comfortably and provide enough space to spread resources.



Timber full height walk-in unit



Timber penthouse style unit



uPVC full height walk-in unit



uPVC penthouse style cattery unit

Size of full height walk-in unit sleeping accommodation:

- A.3.1 The following minimum areas and dimensions must be achieved in order to give cats a suitable and appropriate comfortable space and for ease of cleaning and management.

Existing buildings, floor area and dimensions of full height walk-in sleeping accommodation			
	Minimum area	Smallest dimension must be a minimum of:	Minimum height
One cat	0.85 m ²	0.9 m (eg 0.90 m x 0.95 m)	1.8 m
Up to two cats	1.5 m ²	1.2 m (eg 1.20 m x 1.25 m)	1.8 m
Up to four cats	1.9 m ²	1.2 m (eg 1.20 m x 1.60 m)	1.8 m

Shelving or raised area for a full height walk-in unit

- Shelves or raised areas are important to allow cats to rest high up. Shelving must be able to be kept clean, be large enough for cats to lie on (usually between 0.75 and 1.5 m above the ground) and accessible.

- A.3.2 All resting areas/shelving must be large enough for each cat to lie on.

- A.3.3 Facilities must be easily accessible and provide safe easy access to the shelf for elderly, ill, very young or disabled cats if required.

- A.3.4 Shelving or raised areas must be made of impervious, easily cleanable materials.

Size of penthouse sleeping accommodation (an enclosed boxed sleeping area raised off the ground)

A.3.5 The following minimum areas and dimensions must be achieved in order to give cats a suitable and appropriate comfortable space and for ease of cleaning and management.

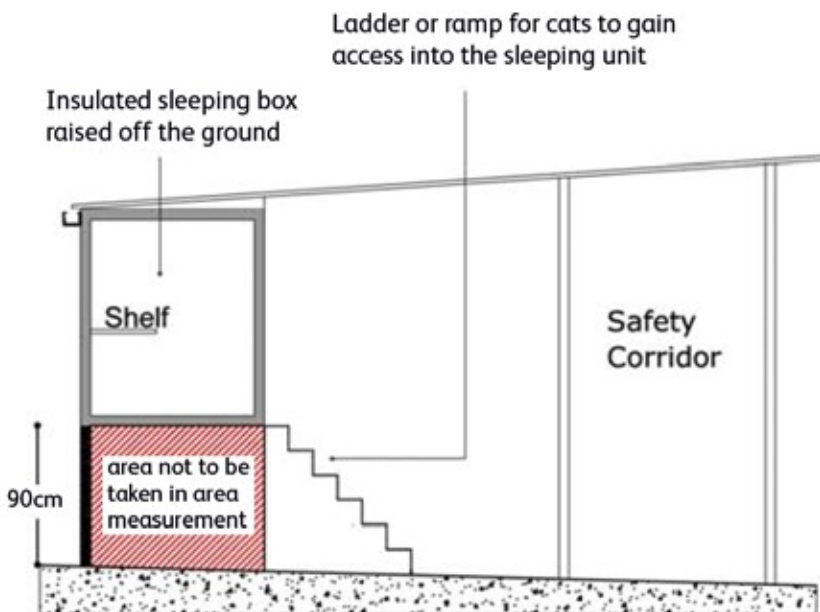
3.6 Facilities must be easily accessible and provide safe easy access (ramp/steps) to the penthouse. Extra consideration may be needed for elderly, ill, very young or disabled cats. Existing buildings, floor area and dimensions



Pre-2013 standard with space under the box taken into the overall footprint allowance

Existing buildings, floor area and dimensions of penthouse sleeping accommodation (box)			
	Minimum area	Smallest dimension must be a minimum of:	Minimum height of box
One cat	0.85 m ²	0.9 m (eg 0.90 m x 0.95 m)	1m
Up to two cats	1.1 m ²	0.9 m (eg 0.9 m x 1.20 m)	1m
Up to four cats	1.7 m ²	0.9 m (eg 0.9 m x 1.90 m)	1m

FOR NEW BUILD SEE PAGE 29



The 2013 standard requires that a minimum distance of 1.85m is given from the front of the sleeping unit. The space under the sleeping area is not to be taken into the overall footprint allowance for exercise run space

Temperature in sleeping accommodation

- Cats like warmth and some indoor cats are used to high ambient temperatures. In a cattery the cat needs an adequate ambient temperature and additional heating facilities if this cannot be guaranteed at times of excessively cold weather. Breed, body condition, medical condition, coat and age can affect an individual's ability to maintain its body temperature.

- A.3.7 There must be a means of measuring, monitoring and recording temperature (maximum and minimum temperatures) representative of the temperature in the cat sleeping accommodation.
- A.3.8 Insulation and temperature regulation in the cattery must aim to keep the ambient temperature in the cat sleeping accommodation above an absolute minimum of 10°C.
- A.3.9 There must be part of the cat's sleeping accommodation where the cat is able to enjoy a minimum temperature of 15°C -this additional heat may be in the form of a heated bed/pad etc.
- A.3.10 The cat must be able to remove itself from the source of heat.
- A.3.11 Heaters must not be sited in a manner or location where they present a risk of burning or electrocution to cats or humans, or a risk of fire.
- A.3.12 Open flame appliances must not be used.
- A.3.13 All heating equipment must be installed and maintained in a safe condition.
- A.3.14 Additional forms of heating can be in the form of heated beds, heated pads or similar but these must not be the main source of heat for the cats. Use should be tailored to the needs of individual cats.

A.3.15 Any sockets in the sleeping accommodation must be waterproof and as far out of reach of cats as possible.

A.3.16 There must be a policy in place for dealing with high temperatures and a means of keeping cats cool.

Bedding

- Bedding is important to help animals regulate their body temperature, to give traction and to keep animals comfortable. Old or infirm cats can have difficulty rising if surfaces are slippery, and old, very young or infirm animals may have difficulty regulating their body temperature.

A.3.17 There must be a clean resting place to provide comfort and warmth which is situated out of draughts.

A.3.18 Soft bedding materials must be provided and adapted if necessary for old, young or infirm cats to help regulate their body temperature.

A.3.19 Bedding must be made of a material that is easy to wash/disinfect, or is disposable.

Access to run

- A cat flap allows free access to the run while maintaining indoor temperature. It can be locked if necessary.
- A.3.20 A cat must have access between the sleeping accommodation and run (eg a cat flap) so it can easily and safely access all parts of its unit.

A.4 Exercise run (in addition to and not including sleeping accommodation)

- The exercise run must be large enough to allow cats to play/exercise.

A.4.1 Any part of the run to which the cat has access must be easily cleanable and not damaged by scratching. Any replacement wood must be clad with a smooth impervious material.

A.4.2 The floor must be finished to produce a smooth, impervious surface and all surfaces must be capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected. There must be no open gaps if using concrete slabs or tiling.

A.4.3 Where cats have access to mesh (catteries with gaps rather than sneeze barriers), the diameter of the wire must not be less than 1.6 mm (16 gauge welded mesh). Mesh size must not exceed 25 mm in one direction and should be positioned on the inside of the framework of runs to prevent damage of uprights by cats scratching any woodwork.

A.4.4 All exercise runs must be roofed to provide protection from the elements.

A.4.5 Communal exercise areas must not be used.

Size of exercise run for full height walk-in unit and penthouse style unit

A.4.6 The following minimum areas and dimensions must be achieved in order to give cats a suitable and appropriate comfortable space and for ease of cleaning and management.

Existing buildings, floor area and dimensions of full height and penthouse exercise runs			
	Minimum area	Smallest dimension must be a minimum of:	Minimum height
One cat	1.65 m ²	0.9 m (eg 0.9 m x 1.85 m)	1.8m
Up to two cats	2.2 m ²	1.20 m (eg 1.20m x 1.85 m)	1.8m
Up to four cats	2.8 m ²	1.20 m (eg 1.20 m x 2.35 m)	1.8m

Sneeze barriers

- It is important to ensure that cats from different households cannot come into direct contact with one another or sneeze on each other.

A.4.7 Full height, full width solid sneeze barriers must be installed between cat units. Alternatively, where the cattery is built with gaps between outdoor units rather than sneeze barriers, these must be a minimum of 0.6m wide. (see also new build on P 30).

A.4.8 Sneeze barriers must be in place on the end walls of the exercise run at each end of the cattery block to prevent contact with animals from outside.

Shelving or raised areas in exercise run

- Shelves or raised areas are important to allow cats to rest high up where they feel more secure (usually between 0.75 and 1.5 m above the ground).

A.4.9 Shelving must be made of impervious, easily cleanable materials.

A.4.10 There must be a shelf or facility for providing a raised area in the exercise area.

A.4.11 All resting areas/shelving must be large enough for each cat to lie on.

A.4.12 Extra help (eg steps) to provide safe easy access to the shelf for elderly, ill, very young or disabled cats must be available if required.

A.5 Fire and other emergencies

- Appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the animals in case of fire and other emergencies.
- This should include instructions on where staff and cats are to be evacuated to in the event of emergencies such as fire or flooding. An emergency telephone list should include fire, police and vets.
- Fire and electrical safety certificates should be available for inspection.

- A.5.1 There must be a written emergency plan (agreed by the local authority) which must be on display and known to staff and a contingency plan should the premises be destroyed or uninhabitable.
- A.5.2 Premises and activities must be risk assessed (including fire). These risk assessments must be recorded and relayed and understood by all staff.
- A.5.3 Fire fighting equipment must be provided, maintained in good working order (maintenance must be evident and should show date checked) and easily accessible.
- A.5.4 Fire exits must be clearly marked and access left unrestricted.
- A.5.5 The premises must comply with current legislation with regards to electricity and gas (if connected).

A model Emergency and Evacuation Plan is attached as Annex B.

Section B – Diet: Providing the cat(s) with an appropriate diet

Fresh clean water and a suitable diet are basic nutritional requirements for physical health.

B.1 Drinking

- Water is essential for all cats. It is especially important for those fed on dry food. Cow's milk should not be fed to cats because many cats have lactose intolerance. Wide water bowls allow cats to drink without bending their whiskers.

B.1.1 Fresh water must be available at all times. Clean water must be provided daily in a clean container or changed sooner if it is visibly soiled.

B.1.2 Food and water must be kept separate (Joint feeding and water bowls must not be used).

B.1.4 Water must be positioned well away from the litter tray, as cats will not drink if it is placed too close to a toilet site (see also D.3).

B.1.4 Adequate water bowls must be provided for multi-cat units (see also D.3).

B.1.5 Water bowls must be non-porous and easy to clean/disinfect.

B.2 Eating

- Cats have very specific dietary needs which can vary, dependent on a number of factors (i.e. age, health status, activity, weight). However, all cats are obligate carnivores and require a well-balanced, meat-based diet to stay fit and healthy. Ideally cats should be fed several small meals per day. Kittens, or cats with additional needs, will need more frequent feeding. The feeding of raw food diets is not recommended due to the risk of bacterial and parasite contamination and the public health risk. Cats should not remain inappetent (not eating) for longer than 2 days without seeking veterinary advice.

B.2.1 There must be exclusive facilities, hygienically constructed and maintained, for the storage and preparation of food for the cats.

B.2.2 Refrigeration facilities must be provided.

B.2.3 A sink with hot and cold water must be provided for the washing of food equipment and eating and drinking vessels.

B.2.4 Clean, safe containers must be provided for the storage of foods and must be insect and rodent proof

B.2.5 Cats must be fed a balanced diet suitable for their age, health status, reproductive status and lifestyle. The type of food, specific diet or prescription diet is usually by agreement with the owner.

B.2.6 Food must be unspoilt, palatable, and free from contamination.

B.2.7 For healthy adult cats at least two meals a day must be offered at a minimum of 8 hours apart, as appropriate to the individual's requirements.

B.2.8 Unconsumed wet or fresh food must be removed before it deteriorates, and before the next feed time. Dry food can be fed as indicated by the manufacturer.

B.2.9 Food must not be left for excessive periods to prevent it being spoiled and attracting flies. This will vary with temperature conditions and type of food.

B.2.10 All food must be positioned well away from the litter tray, (minimum 60cm), as cats will not eat if it is placed too close to their toilet site.

B.2.11 One feeding bowl must be provided per cat.

B.2.12 Food bowls must be non-porous and easy to clean and disinfect, or disposable.

B.2.13 Food intake must be monitored daily and any problems recorded.

B.2.14 Veterinary advice must be followed if feeding debilitated, underweight or ill cats, or those with specific dietary requirements.

B.2.15 Cats displaying marked weight loss/gain must be evaluated by a vet and treated as necessary.

Section C – BEHAVIOUR: Allowing the cat(s) to express normal behaviour patterns

Good welfare depends on meeting both the mental and behavioural needs of cats, as well as their physical needs. How a cat behaves can indicate how successfully an individual is coping in its environment.

C.1 General points on cat behaviour

- Physical and mental health can affect cat behaviour. Cats are intelligent active creatures but changes can upset them, as can being off their own territory. Some cats can become stressed or bored in a boarding situation. This can lead to poor appetite, shedding viruses or greater susceptibility to disease. Staff should be appropriately trained to recognise common behaviours and behaviour changes. A cat should never be punished as this is likely to make it more nervous or scared. A regular routine will help cats to predict what is going to happen.
- Ideally cats should be able to view the outdoors and have an interesting outlook.

C.1.1 The behaviour of individual cats must be monitored on a daily basis and abnormalities or changes noted and acted upon if necessary.

C.1.2 Cats must be able to access different levels within the unit (see A.3 for more information).

C.1.3 Cats must be given the opportunity for play and exercise.

Hiding places

- Hiding is a behaviour that cats can use to help them cope with changes in their environment. Cats hide to avoid interactions with other cats or people, or stressful situations. Providing cats with places to hide can reduce stress and can be as simple as providing a cardboard box, an igloo-type bed or other structures within the unit.

C.1.4 A hiding place must be provided for cats in the sleeping accommodation (see also D.3).

Play

- Encouraging cats to play can be a good way of keeping them active.
- Cats are playful animals (but individuals vary in their desire to play) and enjoy playing with toys (especially those which mimic prey), and with people. Cats have a need to express the innate predatory behaviour which is natural for them and therefore show most interest in toys that mimic prey.
- Environmental enrichment such as changing toys regularly, can reduce boredom.

C.1.5 Any toys provided must be safe and be disinfected between use in the cattery, or disposed of. If provided by the owner toys must be kept within that cat's unit and used solely for that cat and returned to the owner and the end of the cat's stay.

Scratching

- Cats are highly motivated to show scratching behaviour and naturally use objects to scratch to mark their territory, strengthen their muscles and sharpen their claws. Cats often prefer scratch posts tall enough for the cat to use fully stretched.

C.1.6 Cats must be provided with suitable facilities for scratching.

C.1.7 Any surface available for scratching must either be disinfected between use for different cats, or disposable. If provided by the owner it must be kept within that cat's unit and used solely for that cat and returned to the owner and the end of the cat's stay. (See Section E -Health & Welfare).

C.2 Noise

- Cat hearing is more sensitive than human hearing and thus noise levels uncomfortable for humans are likely to be very uncomfortable for cats. Excessive noise contributes to adverse behavioural and physiological responses. Cats are adversely affected by the sound of barking dogs.
- The cattery environment should be as calm and quiet as possible with noise producing equipment located as far away from animals as possible.

C.2.1 Cats must not be exposed to excessive noise of barking boarded dogs or other excessive/continuous noise.

C.3 Long stay cats

- Occasionally cats stay in a boarding cattery for periods over 3 weeks and these cats require special consideration such as environmental enrichment, regular health checks and extra attention from staff.

C.3.1 A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) must be in place explaining how to ensure the health and welfare of long-term stay cats.

Section D – COMPANY: Providing the cat(s) with the appropriate company

It is important from a welfare perspective to ensure that any need that a cat has to be housed, with or apart from, other animals, is met. The cat is by nature a solitary animal, and contact with or seeing unfamiliar/strange cats can be very stressful.

D.1 Feline company and interactions

- Most adult cats will only be friendly to siblings or certain other cats they live with. Strange cats are usually avoided. Cats can find the presence of other cats very stressful and can suffer if they cannot avoid cats with whom they are not familiar or do not like. Housing cats at high densities increases the potential for them to be stressed. Only cats from the same household may share a unit.
- Where possible cats must be able to avoid seeing other cats by being provided with hiding places and translucent (allowing light to pass through, but only diffusely, so that objects on the other side cannot be clearly distinguished) barriers between units. (See page 29 – New Build).

D.1.1 Cats from different units must not share exercise runs or an exercise area either at the same time or sequentially.

D.2 Human company and interactions

- Most cats enjoy and benefit from human company, but prefer to interact with people on their own terms. Cats socialised to humans can find human company stimulating and may show signs of stress when this interaction is decreased. However, other cats will prefer minimum contact.
- Cattery staff should find out from the owner and monitor each cat to ascertain how much human contact it wants and adapt to provide this.
- A cat should never be forced to interact with a person/people, and a facility should be provided for a cat to avoid people should they wish. (Ref to hiding place).

- Scruffing of cats (picking up a cat by the scruff of its neck) should not be done except as an absolute last resort.

D.2.1 Cats must be always be handled humanely and appropriately to suit the requirements of the individual cat.

D.3 Multi-cat units

- Proprietors have a responsibility to monitor units where more than 1 cat is housed. Even though these cats originate from the same household, cats sharing a home may not necessarily get on well, especially when confined. Therefore proprietors must monitor cats to ensure that they are not experiencing stress/distress/aggression from another cat. Only cats from the same household can share a unit.

D.3.1 For any multi-cat unit (cats from the same home) cats must be monitored and consent obtained from the owner for separating cats, should problems arise (e.g. cats fighting or 'stressed').

D.3.2 There must be multiples of all resources (food and water bowls, litter trays and sleeping areas (warmed if required), depending on the number of cats, to ensure that some cats cannot monopolise resources and prevent the others from accessing them.

D.3.3 A separate bed must be provided for each cat.

D.3.4 A separate hiding place must be provided for each cat eg a cardboard box, igloo bed.

D.3.5 Separate feeding bowls (not double feeders) must be provided for each cat.

D.3.6 Several sources of water must be provided if multiple cats are housed.

Section E – HEALTH AND WELFARE: Protecting the cat(s) from pain, suffering, injury and disease

Many points covered under the previous four sections (A – D) can be considered to relate to Section E and assist in protecting cats from pain suffering, injury and disease.

E.1 Monitoring cats

- In order to keep cats healthy the proprietor needs to have an organised system for registering and monitoring all cats at the cattery.
- It is recommended that a late-night round be carried out to check on all cats, heating etc.
- The well-being of the boarded cat is paramount. It is recommended that all cats are weighed on entry and exit from the cattery. This allows the proprietor to monitor any changes and provides information should clients challenge the cat's condition on their return. This is especially important for older cats and kittens. Geriatric, ill or debilitated cats should also be monitored more closely for appropriate management.
- It is recommended that cats that are boarded for longer than 2 weeks are weighed every 2 weeks, and older cats and kittens weighed weekly, and records kept.

E.1.1 All cats must be observed regularly throughout the day. Cats must be checked daily for signs of illness and/or injury and to ensure that their needs are being met. Any signs of ill health or unusual behaviour must be recorded and advice sought without delay.

E.1.2 The cattery proprietor or responsible person must visit the cats at regular intervals (of no more than 4 hours apart during the working day), or as necessary for the individual health, safety and welfare of each cat.

E.1.3 Presence or absence of faeces and urine in trays must be noted daily. Any signs of abnormalities in excreta must also be noted or acted upon as appropriate.

E.1.4 Drinking and eating habits must be monitored and any problem investigated. (Refer back to Section B).

E.2 Keeping records

- A register must be kept of all cats boarded and available to key members of staff and to local authority inspectors if requested. Records should be backed up and records kept for a minimum of 24 months. It is also useful to know if cats are insured, should problems occur.

The information kept must include the following:

E.2.1 Date of arrival and departure.

E.2.2 Name, sex, description of cat and microchip number.

E.2.3 Number of cats sharing from same household.

E.2.4 Name, address, phone number and email of owner (including emergency contact details).

E.2.5 Name, address, email and phone number of emergency local contact (who is able to take the cat if necessary).

E.2.6 Cat's veterinary surgeon.

E.2.7 Cat's diet and relevant requirements.

E.2.8 Cats' relevant medical history.

E.2.9 Consent forms eg veterinary treatment, consent to share or separate cats if needed, record of baskets/toys etc left at the cattery (Check vet consent forms i.e. own vet or designated vet if not in area).

E.2.10 Record of vaccination.

E.2.11 Any medical treatment must be recorded and visible to prevent mis-dosing.

E.3 Disease control

- Cats are vulnerable to a range of serious infectious diseases, therefore disease control and rapid response to any signs of illness is critical.
- The potential for infectious disease problems escalates where many cats are kept together and a cat's immune system can also be affected by stress.
- As outlined elsewhere, construction materials and equipment need to be easy to clean and disinfect (see Section A).
- No cats should be allowed in the safety corridor or to share an exercise area (unless they come from the same household).
- Infectious agents are spread in various ways –
 - Feline leukaemia virus (FeLV) and feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) need direct contact between cats, which should be impossible in the boarding situation.
 - Cat flu viruses such as feline herpesvirus [FHV], feline calicivirus [FCV], and other respiratory pathogens such as Bordetella bronchiseptica, are spread in sneeze droplets, on hands, clothes, shoes, equipment and environment.
 - Feline parvovirus (aka feline infectious enteritis (FIE)) can be spread on hands, clothing and shoes, litter trays and environment, and can remain in the environment for a long time.
- The source of feline parvovirus (FIE) is faeces from an infected cat and several other agents are spread via contact with other cats' faeces/litter trays and include Coronavirus, Salmonella and Campylobacter etc.

Ringworm spores can remain infectious in the environment for prolonged periods of time.

- Preventing cat-to-cat contact, ensuring excellent hygiene protocols and management protocols to minimise stress can reduce the risk of disease spread.
- The movement of people through the cattery should be minimised and supervised.

- If rescue cats are boarded, these should be handled last.

- E.3.1 Where work with rescue cats or breeding cats is also undertaken, this must be kept completely separate, and extra precautions taken to prevent the spread of disease.
- E.3.2 When there is any cause for concern regarding the health status of a cat, that cat must be handled last and the unit must be cleaned after all the others.
- E.3.3 Cats must remain in their assigned unit and not be moved to other units (rotation) or to a holding unit for cleaning purposes, except for moving to an isolation facility.
- E.3.4 Standard operating procedures (SOPs) must be in place and followed to prevent spread of disease, and staff trained in these procedures.
- E.3.5 Facilities must be provided for the proper reception, containment and disposal of all waste and meet with local authority approval.
- E.3.6 Isolation facilities must be available (see E.6).

E.4 Hygiene practices

- Proper cleaning and disinfection helps to reduce the spread of infectious disease to both animals and people. Cats are particularly susceptible to poisoning from phenolic compounds (those that turn cloudy when added to water), therefore these must not be used.

Cleaning and disinfectant products

- E.4.1 Products must be suitable to use and effective against the pathogens, (especially feline parvovirus (FIE) and ringworm)) for which the cats are at risk and under the conditions present in the environment in which they are used.
- E.4.2 Cleaning agents and disinfectants must be non-toxic to cats.

E.4.3 The compatibility of different bactericides, fungicides and virucides (if used together and/or with a detergent) must also be taken into account.

Manufacturers' recommended guidelines for use, correct dilutions and contact time for use in cleaning and disinfection products must be followed. Standing water must not be allowed to accumulate in areas around the cat units due to the possibility of pathogens residing in these moist environments.

Cleaning and disinfecting routines for units when cats are resident

- Litter tray hygiene is very important as cats may refuse to use trays if they are soiled; faeces is also a high risk source of infection for some feline diseases.
- Cats prefer clean, comfortable dry bedding. Bedding should not be a source of infection.
- Cats can ingest infective agents from dirty dishes and may excrete viruses themselves in saliva. Clean and disinfected dishes reduce the risk of disease.
- On a daily basis (and more often if necessary) the unit needs to be spot cleaned and any obvious food or waste removed, and all excreta and soiled material removed from all areas used by cats.
- Litter trays need to be cleaned and disinfected in a separate area away from food preparation.
- Food and water dishes need to be cleaned and disinfected, and not at the same time in the same sink or area as litter trays or other items soiled with body waste.

If only one sink is available, strict protocols need to be in place between use to ensure adequate disinfection after cleaning litter trays and before cleaning dishes, as faeces is the major source of many infective pathogens. Sinks need to be disinfected thoroughly between uses.

E.4.4 There must be cleaning and disinfection routines in place for day-to-day management of the cats and for ensuring a cat unit and all equipment is cleaned and disinfected effectively before a new cat comes in.

E.4.5 Each unit must be supplied with its own dustpan, brush and scoop, to be used exclusively in, and kept in that unit, until departure of the cat, and then cleaned and disinfected before re-use, or disposed of prior to the next resident.

E.4.6 Litter trays must be emptied and cleaned and disinfected at least once a day, or more frequently as necessary.

E.4.7 Beds and bedding material must be checked daily and be maintained in a clean, dry and parasite-free condition.

E.4.8 Drinking vessels must be changed/cleaned and disinfected at least once a day.

E.4.9 Grooming equipment must either be cleaned and disinfected between use on different cats, or be disposable. If provided by the owner, it must only be used on that cat and must be sent home with the cat.

E.4.10 Toys and scratch posts must be cleaned and disinfected between use for different cats, disposed of, or returned to the cat's owner (if they came in with the cat).

Handling cats

- Hand sanitiser dispensers should be available in all cat care areas and should only be used on clean hands. It should be noted that hand sanitisers are ineffective against some of the more dangerous pathogens (eg calicivirus) and cannot be relied upon as the sole means of hand sanitation. Washing of hands thoroughly or wearing of gloves is preferable.
- Fresh protective garments should be worn when handling vulnerable individuals. Kittens and young cats should be handled before adult cats.

E.4.11 Hygiene protocols must be observed between handling cats. Hands must be washed/disinfected or hand sprays or alcohol gel used between handling of each cat.

E.4.12 Protective garments must be changed and laundered with an appropriate disinfectant/disposed of immediately after handling a cat with a suspected infectious disease.

E.5 Vaccination, fleas, worms and other parasites

- There must be a policy for cats coming to the cattery having vaccinations against appropriate diseases (Occasionally there will be veterinary advice on a specific cat regarding vaccination and its health status and this should be taken into account).
- If owners have treated their cats for worms and fleas before entry to the cattery, the proprietor should note when this occurred and what products were used.

E.5.1 An up-to-date veterinary health record must be seen to ensure that cats boarded have current vaccinations against feline parvovirus (feline infectious enteritis) (FIE)) and against feline respiratory viruses (feline herpesvirus and feline calicivirus).

E.5.2 Vaccination (including boosters) must have been completed, at the very least, 2 weeks before the cat's arrival in order to ensure maximum protection.

E.5.3 Homoeopathic vaccination is not acceptable as it will not protect against infectious diseases.

E.6 Isolation facilities

- All establishments must have a means of providing isolation that will allow for the care of sick cats which develop signs of infectious diseases, to minimise the risk to other cats. How this is physically provided (ranging from being able to shut off an end unit of the cattery and using a separate door, to having a separate building) may vary. In many catteries the cat is taken straight to the vet (catteries are advised to check with the vet whether this service is available). If not, isolation protocols (below) must be observed.

E.6.1 The area must provide separate, self contained facilities for the isolation of suspected infected cats and must have a separate entrance to the rest of the units.

E.6.2 Separate cleaning supplies and clothing must be designated for the isolation area and other cattery sections.

E.6.3 Protective clothing and footwear must be worn when handling cats in the isolation facility, and sanitation protocols adhered to, to avoid the transmission of disease. Whilst in use, the clothing should be kept in the isolation unit and not be removed other than for cleaning and disinfection.

E.6.4 Hands must be washed/disinfected between handling cats.

E.6.5 Separate feeding and water bowls, litter trays, litter, a dedicated safe cat basket, bedding and cleaning utensils must be stored in the isolation unit ready for immediate use.

E.6.6 Any cats in the isolation facility must be checked regularly and unless a separate person is caring for them, they should be visited after the other cats.

E.6.7 A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for barrier nursing and information must be provided for staff.

E.6.8 Should a cat need to be removed from its unit, it must be carried in a secure and disinfected cat carrier, and the carrier disinfected after use.

E.6.9 In emergency cases, such as admission of unvaccinated cats because of owner hospitalisation, there must be provision to be able to place these animals in isolation.

E.7 Veterinary treatment and health care

- Access to veterinary care is vital for the cat, should it be required.

- If medication is necessary, it should only be used for the cat for which it is prescribed and following a veterinary surgeon's instructions.

E.7.1 A veterinary practice must be appointed for the establishment. The name, address and telephone number of the establishment's veterinary service must be displayed in a prominent position for staff.

E.7.2 Where cats require wiping of eyes, grooming or other cleaning regimes, these must be carried out frequently enough to keep the cat clean and comfortable providing it is safe to do so.

E.7.3 When a cat is suspected of being ill or injured (staff should be trained to recognise when a cat requires veterinary care), a veterinary surgeon must be contacted for advice immediately. Any instructions for treatment given by a veterinary surgeon must be strictly followed with further advice sought if there is ongoing concern.

E.7.4 Medicines must be stored safely, securely, at the correct temperature and labelled correctly according to manufacturer's instructions. Any unused medications must be returned to the owner or prescribing vet.

E.8 Holding units for temporary housing

- Routine use of holding units is not recommended as they are small (minimum size should be 1 m in each dimension) and are an additional source of cross infection to cats.
- Holding pens should only be used in exceptional circumstances ideally for no longer than 12 hours and not in areas where other cats are housed.
- The licensed capacity of the cattery does not include holding pens.

E.8.1 If, in an emergency, holding units/pens are used, they must not be sited in the reception.

E.8.2 Cats must be provided with a bed, litter tray, food and water.

E.9 Transportation of animals

- Transportation can increase risk for cats, both of disease (from unclean vehicles or carriers) or of escape. A vehicle can be viewed as an extension of the premises and therefore the same principles of hygiene, care and disease control apply. If the journey is long, appropriate resources must be provided.

E.9.1 Any transport legislation must be complied with.

E.9.2 Cats must be secured in durable carrying baskets any time they are transported/carried outside the cat unit (A spare cat carrier should be kept at the cattery for situations where owners do not arrive with their cat in a secure carrier).

E.9.3 All vehicles and equipment must be kept clean and disinfected after each collection or delivery.

E.9.4 Cats must not be left in vehicles except for transportation.

SECTION F – New Build

As knowledge and materials change, recommendations for better construction and care can change. For anyone undertaking a new build cattery the following advice and recommendations must be followed. When replacing (or adding to) parts of an existing cattery, new build must be followed.

NB.1 Cat units

- Previous smallest size units (for 1 cat) are considered difficult to clean and manage efficiently.
- Having 2 cat size units gives much greater flexibility for the cattery.

NB.1.1 Sleeping accommodation sizes

For new build the smallest unit must be large enough for up to 2 cats and to allow for adequate staff space for cleaning.

- Penthouse accommodation has a number of drawbacks in the cleaning and management of the cat and the units:
 - Cleaning adequately under the box can be difficult.
 - The box must not be too deep or the internal height of the sleeping box too high, in order to be able to clean it.

- Cleaning inside the sleeping box can be difficult and health and safety issues arise if the person doing the cleaning has to climb on a stool or climb into the box to reach the top or back.
- Cats in the box are at face height which could be potentially dangerous with an aggressive cat.
- Very young, old/infirm or disabled cats may find the ramp difficult /dangerous. It is advisable to have at least one full height unit for use for blind, old, infirm or severely disabled cats, or suitable provision made for these cats.

Full height, walk-in units – floor area and dimensions of sleeping accommodation			
New build – the minimum size must be as below (2 cats)			
	Minimum area	Smallest dimension must be a minimum of:	Minimum height
Up to two cats	1.5 m ²	1.2 m (eg 1.2m x 1.25 m wide)	1.8 m
Up to four cats	1.9 m ²	1.2 m (eg 1.2m x 1.6 m wide)	1.8 m

In new build

NB.1.2 Penthouse accommodation measurements for the exercise run must be taken from the front of the sleeping accommodation/box, not under the box.

NB.1.3 When measuring floor area, shelving areas must not be included.

NB.1.4 The box must be 0.9 m off the ground both to enable the area underneath to be cleaned effectively, and to enable a person to reach inside to clean the walls and ceiling of box.

Penthouse accommodation sleeping accommodation (box) – floor area and dimensions			
New build – the minimum size must be as below (2 cats)			
	Minimum area	Smallest dimension must be a minimum of:	Minimum height of box
Up to two cats	1.1 m ²	0.9 m (eg 0.9 m deep x 1.2 m wide)	1.8 m
Up to four cats	1.7 m ²	0.9 m (eg 0.9 m deep x 1.9 m wide)	1.8 m

Exercise run sizes

Full height, walk-in units and penthouse accommodation exercise run			
New build – the minimum size must be as below (2 cats)			
	Minimum area	Smallest dimension must be a minimum of:	Minimum height
Up to two cats	2.2 m ²	1.20 m (eg 1.2 m x 1.85 m)	1.8 m
Up to four cats	2.8 m ²	1.20 m (eg 1.20 m deep x 2.35 m)	1.8 m

Sneeze barriers

In new build sneeze barriers must be at a minimum, translucent (Allowing light to pass through, but only diffusely, so that objects on the other side cannot be clearly distinguished) to reduce stress caused by cats seeing one another. Opaque barriers are acceptable but may cut down on the light entering the cattery.

Gaps between units

In new build where gaps between units are used as disease control, one side of the gap must have a full height, full width translucent sneeze barrier.

Hygiene facilities

In new build there must be separate sinks for cleaning of litter trays and feeding utensils.

Materials

In new build any wood to which the cat has access must be clad with an impervious smooth material to prevent damage and make cleaning and disinfection easier.

Noise

If a new cattery is being built near existing kennels serious consideration must be given to positioning of the building to minimise the level of noise from the dogs which can be very stressful to cats.

Annex A

LICENCE CONDITIONS INSPECTION SHEET FOR CAT BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS											Tick boxes √/x		
Name of Cattery				Date of Inspection				Boarding		Rescue		Breeding	
Address of Cattery				Person seen				Signature	Part Inspection	Full Inspection	Overall score		
				Inspectors name(s)									
Licence on Display		Insurance		Pest Control policy/contract				Cattery Vet details displayed		Accident Book (H&S)	Emergency Contact displayed		
Has copy of Licence Con & Legislation		Register and Back up											

Outdoor Cattery		Indoor Cattery		Semi-outdoor/ indoor		Full height Unit (walk-in)		Penthouse Style Unit		Home boarding	
Timber		PVCu		Fibreglass		Other		Number Units			

Index

Identification code	Section				
A	Environment	Cattery Unit: Drainage: Exercise Run: Fire/Emergency: Interior Surfaces: Lighting: Litter Trays: Roofing: Safety C: Sizes: Sneeze Barriers and Shelving: Temperature: Ventilation			
B	Diet	Drinking: Eating: Refrigeration: Storage of foods: Washing equipment			
C	Behaviour	Scratching: Long stay cats: Environmental enrichment: Toys:			
D	Company	Multi-Cat Units: Monitoring: Shared cats			
E	Health and Welfare	Cleaning: Disease Control: Hygiene Practices: Holding Units: Isolation: Monitoring Cats: Records/S.O.Ps: Register: Transport			
Rating	0	Does not meet the minimum standard		Range	Score
Rating	1	Meets standard, but with noticeable limitations		0 - 56	0
Rating	2	Meets the standard		57 - 113	1
Rating	3	Exceeds the standard			
					114 - 170
					171+
					2
					3
				N/A = 2	

Annex A

Area	Identification Code	Description	√	x	Score	Actions or Comments	Done √
Records	A.5.1/2	Written emergency plan and risk assessment					
Records	C.3.1	Longstaycats S.O.Ps					
Records	D.3.1	Multi-cat unit consent					
Records	E.1	Monitoring cats					
Records	E.2	Register and Back-up					
Records	E.3.4	S.O.Ps					
Records	E.5.1 - E.5.3	Vaccinations					
Records	E.6.7	Barrier nursing S.O.Ps					
Records	E.7.1	Veterinary details/displayed					
Records	A.5.1 - A.5.5.5	Fire and other emergencies					
Records	A.3.7	Temperature records					
Records	D.2.1	Monitoring of cats for human contact					
Records	D.3.1	Multi-Cat Unit consent					
Kitchen/Eating	B.2.1	Exclusive facilities					
Kitchen	E.3.2	Cleanliness					
Kitchen/Eating	B.2.2	Refrigeration					
Kitchen/Eating	B.2.3	Washing equipment					
Kitchen/Eating	B.2.4	Storage of foods					
Kitchen/Eating	B.2.5 – B.2.7	Feeding regime					
Page Total							

Annex A

Area	Identification Code	Description	√	x	Score	Actions or Comments	Done √
Cattery Unit	A.1.1 – A.1.4	Sound and safe construction					
Cattery Unit	A.3.1, A.3.5 – A.3.6	Sleeping accommodation sizes					
Cattery Unit	A.1.5	Sharp edges/Other hazards					
Cattery Unit	A.1.6 – A.1.8, A.2.12	Secure windows, doors & fencing					
Cattery Unit/Drainage	A.1.12 – A.1.14	Drainage/Drain covers					
Cattery/safety corridor	A.1.15	Escape-proof area					
Cattery/safety corridor	A.1.16 – A.1.18,21	Corridor width/secure doors					
Cattery/safety corridor	A.19	Flooring					
Cattery/safety corridor	A.1.22	Lighting					
Cattery/Sneeze B	A.4.7 – A.4.8	Sneeze Barriers					
Cattery/Roofing	A.1.24	Safe and Waterproof roofing					
Cattery/Lighting	A.2.2	Adequate lighting					
Cattery/Ventilation	A.2.3	Ventilation/Draughts					
Cattery/Interior	A.2.4 – A.2.10	Good repair, clean & sealed joints					
Cattery/Accessing	A.2.1, A.2.12	Sharing Units/Numbered Units					
Cattery/Temperature	A.3.7	Max-Min Thermometer					
Cattery/Temperature	A.3.11 – A.3.14	Safe Appliances					
Cattery/Temperature	A.3.15	Waterproof sockets					
Cattery/Bedding	A.3.17 – A.3.19	Bedding materials					
Cattery/MultiCat Units	D.3.1 – D.3.6	Facilities and monitoring of multi-cat units					

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Annex A

Area	Identification Code	Description	√	x	Score	Actions or Comments	Done √
Cattery/Litter Trays	A.2.13 – A.2.18	Suitable litter tray cleanliness & position					
Cattery/Shelving	A.3.1 – A.3.4	Sleeping accommodation and shelving					
Cattery/Exercise Run	A.4.6	Exercise Run sizes					
Cattery/Exercise Run	A.3.20	Access to Run					
Cattery/Exercise Run	A.4.1 – A.4.4	Clean and secure Run					
Cattery/Exercise Run	A.4.9 – A.4.12	Shelving in Run					
Cattery/Scratching	C.1.6 – C.1.7	Scratching Posts					
Cattery/Behaviour	C.1.6	Toys/Environmental enrichment					
Cattery/Behaviour	C.1.4	Hiding places					
Cattery/Company	D.1.1	Cats from different households					
Cattery/Hygiene	E.4.1	Cleaning products					
Cattery/Cleaning	E.4.5	Dust pan, brush and scoop					
Handling Cats	E.4.11 – E.4.12	Hygiene protocols and protective garments					
Health Care	E.7.3 - E.7.4	Veterinary instruction/legislation					
Holding Units	E.8	Facilities					
Isolation	E.6.1 – E.6.5	Cleanliness and procedures for use					
Transport	E.9	Use of vehicles for transportation					

Page Total

OVERALL SCORE

Annex B

Emergency and Evacuation Plan

Introduction

All appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the cats in case of fire or other emergency; Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 section 1 (3) (d).

There should be an Emergency Evacuation Plan (EEP) and fire warning procedure in place. This should be posted where staff may become familiar with it. This procedure should include instructions dealing where cats are to be evacuated to and contingency for their accommodation/care if the premises are rendered unsafe or unsuitable.

Prior to formulating an Emergency and Evacuation Plan carry out a Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) to identify any potential fire risk hazards within your establishment.

Emergency situations and the requirement to evacuate from the establishment can arise from a number of situations like; Fire, Flooding, Damage to building, Power failure and disease.

Being prepared and planning a simple but well understood procedure to be carried out in the event of an emergency is essential to offer maximum protection for you, your staff and the animals in your care. This need not be a lengthy document but should include a plan of the site giving exit points, location of telephone, emergency equipment (fire extinguishers and storage of baskets/cages) RVP and designated holding area for cats. The emergency contact details of a supervisor or the proprietor and the establishments Veterinary Surgeon should also be displayed.

Firefighting equipment and detectors must be properly maintained. All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe condition. There should be a residual current circuit breaker system on each cattery block for the premises. Heating appliances should not be sited in a location or manner where they may present a risk of fire/risk to cats. Precaution should be taken to prevent any accumulation of material which may present a risk of fire.

Fire Risk Assessment

1. Identify potential fire risk hazards in the workplace
2. Decide who might be in danger (staff, Visitor, animal) in each area
3. Evaluate the risks arising from hazards and what can be done
4. Record your findings
5. Keep assessment under review

There should be adequate means of raising an alarm in the event of a fire or other emergency. In the event of a fire breaking out within your establishment, remember that your safety and those of your staff is of prime importance and no risks should be taken which may compromise any person's safety. No task in tackling the fire or evacuating animals should be undertaken unless it is safe to do so.

Upon Discovery of Fire

- Leave fire area immediately
- Close all doors behind you
- Alert occupants of building by sounding alarm (if present) or yell "Fire"
- Telephone Fire and Rescue Services dialling 999 from a safe location
- Evacuate animals when it is safe to do so to the designated holding area
- Use exit to leave building

Upon Hearing of a Fire Condition

- If safe, staff can assist with evacuating animals /occupants
- Leave building via nearest safe exist
- Close doors behind you
- Remain Calm
- Proceed to the designated RV area

Fire and Evacuation Action Plan

<p>Planning Your Escape</p>	<p>You only have a short time to get out so prepare a plan of escape in advance rather than waiting until there is a fire or evacuation of the establishment. Think of another way out in case the normal route is blocked. Know where door and window keys are kept. Know where spare baskets/ cages are stored. Know where the RVP/Holding areas are.</p>	
<p>If You Discover a Fire</p>		<p>Leave fire area immediately. Close all doors behind you. Sound the alarm and call 999 from any phone. Stay calm, speak clearly and listen to the operator. Where safe to do so, assist others to evacuate and remove animals to the safe holding area. If there is a fire elsewhere in the establishment, stay where you are and await instructions or if you have to move remember to check doors with the back of your hand before opening. If it feels warm, do not open it and go another way. If there is a lot of smoke, crawl along floor where the air will be cleaner. If in doubt – Get out, Stay out and get the Fire & Rescue Services Out.</p>
<p>Contacts in an Emergency</p>	<p>(enter details here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proprietors name and Telephone Number(s) • Supervisors Name and Telephone Number(s) • Establishments Veterinary Surgeons Name(s) and Telephone Number(s) 	<p>(enter details here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone at (enter location) • Emergency equipment at (enter location) • RVP at (enter location) • Animal Holding area at (enter location) • Fire Extinguishers located at (enter location) • Keys kept at (enter location)
<p>RVP = Rendezvous Point</p>		

The onus is upon the cattery to ensure adequate fire prevention precautions are in place.

It is recommended that plans and details for large catteries are lodged with the police and fire authorities. Fire prevention advice may be sought from the Fire Prevention Officer based at your local fire station. This officer can give advice on fire drills, fire escapes, equipment and should be consulted when new buildings are constructed or existing buildings modified.

Smoke detectors are recommended and you must make sure that Fire Detection and fighting equipment are easily accessible and regularly tested. Exit routes should be kept clear. Staff should be familiar with the fire evacuation procedure by use of fire drills and how to use the fire extinguishers.

The Fire Precautions (Workplace) Regulations 1997 place a duty on employers to carry out a risk assessment for the premises not covered by a fire certificate.

Useful Contacts

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

Chadwick Court, 15 Hatfields, London SE1 8DJ

Telephone: 020 7928 6006

www.cieh.org

British Veterinary Association

7 Mansfield Street, London W1G 9NQ

Telephone: 020 7636 6541

Email: bvahq@bva.co.uk

www.bva.co.uk

Pet Industry Federation

Bedford Business Centre,

170 Mile Road, Bedford MK42

9TW Telephone: 01234 273 933

www.petcare.org.uk

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

RSPCA Enquiries Service, Wilberforce

Way, Southwater, Horsham, West

Sussex RH13 9RS

Telephone: 0300 1234 555

www.rspca.org.uk

Cats Protection

National Cat Centre

Chelwood Gate, Haywards Heath Sussex RH17 7TT

www.cats.org.uk

International Cat Care

Taeselbury High Street,

Tisbury, Wiltshire SP3 6LD

Telephone: 01747

871872 Email:

info@icatcare.org.

www.icatcare.org

Dogs Trust

17 Wakley Street, London EC1V

7RQ Telephone: 0207 833 7685

Email: info@dogstrust.org.uk

www.dogstrust.org.uk



MODEL LICENCE CONDITIONS FOR HOME BOARDING (DOGS) **ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963**

INTRODUCTION

Unless otherwise stated, these conditions shall apply to all buildings and areas to which dogs have access and/or which are used in association with the boarding of dogs, whether daytime only or overnight boarding.

Normally planning permission will not be required for the home boarding of animals on the scale proposed, however should complaints be received because of particular noise or odour problems, then the Council reserves the right to consider whether there has been a change of use which requires a planning application to be submitted.

The licensee must ensure that the establishment is covered by adequate and suitable public liability insurance and, where necessary, adequate and suitable employers liability insurance.

No dog registered under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 must be accepted for home boarding.

Dog hybrids registered under the Dangerous Wild Animal Act 1976 (e.g. wolf hybrids) are not to be accepted for home boarding.

Entire males and bitches in season, or bitches due to be in season during the boarding, may be boarded together or boarded with resident dogs. In these circumstances however, all prospective customers must be made aware in writing of the fact that an entire male is present or may be present at the boarding premises. Puppies under 6 months of age must not be boarded with other dogs including resident dogs.

NUMBERS OF ANIMALS

The maximum number of dogs to be kept at any one time is to be determined by the local authority and displayed on the licence.

The number of dogs specified will be determined by officer judgement taking into account the number, size and suitability of rooms available to allow separation of dogs where necessary

Where there is a resident dog or cat at the household or where dogs from more than one household are boarded, written consent from the owners of the boarded dogs must be gained following a trial familiarisation session for all dogs. Details must be included in the contract confirming owners are content for their dogs to be boarded with dogs from other households. Familiarisation risk assessments must be in place before any boarding takes place.

Where dogs from more than one household are boarded they must be separated in secure areas when left unattended. Arrangements must also be made for separate feeding of dogs to minimise the likelihood of dispute and aggression

The licensee will be required to make an assessment of the risks of home boarding/have familiarisation

session(s) to include the risk to, or caused by children who are likely to be at the property.

1. PREMISES

- 1.1 Dogs must live in the home as family pets. There must be no external construction of buildings, cages or runs.
- 1.2 The premises must have its own entrance and not have shared access e.g. communal stairs.
- 1.3 There must be adequate space, light, heat and ventilation for the dogs.
- 1.4 As far as reasonably practicable areas or rooms within the home to which boarded dogs have access, must have no physical or chemical hazards that may cause injury to the dogs.
- 1.5 There must be sufficient space available to be able to keep the dogs separately if required.
- 1.6 If a collection and delivery service is provided, a suitable vehicle with a dog guard or cage in the rear must be provided.

CLEANLINESS

- 1.7 All areas where the dogs have access to, including the kitchen etc must be kept clean and free from accumulations of dirt and dust and must be kept in such a manner as to be conducive to maintenance of disease control and dog comfort.
- 1.8 All excreta and soiled material must be removed from all areas used by dogs at least daily and more often if necessary. Disposal facilities for animal waste must be agreed with the Licensing Authority.
- 1.9 All bedding areas must be kept clean and dry.
- 1.10 Facilities must be provided for the proper reception, storage and disposal of all waste. Particular care should be taken to segregate clinical waste arising from the treatment and handling of dogs with infectious diseases. The final route for all such waste shall comply with current waste regulations.
- 1.11 Measures must be taken to minimise the risks from rodents, insects and other pests within the premises.

KITCHEN FACILITIES

- 1.12 Airtight containers must be provided for the storage of dry foods. Uncooked food and the remains of opened tins must be stored in covered, non-metal, leak proof containers in the fridge.
- 1.13 All bulk supplies of food shall be kept in vermin proof containers.

FOOD AND WATER SUPPLIES

- 1.14 All dogs shall have an adequate supply of suitable food as directed by the client/dog owner.
- 1.15 Fresh drinking water must be available at all times (unless advised otherwise by a veterinary surgeon) and the drinking vessel cleaned daily. The water must be changed at least twice a day.
- 1.16 Clients must be encouraged to provide each dog with its own bedding, bowls, grooming materials etc. These items must be cleaned regularly to prevent cross-infection. The Licensee however should also be able to provide extra bedding material.
- 1.17 Where necessary, eating and drinking vessels must be provided – each dog must be provided with its own bowl. They must be capable of being easily cleansed and disinfected to prevent cross-contamination, and must be maintained in a clean condition. They should be cleaned after each meal.

ISOLATION

- 1.18 Dogs showing signs of any disease or illness shall be isolated from any other dogs until veterinary advice is obtained. There must be sufficient facilities within the licensed premises to ensure effective separation of any sick animal.
- 1.19 Dogs kept in isolation must be separated from other boarded and resident dogs by at least one room except in the case of a dog kept in an isolation room upstairs, in which case they must be separated by the stairs. The door to the isolation room must be kept closed at all times when in use.

FIRE / EMERGENCY PRECAUTIONS

- 1.20 Careful consideration needs to be given to the sleeping area/location for dogs to ensure that they can be easily evacuated in the event of a fire, without putting the occupiers of the property at risk.
- 1.21 The Licensee must have suitable arrangements for the temporary boarding of dogs in the event that the licensed premises are rendered uninhabitable.
- 1.22 The home must have at least 2 working smoke detectors located at the top & bottom of the staircase, or other appropriate location.
- 1.23 Dogs must not have access to loose or trailing cables or wires in any rooms.
- 1.24 All heating appliances must be free of risk of fire as is reasonably practicable. There must be no use of freestanding gas or oil appliances.
- 1.25 A relative, friend or neighbour within 5 minutes travelling time must have a spare set of keys and access to the premises in case of an emergency. These details must be made available to the Licensing Authority.

2. DISEASE CONTROL, VACCINATIONS & CONTAGIOUS OUTBREAKS

- 2.1 Checks should be made with the owners that the dogs are treated for fleas and worms in accordance with medication instructions.
- 2.2 Any course of vaccinations must have been completed at least four weeks before the first date of boarding or in accordance with manufacturer instructions. A record that this proof has been supplied must be kept in the register referred to in paragraph **3.1**
- 2.3 Advice from a veterinary surgeon must be sought in case of signs of disease, injury or illness. Where any dog is sick or injured, any instructions for its treatment, which have been given by a veterinary surgeon, must be strictly followed.
- 2.4 A well-stocked first-aid kit suitable for use on dogs must be available and accessible on site.
- 2.5 The licensee must be registered with a veterinary practice that can provide 24-hour help and advice. The clients own veterinary practice must be known and consulted if necessary.
- 2.6 The licensee must inform the Licensing Authority on the next working day if a dog develops:
 - an infectious disease
 - any animal death or attacks on the premises (The Licensee must make arrangements for the body to be stored at a veterinary surgeon's premises until the owners return).
 - a boarding dog is lost.
- 2.7 Following an episode of infectious disease during any stay, the premises must undergo disinfection and a reasonable quarantine period before new boarders are admitted. Each case will be considered separately and advice should be sought from a veterinary surgeon on the period of quarantine.
- 2.8 Proof must be provided that boarded and resident dogs have the following current vaccinations against:
 - Canine Distemper
 - Infectious Canine Hepatitis (Canine adenovirus)
 - Leptospirosis (*L. canicola* and *L. icterohaemorrhagicae*)
 - Canine Parvovirus
 - Any other relevant diseases
- 2.9 Precautions must be taken to prevent the spreading of the following with boarding and resident dogs:
 - fleas
 - ticks
 - intestinal parasites
 - any other parasites

*Proof must be maintained of all routine and emergency treatment for parasites. A record that this proof has been supplied must be kept in the register referred to in paragraph **3.1***

3. MANAGEMENT

REGISTER

- 3.1 A register must be kept of all dogs boarded. The information kept must include the following:
- date of arrival
 - name of dog, any identification system such as microchip number, tattoo
 - description, breed, age and gender of dog
 - name, address and telephone number of owner or keeper
 - name, address and telephone number of contact person whilst boarded
 - name, address and telephone number of dog's veterinary surgeon
 - anticipated and actual date of departure
 - proof of current vaccinations, medical history and requirements
 - health, welfare, nutrition and exercise requirements
- 3.2 The register must be available for inspection at all times by an officer of the Licensing Authority or a veterinary surgeon
- 3.3 The register must be kept readily available for a minimum of 2 years and kept in such a manner as to allow an authorised officer easy access to the information.
- 3.4 If medication is to be administered, this must be recorded.
- 3.5 Where records are computerised, a back-up copy must be kept. The register must also be available to key members of staff of the establishment at all times.

SUPERVISION

- 3.6 A fit and proper person with relevant experience must always be present to exercise supervision and deal with emergencies whenever dogs are boarded at the premises. This person must not have any conviction or formal cautions for any animal welfare related offence.
- 3.7 Dogs must be visited at regular intervals, as necessary for their health, safety and welfare, and must not be left unattended for longer than 3 hours at a time and then not on a regular basis.
- 3.8 No home where there are resident children under 5 years of age will be licensed. Visiting children under this age must not have any contact with boarded dogs.

TRAINING

- 3.9 If you have staff working within the home whilst boarding is taking place, they must receive guidance relating to your policies and procedures; this can be done by providing training or written information. However this information is given, this must be documented.

EXERCISE

- 3.7 Dogs must be exercised in accordance with their owner's wishes. If dogs are taken off the premises, they must be kept on leads unless with the owners written permission.
- 3.8 Only people over 16 years of age are allowed to walk the dogs in public places, and should be made aware of their responsibilities.
- 3.9 There must be direct access to a suitable outside area. The area / garden must only be for use by the homeowner (not shared with other residents). The area must be kept clean.
- 3.10 The exercise/garden area of the premises and any other area, to which the boarded dogs may have access, must be totally secure and safe. Fencing must be adequate to offer security to prevent escape and be safe with the fence height at 1.5 metres or above, with no dangerous sharp objects or protrusions. Gates must be able to be locked.
- 3.11 Ideally boarding premises should not have a pond. If there is one however, it must be covered and boarded dog(s) must not be able to access to it.
- 3.12 Dogs must wear a collar and identity tag during their time in boarding. The tag must display the business name, address and telephone number of the boarding premises.

LICENCE DISPLAY

3.13 A copy of the licence and its associated conditions must be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position in, on or about the premises or made available to each boarder.



MODEL LICENCE CONDITIONS FOR HOME BOARDING (CATS) **ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963**

INTRODUCTION

Unless otherwise stated, these conditions shall apply to all buildings and areas to which cats have access and/or which are used in association with the boarding of dogs.

Normally planning permission will not be required for the home boarding of animals on the scale proposed, however should complaints be received because of particular noise or odour problems, then the Council reserves the right to consider whether there has been a change of use which requires a planning application to be submitted.

The licensee must ensure that the establishment is covered by adequate and suitable public liability insurance and, where necessary, adequate and suitable employers liability insurance.

Entire males and queens in season must not be boarded with other cats. Kittens under 6 months of age must not be boarded with any other cats, unless it is their mother.

NUMBERS OF ANIMALS

Only cats from the same household may be boarded at any one time (and there can be any number). Cats must not be boarded with any dog unless they normally live together in the same household.

Where there is a resident cat or dog kept at the household, written consent from the owners of the boarded cat must be gained following a trial familiarisation session.

The Licensee will be required to make an assessment of the risks of home boarding to include the risk to children caused by children who are likely to be at the property.

4. PREMISES

- 1.1 Cats must live in the home as family pets. There must be no external construction of buildings, cages or runs.
- 1.2 There must be adequate space, light, heat and ventilation for the cats.
- 1.3 As far as reasonable practicable all areas/rooms within the home to which boarded cats have access, must have no physical or chemical hazards that may cause injury to the cats.
- 1.4 There must be sufficient space available to be able to keep the cats separately if required.
- 1.5 If a collection and delivery service is provided, a suitable vehicle with a cat cage must be provided.

CLEANLINESS

- 1.6 All areas to which the cats have access, including the kitchen etc must be kept clean and free from accumulations of dirt and dust and must be kept in such a manner as to be conducive to maintenance of disease control and cat comfort.
- 1.7 Suitably sited litter trays, which are easy to clean and impermeable must be provided at all times. These must be emptied and cleansed at least once a day and as necessary at any time during the

day if found to be unduly soiled. A suitable material for litter must be provided.

- 1.8 All excreta and soiled material must be removed from all areas used by cats at least daily and more often if necessary. Disposal facilities for animal waste must be agreed with the Licensing Authority.
- 1.9 All bedding areas must be kept clean and dry.
- 1.10 Facilities must be provided for the proper reception, storage and disposal of all waste. Particular care should be taken to segregate clinical waste arising from the treatment and handling of cats with infectious diseases. The final disposal route for all such waste shall comply with current waste regulations.
- 1.11 Measures must be taken to minimise the risks from rodents, insects and other pests within the premises.

KITCHEN FACILITIES

- 1.12 Airtight containers must be provided for the storage of dry foods. Uncooked food and the remains of opened tins must be stored in covered, non-metal, leak proof containers in the fridge.
- 1.13 All bulk supplies of food shall be kept in vermin proof containers.

FOOD AND WATER SUPPLIES

- 1.14 All cats shall have an adequate supply of suitable food as directed by the client.
- 1.15 Fresh drinking water must be available at all times (unless advised otherwise by a veterinary surgeon) and the drinking vessel cleaned daily. The water must be changed at least twice a day.
- 1.16 Clients must be encouraged to provide each cat with its own bedding, bowls, grooming materials etc. These items must be cleaned regularly to prevent cross-infection. The Licensee however should also be able to provide extra bedding material.
- 1.17 Where necessary, eating and drinking vessels must be provided, and where so, they must be capable of being easily cleansed and disinfected to prevent cross-contamination. They must also be maintained in a clean condition. Feeding bowls must be cleaned after each meal and each cat must be provided with its own bowl.

ISOLATION

- 1.18 Cats showing signs of any disease or illness shall be isolated from any other cats until veterinary advice is obtained. There must be sufficient facilities within the licensed premise to ensure effective separation of any sick animals.
- 1.19 The Licensee must inform the Licensing Authority on the next working day if a cat develops an infectious disease.

FIRE / EMERGENCY PRECAUTIONS

- 1.20 Appropriate steps must be taken for the protection of the cats in case of fire or other emergencies.
- 1.21 The occupier of the property must be aware of the location of the cats in the property at all times.
- 1.22 Careful consideration needs to be given to the sleeping area for cats to ensure that they can be easily evacuated in the event of a fire at night, without putting the occupiers of the property at risk.
- 1.23 A fire warning procedure and emergency evacuation plan-including details of where cats are to be evacuated to in the event of a fire or other emergency - must be drawn up, brought to the attention of those involved in the home boarding arrangements and/or displayed in a prominent place on the premises. The Licensee must have suitable arrangements for the temporary boarding of cats in the event that the licensed premises is rendered uninhabitable.
- 1.24 Fire detection equipment must be provided in accordance with general advice given by the Fire Safety Officer. The home must have at least 2 working smoke detectors, located at the top and bottom of the stairs or other appropriate locations.
- 1.25 All doors to rooms must be kept shut at night.
- 1.26 All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe condition. No cat must be left in a room with loose or trailing cables or wires.

- 1.27 All heating appliances must free of risk of fire, as is reasonably practicable. There must be no use of freestanding gas or oil appliances.
- 1.28 A relative, friend or neighbour within 5 minutes travelling time must have a spare set of keys and access to the premises in the case of emergency.

5. DISEASE CONTROL, VACCINATIONS & CONTAGIOUS OUTBREAKS

- 2.1 Following an episode of infectious disease during any stay, the premises must undergo a reasonable quarantine period before new boarders are admitted. This period will be specified by the Licensing Authority as agreed with their authorised veterinary surgeon.
- 2.2 The Licensing Authority must be informed of any animal death on the premises. The Licensee must make arrangements for the body to be stored at a veterinary surgeons premise until the owners return.
- 2.3 Adequate precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious and contagious disease and parasites amongst the cats, staff and visitors.
- 2.4 Proof must be provided that cats boarded or resident have current vaccinations against infectious feline enteritis, feline respiratory disease and other relevant diseases. The course of vaccination must have been completed at least four weeks before the first date of boarding or in accordance with manufacturer instructions. A record that this proof has been supplied must be kept on site throughout the period that the cat is boarded.
- 2.5 Advice from a veterinary surgeon must be sought in the case of signs of disease, injury or illness. Where any cat is sick or injured, any instructions for its treatment, which have been given by a veterinary surgeon, must be strictly followed.
- 2.6 A well-stocked first-aid kit suitable for use on cats must be available and accessible on site.
- 2.7 The Licensee must be registered with a veterinary practice that can provide 24-hour help and advice. The clients own veterinary practice must be consulted if necessary.
- 2.8 Precautions must be taken to prevent the spread of fleas, ticks, intestinal parasites and other parasites in both boarded and resident cats. Proof must be maintained of all routine and emergency treatments for parasites.
- 2.9 The premises shall be regularly treated for fleas and parasites with a veterinary recommended product.
- 2.10 Veterinary advice must be sought in relation to cleaning substances so that neither they nor their fumes can be harmful to an animal.

6. MANAGEMENT

REGISTER

- 3.1 A register must be kept of all cats boarded. The information kept must include the following:
 - Date of arrival
 - Name of cat, any identification system such as microchip number, tattoo
 - Description, breed, age and gender of cat
 - Name, address and telephone number of owner or keeper
 - Name, address and telephone number of contact person whilst boarded
 - Name, address and telephone number of cat's veterinary surgeon
 - Anticipated and actual date of departure
 - Proof of current vaccinations, medical history and requirements
 - Health, welfare nutrition and exercise requirements
- 3.2 Such a register is to be available for inspection at all times by an officer of the Licensing Authority, veterinary surgeon.
- 3.3 The register must be kept readily available for a minimum of 2 years and kept in such a manner as to allow an authorised officer easy access to such information.

- 3.4 If medication is to be administered, this must be recorded.
- 3.5 Where records are computerised, a back-up hard copy must be kept. The register must also be available to key members of staff of the establishment at all times.

SUPERVISION

- 3.6 A fit and proper person with relevant experience must always be present to exercise supervision and deal with emergencies whenever cats are boarded at the premises. This person must not have any conviction or formal Cautions for any animal welfare related offence.
- 3.7 Cats must be visited at regular intervals, as necessary for their health, safety and welfare, and must not be left longer than 3 hours and then not on a regular basis.
- 3.8 No home where there are children under 5 years of age will be licensed.

TRAINING

- 3.9 If you have staff working within the home whilst boarding is taking place, they must receive guidance relating to your policies and procedures; this can be done by providing training or written information. However this information is given, this must be documented.

EXERCISE

- 3.10 Cats must not be allowed outside unless they are on leads, or with the owners written permission.
- 3.11 A double door system must be employed so that no cat has direct access to any external door in regular use.
- 3.12 Cats must wear a collar and identity tag during their time in boarding. The tag must display the address and telephone number of the boarding premises.
- 3.13 The Licensing Authority must be informed on the next working day if a cat is lost.

LICENCE DISPLAY

- 3.14 A copy of the licence and its associated conditions must be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position in, on or about the premises or made available to each boarder.



MODEL LICENCE CONDITIONS FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL DAY CARE PROVIDERS

Unless otherwise stated, these conditions shall apply to all buildings and areas to which dogs have access and/or are used in association with the boarding of dogs.

1. LICENCE DISPLAY & BUSINESS INSURANCE

- 1.1 A copy of the licence and its conditions must be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position in, on or about the boarding establishment.
- 1.2 The licensee must ensure that the establishment is covered by adequate and suitable public liability insurance, which should cover any situation where a dog may injure a person or livestock or cause an accident.
- 1.3 Where necessary, adequate and suitable employer's liability insurance must be obtained.

2. GENERAL RESTRICTIONS

- 2.1 The maximum number of dogs to be kept at any one time is as specified on the licence.
- 2.2 Overnight boarding of animals is not permitted.
- 2.3 Bitches in season or due to be in season must not be mixed with any dogs. Exercise with other bitches is acceptable.
- 2.4 No dogs registered under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 or dog hybrids registered under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1966 (e.g. Wolf Hybrids) shall be accepted for day care.
- 2.5 Puppies (classified as under 6 months of age) must not be boarded with other dogs unless they have received their full inoculations and they have completed a successful trial socialisation period.
- 2.6 Written consent must be received from any dog owner before any dog is placed into the establishment for the first time, confirming that they agree that their dog(s) may socialise with other dogs.
- 2.7 The licensee must complete and document a risk assessment to determine the ratio of staff supervision for the number of dogs whilst communal exercise is conducted. In the absence of any risk assessment the ratio should be no less than one person to every 5 dogs.
- 2.8 A maximum of 10 puppies may be kept together in a separate, designated exercise area, which will require a member of staff at all times.
- 2.9 No animals other than dogs are to be boarded at the premises without written approval of an authorised officer of the Council.

3. CONSTRUCTION

- 3.1 The establishment must at all times be laid out and operated in accordance with an approved plan of the premises, to be attached to the licence. Before carrying out any significant structural alterations, plans must be submitted to and approved by an authorised officer of the Council.
- 3.2 Maintenance and repair of the whole premises must be carried out regularly so as to maintain a suitable condition.
- 3.3 The premises must have its own entrance and must not have shared access e.g. communal stairs
- 3.4 All windows which pose a security risk must be escape proof at all times.
- 3.5 Kennelling compartments must be provided for the total number of dogs specified on the licence so that dogs can be separated in the case of an emergency and to provide suitable rest periods. The compartments should be appropriate for the size of the dog.
- 3.6 Crates may be used only in accordance with owner's wishes and where the dog is used to using a crate at home. The crate must be suitable for the size of breed to be boarded.
- 3.7 All internal walls, floors, partitions, doors and door frames must be constructed from a material which is

durable, smooth, impervious and easy to clean. Exposed wood is not a suitable material for use. There must be no projections or rough edges liable to cause injury.

- 3.8 Junctions between wall and floors sections should be coved. If impractical in existing premises, all joints must be sealed.
- 3.9 There must be adequate space, light, heat and ventilation for the number of dogs licensed at any one time.
- 3.10 The minimum temperature must be no lower than 10⁰C (54⁰F) and a maximum 26⁰C (79⁰F)
- 3.11 All areas/rooms which boarded dogs have access must have no physical or chemical hazards that may cause injury to the dogs.
- 3.12 A double door system must be employed so that no dog has access to any external door in regular use.
- 3.13 If a collection and delivery service is provided a suitable vehicle with a dog guard or cage must be provided.

4. MANAGEMENT

TRAINING

- 4.1 Where staff are employed a training policy must be provided. Systematic training of staff must be demonstrated to have been carried out.

CLEANLINESS

- 4.2 All areas to which dogs have access must be kept clean and free of accumulations of dust and dirt and must be kept in a manner as to be conducive to maintenance of disease control and dog comfort.
 - 4.2.1 All bedding must be kept clean and dry.
 - 4.2.2 Clients should be encouraged to provide their own bedding. A supply of spare bedding should be kept and provided where necessary.
 - 4.2.3 Cleaning substances must be suitable for the purpose and the cleaning substance and its fumes must pose no risk to the dogs.
 - 4.2.4 A suitable stock level of cleaning consumables and chemicals must be maintained
 - 4.2.5 All excreta and soiled material must be removed from all areas used by dogs at least twice daily and more often if necessary,
 - 4.2.6 Facilities must be provided for the proper reception, storage and disposal of all waste.
 - 4.2.7 The final disposal route for all such waste shall comply with current waste regulations.
 - 4.2.8 Measures must be taken to minimise the risks from rodents, insects and other pests within the premises.

FOOD AND WATER SUPPLIES

- 4.3 All dogs shall have an adequate supply of food as directed by the client.
 - 4.3.1 Fresh drinking water shall be available at all times (unless otherwise directed by a veterinary surgeon).
 - 4.3.2 Eating and drinking vessels must be capable of being easily cleansed and disinfected to prevent cross-contamination. Feeding bowls should be cleaned after each meal, water bowls should be cleaned daily.
 - 4.3.3 Clients should be encouraged to provide their own bowls. A supply of spare bowls must be kept and provided where necessary.

KITCHEN FACILITIES

- 4.4 A sink with hot and cold water running for washing of food and drink vessels must be available
 - 4.4.1 A hygienic area for food preparation must be available.
 - 4.4.2 Dry food should be stored in airtight containers.
 - 4.4.3 Refrigeration/freezer facilities must be provided for any fresh and cooked food. The food should be

stored in non-metal, leak proof containers.

DISEASE CONTROL AND VACCINATION

- 4.5 Adequate precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious and contagious disease and parasites amongst the dogs.
- 4.5.1 All dogs boarded, and any resident dogs, must have current vaccinations against Canine Distemper, Infectious Canine Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Canine Parvovirus and any other relevant diseases. The course of vaccination must be completed at least 4 weeks before the first date of boarding or in accordance with veterinary or manufacturer's instructions. Proof must be obtained. It is strongly recommended that all dogs are also vaccinated against Bordetella Kennel Cough.
- 4.5.2 All dogs should, be treated for fleas, ticks, intestinal parasites, other parasites and worms in order to prevent and control the spread of infectious and contagious disease and parasites amongst the dogs, staff and visitors. Any resident dog should be treated regularly and in all cases the information recorded whether routine or emergency.
- 4.5.3 The licensee must be registered with a veterinary practice that can provide help and advice. The clients own veterinary practice must be consulted if necessary.
- 4.5.4 Advice from a veterinary surgeon must be sought in the case of signs of disease, injury or illness. Where any dog is sick or injured, any instructions for its treatment which have been given by a veterinary surgeon must be strictly followed.
- 4.5.5 A well-stocked first aid kit suitable for use on dogs must be available.
- 4.5.6 A well-stocked first aid kit suitable for use on humans must be available.
- 4.5.7 The licensee must inform the local authority by the next working day of any boarded dog death on the premises.

ISOLATION

- 4.6.1 Dogs showing signs of any disease or illness shall be isolated from any other dogs until veterinary advice is obtained and the owners contacted.
- 4.6.2 A written procedure on how to deal with any animals showing signs of illness or disease should be in place and should include details of staff/ equipment hygiene when handling sick animals. All staff should be made aware of this procedure.
- 4.6.3 There must be sufficient facilities within the licensed premises to ensure effective separation of any sick animals.
- 4.6.4 The licensee must inform the local authority by the next working day if a dog develops an infectious disease.
- 4.6.5 Following an episode of infectious disease during any stay the premises must undergo a reasonable quarantine period before new boarders are admitted. This period will be specified by the local authority as agreed with their authorised veterinary surgeon.

REGISTER

- 4.7 A register must be kept containing the description of the dogs boarded. This should include the following;
- Name and description (including breed, age, gender) of the dog, including any microchip or tattoo details;
 - Date of arrival/departure;
 - Name, address and full contact details for the owner;
 - Full details of an emergency contact
 - Full details of the dog's veterinary surgeon;
 - Details including proof and dates of the dog's vaccinations, as well as a full medical history and any details regarding health, welfare, exercise and nutrition requirements;
 - In applicable cases, the date of the last season for a bitch;

- Details of any medication administered during the dog's stay.
- Confirmation concerning condition 2.6, 4.9.2, 4.10.2
- Are dogs used to temporary housing in a crate

4.7.1 Where records are computerised, a back-up hard copy must be kept.

4.7.2 These records must be available at the time of local authority inspection and should be kept for a minimum of 2 years. The authority reserves the right to survey any client who has used the service.

4.7.3 The register must also be available to key members of staff of the establishment at all times.

SUPERVISION

4.8 No dog should be left unattended at any time.

4.8.1 Neighbouring premises should be notified of the boarding activity and be given a right of redress if, for example, there is a noise disturbance.

4.8.2 No children under the age of 16 shall be allowed into areas where dogs are running loose.

4.8.3 No person under 16 years of age should be allowed to walk a dog on their own in a public place.

4.8.4 Dogs must wear a collar and an identity tag during the time of boarding. The tag should display the address and telephone number of the boarding premises.

4.8.5 The local authority must be informed by the next working day if a dog is lost.

FAMILIARISATION

4.9 When animals from different homes are boarded together, and/or where there is a resident dog, a suitable integration/familiarisation period must have been carried out before boarding commences and a documented character assessment conducted on each dog

4.9.1 Express written consent of the owner must be obtained when animals from different homes are boarded together, and/or there is a resident dog

EXERCISE

4.10 Dogs should be exercised in accordance with the owner's wishes.

4.10.1 If dogs are taken off the premises they must be kept on leads unless the owner has provided written authority.

4.10.2 There must be direct access to a suitable outside area which is securely fenced to prevent escape. The area/garden should only be for the exclusive use by the licensed premises only.

4.10.3 The exercise area must be totally secure. The fence should be escape-proof, with no elevated areas to enable dogs to escape. There should be no dangerous or sharp objects on which a dog could hurt itself. Ideally fencing should be 1.8m

4.10.4 Dogs must not have access to water or any external structures which pose a risk to their health and safety i.e. pond, glass houses etc.

EMERGENCIES

4.11 Fire detection equipment and firefighting equipment must be provided in accordance with general advice given by the Fire Safety Officer and as identified in the fire risk assessment. (Under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 commercial premises are required to conduct a fire risk assessment in accordance with their work activities)

4.11.1 In case of an emergency a procedure and emergency evacuation plan, including details of where dogs are to be evacuated to in the event of a fire or other emergency, must be drawn up, documented brought to the attention of those involved in the home boarding arrangements and/or displayed in a prominent place on the premises.

SAFETY

4.12 All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe condition. Dogs must not have access to loose or trailing cables or wires.

4.12.1 All heating appliances must be free of risk of fire, as is reasonably practicable. There must be no use of free standing gas or oil appliances.

COMPLAINTS AND INCIDENT LOGS

- 4.13 The licence holder must maintain a log of any incidents occurring at the premises involving a boarding animal, and this log must be kept for a period of one year.
- 4.14 The Licensing Authority must be advised within 72 hours of any complaint received and the steps taken to resolve the situation.

PLANNING PERMISSIONS

- 4.15 Planning permission may be required and applicants/licensees should liaise with the authority's planning team prior to setting up a home boarding business. The issuing of a licence is conditional on planning advice being sought. Should subsequent action be taken regarding planning issues the home boarding licence will be revoked until such a time as either planning permission has been granted or evidence is provided that the operations falls outside of planning constraints.



RIDING ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE MODEL CONDITIONS

1. Horses must be maintained in good health and in all respects physically fit. In the case of a horse kept for the purpose of its being let out on hire for riding or a horse kept for the purpose of its being used in providing instruction in riding, the horse must be suitable for the purpose for which it is kept.
2. No horse aged three years or under nor any mare heavy with foal nor any mare within three months after foaling may be let out on hire for riding or used, in return for payment, for instruction in or demonstrating riding.
3. Any riding equipment supplied for a horse let out on hire must be free from visible defect which is likely to cause suffering to the horse or accident to the rider.
4. The feet of all animals must be properly trimmed and, if shod, their shoes must be properly fitted and in good condition.
5. A horse found, on inspection of the premises by an authorised officer, to be in need of veterinary attention must not be returned to work until the holder of the licence has obtained, at his own expense and has lodged with the local authority, a veterinary certificate that the horse is fit for work.
6. No horse may be let out on hire for riding or used for providing instruction in riding without supervision by a responsible person of the age of 16 years or over unless, in the case of a horse let out for hire for riding, the holder of the licence is satisfied that the hirer of the horse is competent to ride without supervision.
7. In the case of horses maintained at grass, there must be available for them, at all times during which they are so maintained, adequate pasture and shelter and water and supplementary feeds must be provided as and when required.
8. Horses must be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and, except in the case of horses maintained at grass, so long as they are so maintained, bedding material and must be adequately exercised, groomed and rested and visited at suitable intervals.
9. All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread among horses of infectious or contagious diseases and veterinary first aid equipment and medicines must be provided and maintained in the premises.
10. The construction of the riding establishment must be substantial, adequate to contain the animals, and provided with warmth and shelter in clean and hygienic conditions. There must be convenient and safe access to stalls and boxes. Stalls must be large enough to allow the animal to lie down and get up without risk of injury. Boxes must be large enough to allow the animal to turn round.
11. Yards must provide enough space for every animal kept there.
12. Lighting must be adequate to render the use of artificial light unnecessary in daylight.

13. Ventilation must provide fresh air without draughts.
14. Drainage must be adequate to carry away liquid voided by the horses and keep the standing dry.
15. There must be provision for storage and disposal of manure and spoiled straw.
16. Adequate accommodation must be provided for forage bedding, stable equipment and saddlery.
17. The licence holder must ensure that appropriate steps will be taken for the protection and extrication of horses in case of fire and, in particular, that the name, address and telephone number of the licence holder or some other responsible person are kept displayed in a prominent position at the outside of the premises and that instructions as to the action to be taken in the event of fire, with particular regard to the extrication of horses, are kept displayed in a prominent position on the outside of the premises.
18. The carrying on of the business of the establishment must at no time be left in the charge of any person under 16 years of age.
19. The licence holder must hold a current insurance policy which insures him against liability for any injury sustained by those who hire a horse from him for riding and those who use a horse in the course of receiving from him, in return for payment, instruction in riding and arising out of the hire or use of a horse as aforesaid and which also insures such persons in respect of any liability which may be incurred by them in respect of injury to any person caused by, or arising out of, the hire or use of a horse as aforesaid.
20. A register must be kept by the licence holder of all horses in his possession aged three years and under and usually kept on the premises which shall be available for inspection by an authorised officer at all reasonable times.



Model Conditions for Pet Vending Licensing 2013



September 2013

This document has been prepared in the best interests of animal welfare and to improve pet shop management. No liability rests with contributing bodies for the circumstances arising out of the application of conditions contained within the document.

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Introduction

The Model Conditions set out in this document are the working group's recommendations for the basic minimum standards considered necessary to ensure the health, safety and welfare of animals in pet shops.

Licensing authorities should apply and enforce the licence conditions sensibly and appropriately.

These Model Conditions should not be considered as a complete manual on animal husbandry. It is a living document which will be revised from time to time to take into account new knowledge of animal physiology and behaviour as well as advances and development in standards of animal welfare.

Local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales issue licences to proprietors of pet shops and other pet vendors under the provisions of the Pet Animals Act (1951). Before granting a licence the local authority must be satisfied that the animals are kept in accommodation that is suitable; that they are supplied with appropriate food and drink; and are adequately protected from disease and fire. The local authority may attach conditions to the licence, may inspect the licensed premises at all reasonable times and may refuse a licence if the standards at the premises are unsatisfactory or if the terms of the licence are not being complied with.

Under the Animal Welfare Act (2006)¹ which applies in England and Wales and the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006² in Scotland those responsible for animals, including pet vendors, have a responsibility towards the welfare of the animals in their care. Under these Acts it is an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to a protected animal, whether by an act or omission. Vendors also have a legal 'duty of care' towards the animals in their care. Vendors must therefore take such steps as are reasonable in all the circumstances to meet the welfare needs of the animals, to the extent required by good practice. The Acts define an animal's needs as including:

- Its need for a suitable environment
- Its need for a suitable diet
- Its need to be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns
- Any need to be housed with, or apart from, other animals
- Its need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease

During the inspection, prior to the issue of a licence, it is important that the five needs as outlined above are considered. Defra, the Welsh Assembly Government and the Scottish Government have produced various Codes of Practice under the Animal Welfare Acts, which outline in more detail certain species' needs that can be referred to for guidance. Issues specific to pet shops and other pet vendors are covered in this document.

The Animal Welfare Acts also increased the minimum age at which a person can buy an animal to 16 and prohibit giving animals as prizes to unaccompanied children under this age. In Scotland, there is a prohibition on giving animals as prizes.

Another key objective in developing these model licensing conditions is to encourage conditions in pet shops licensing and a consistency of approach across local authorities which minimises the risk of transmission of disease from animals to humans, alongside the need to protect animals from cruelty and ill-treatment and to encourage good standards of animal husbandry in pet vending.

Humankind shares a world with animals; it is unsurprising therefore that we also share some diseases. Zoonoses, or zoonotic disease are infectious diseases transmissible between humans and other animals; many thousands of zoonotic disease have been identified. While the reported instances of transmission are infrequent, they nevertheless represent significant disease prevalence. The risk to humans depends on the kind of disease and the type of exposure.

¹ www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/welfare/act

² www.oqps.gov.uk/legislation/acts/acts2006/pdf/asp_20060011_en.pdf

Legislation/Orders that are relevant³:

England

- Pet Animals Act 1951
- Dangerous Dogs Act 1991
- Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
- Breeding of Dogs Act 1973
- EU Regulation on the protection of animals during transport (EC) 1/2005
- Welfare of Animals (Transport)(England) Order 2006
- Animal Welfare Act 2006
- Docking of Working Dogs' Tails (England) Regulations 2007
- Mutilations (Permitted Procedures)(England) Regulations 2007
- EU Wildlife Trade Regulations: Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97, implements CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna) in the European Community
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, implements the EU Habitats Directive: Council Directive 92/43 EEC.

Scotland

- Pet Animals Act 1951
- Dangerous Dogs Act 1991
- Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010
- Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
- Breeding of Dogs Act 1973
- EU Regulation on the protection of animals during transport (EC) 1/2005
- Welfare of Animals (Transport)(Scotland) Order 2006
- Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006
- The Prohibited Procedures on Protected Animals (Exemptions) (Scotland) Regulations 2010
- The Licensing of Animal Dealers (Young Cats and Young Dogs) (Scotland) Regulations 2009

Wales

- Pet Animals Act 1951
- Animal Welfare Act 2006
- The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Wales) Order 2007
- The Docking of Working Dogs' Tails (Wales) Regulations 2007
- Mutilations (Permitted Procedures) (Wales) Regulations 2007
- Dangerous Dogs Act 1991
- Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
- Breeding of Dogs Act 1973
- EU Regulation on the protection of animals during transport (EC) 1/2005
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, implements the EU Habitats Directive: Council Directive 92/43 EEC.

The working group agreed that the LGA Model

Standards⁴ needed to be updated whilst anticipating secondary legislation under the Animal Welfare Act 2006. These conditions should therefore not be seen as a substitute for secondary legislation.

³ All legislation referred to in this document is intended to represent the most recent version

⁴ Local Government Association (1998) "The Pet Animals Act 1951: Model standards for pet shop licence conditions", LGA Publications

The groups consulted included:

- British Veterinary Association
- Cats Protection
- Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- Dogs Trust
- Federation of Companion Animal Societies
- Feline Advisory Bureau
- Local Government Association
- Ornamental Aquatic Trade Association
- Pet Industry Federation
- Rabbit Welfare Association & Fund
- Reptile and Exotic Pet Trade Association
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Special thanks also to:

- Peter Scott – Zoo and Aquatic Veterinary Group/Companion Animal Welfare Council
- William H Wildgoose – Fish Veterinary Society/Midland Veterinary Surgery
- Ian Strachan – Scottish Government
- Wood Green Animal Shelters
- OneKind

Definition of terms

** A batch should be defined as a group of animals arriving from the same supplier, at the same time

**m² is a measurement of area. One m² measures one metre by one metre. Consequently two m² measures 2 metres by 1 metre. (4 square metres measures 2 metres by 2 metres).

Schedule A – General conditions

1. Licence Display

1.1 Condition

The licence or a copy of the licence must be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position

Guidance

For security reasons, the licence should not display the licence holder's home address.

2. Accommodation

2.1 Condition

Animals must at all times be kept in accommodation designed to prevent escape and an environment suitable to their species and condition with respect to behavioural needs, situation, size, temperature, ventilation, and cleanliness. All accommodation must avoid drafts and overexposure to direct sunlight and must be kept in good repair.

Guidance

Animals should be able to move around freely, climb, fly, swim and jump where appropriate, and be comfortable in their environment. Definitions of appropriate sizes and materials are in the appropriate schedules to this document. Regular maintenance and repair will prevent injury from damaged housing. Temperature monitoring devices should be provided. It is important to avoid draughts.

2.2 Condition

Ventilation must be provided to all interior areas without the creation of excessive, localized draughts. Ventilation is important as an aid to disease control and aims to decrease smell accumulation and prevent excessive humidity of the atmosphere.

Guidance

The spread of airborne infections can be a significant risk. Excessive or inadequate humidity can cause other health problems.

2.3 Condition

If animals are displayed outdoors, they must have protection appropriate to their species

Guidance

This should include shelter from wind, rain or snow and/or the sun and predators if appropriate.

2.4 Condition

In order to control the spread of disease, and to prevent injury, housing must be constructed of non-porous materials or be appropriately treated. Junctions between all sections need to be fully cleanable.

Guidance

Appropriate housing will prevent direct transmission of disease and injuries. This will maintain structural integrity and ensure dry, easily cleansed surfaces. In general, untreated wood is not an appropriate material as it cannot be thoroughly cleaned.

2.5 Condition

Animals must be kept in housing which minimises stress from other animals or the public. Signage must be in place to deter public interference.

Guidance

An area to hide away, if needed, will help to reduce stress levels for the animals. In addition to signs, other measures maybe required, such as limiting access to some sides of animal enclosures. Care should be taken to avoid sensory contact between prey and predator species.

2.6 Condition

All animals for sale must be readily accessible and easy to inspect by staff.

Guidance

This should help to ensure that the cage is kept clean and hygienic and animals can be easily observed for illness or injury

2.7 Condition

Accommodation must be cleaned as often as necessary to maintain good hygiene standards

Guidance

To maintain a clean environment, a cleaning Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) should be provided and should detail the routine daily cleaning regime and the procedure for cleaning between periods of occupation. Soiled bedding should be removed frequently to ensure animals do not have to lie in it.

2.8 Condition

Where accommodation is on a tiered system, water, food or droppings must not be allowed to enter the lower housing

Guidance

This will prevent contamination of the lower cages. This does not apply to centrifuged fish systems or aviaries where perching and ground birds are housed together.

2.9 Condition

All accessories provided for environmental enrichment in the accommodation must be appropriate for the species.

Guidance

To stimulate the performance of natural behaviours.

3. Exercise Facilities

3.1 Condition

Suitable and sufficient facilities must be available where appropriate.

Guidance

Animals must be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns and this may require the provision of suitable space for exercise.

4. Register of Animals

4.1 Condition

A purchase register must be maintained for all animals detailing their source and identification where appropriate,

Guidance

This can be by cross referenced to an invoice file. The purpose of the register is to ascertain the source of the animals.

4.2 Condition:

A sales register must be maintained for:

4.2.1 Dogs

4.2.2 Cats

4.2.3 Psittacines

4.2.4 Species contained in the Schedule to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976

Guidance

The purpose of the register is for emergency contact of purchasers. The name, address and telephone number of the purchaser should be obtained. This is not required for other species.

4.3 Condition

Animals under veterinary treatment must be identifiable.

5. Stocking Numbers and Densities

5.1 Condition

No animals other than those specified in the licence, may be stocked.

The licence conditions should clearly state the numbers for each species or species group that may be kept on the premises, except fish. Please refer to Schedules for individual species for more details.

Animals are defined as any vertebrate animals; invertebrates are exempted from the regulations.

5.2 Condition

Where appropriate, all animals must be housed in social groups of suitable size.

Guidance

Details can be found in the relevant schedules.

6. Health Disease and Acclimatisation

6.1 Condition

All animals for sale must be in good health

Guidance

Vendors and staff are responsible for providing the animals' needs including good health care. Illness and obvious parasitic infection should be addressed before the animal is sold. Veterinary advice should be sought in any case of doubt.

Transport and the introduction to a novel environment are stressful and animals should be allowed to acclimatise before being further stressed by being offered for sale. Where animals are obtained for sale to a specific client

it may be acceptable for the animal to be sold immediately.

All animals should receive appropriate vaccination where required for the species, as advised by the retailer's veterinary surgeon. Veterinary advice must be sought whenever necessary.

A Record of Treatment should be provided to the purchaser. Vaccination courses should begin at the appropriate age for each species.

6.2 Condition

Any sick or injured animal must receive appropriate care and treatment without delay. These must only be treated by appropriately competent staff or veterinary surgeons.

Guidance

"Care and treatment" may include euthanasia but under no circumstances may an animal be euthanised other than in a humane and effective manner. In case of doubt, veterinary advice must be sought.

6.3 Condition

Provision must be made for the isolation of sick/injured/infectious animals and those that might reasonably be expected to be carrying serious infectious diseases.

Guidance

Isolated animals should be kept in a secure, comfortable location where their condition and

needs can be kept, also detailing treatment. For ornamental fish, in-line UV treatment or other sterilising devices effectively provide a means of isolating individual tanks in multiple tank systems. They must be of a proper size and maintained in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.

6.4 Condition

Any animal with an abnormality which would materially affect its quality of life, must not be offered for sale. When in doubt, veterinary advice should be sought.

Guidance

Information on any known conditions should be provided to the new owner.

6.5 Condition

All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent the outbreak and spread of disease. No animal which is suffering from, or could reasonably be suspected of having come into contact with any other animal suffering from any infectious or contagious disease or which is infested with parasites, shall be brought into or kept on the premises unless effectively isolated.

Guidance

Precautions should include regular cleaning (see 2.6) and good personal hygiene of staff in addition to effective quarantine of incoming groups of animals except for fish. Staff handling animals should wash or disinfect, and rinse if appropriate, their hands between groups. The shop should be registered with a veterinary practice and there should be veterinary input to SOPs where appropriate. It is important that the supplying breeders should have a policy for inherited and infectious disease control agreed. Staff should be aware of zoonotic transmission.

6.6 Condition

All necessary precautions must be taken to prevent harbourage, or the introduction to the premises, of rodents, insects and other pests.

Guidance

"Rodent" and "Insect" excludes animals for sale or feeding

7. Food and Drink

7.1 Condition

Animals must be supplied with adequate amounts of food and drink, appropriate to their needs at suitable intervals. All food must be suitable for the species concerned.

Guidance

Water should be available at all times except for those species where it may be harmful. An SOP should be produced for basic nutritional needs for each species or species group, and age group if appropriate. The owner should be advised to continue feeding consistent with the diet given by the pet shop.

7.2 Condition

Food and Drink receptacles must be appropriate to the species, constructed and positioned to minimise faecal and urine contamination and spillage. Receptacles must be cleaned out at regular intervals.

Guidance

Faecal and urine contamination is a risk to health. Maintaining a clean environment may require regular cleaning of receptacles. Receptacles should be thoroughly cleaned before being moved between batches/groups

8. Food Storage

8.1 Condition

All food, excluding live foods intended for feeding to animals on the premises, must be stored in impervious closed containers.

Guidance

Such containers prevent spoilage of the food or attraction of rodents or pests to the premises.

8.2 Condition

The containers and equipment used for feeding must be kept in a clean and sound condition.

Guidance

There must be suitable facilities for cleaning of receptacles and equipment which should be separate from staff facilities.

9. Observation

9.1 Condition

All animals must be attended to at regular intervals, except where defined in the schedule, at least once daily, and appropriate to the individual animal.

Guidance

Regular checks and observation records aid in early detection of illness, injury or behavioural problems and should be considered very important for all animals.

A system of recording observation should be maintained.

10. Disposal of Waste

10.1 Condition

All excreta and soiled bedding for disposal must be kept in a hygienic manner and stored in impervious containers with close fitting lids - away from direct sunlight.

Guidance

This is important for biosecurity and odour reduction.

Excreta and soiled bedding should be removed from the premises on a regular basis, at least weekly, disposed of to the satisfaction of the appropriate local authority, and in accordance with current regulations and good waste management practice. Premises should maintain a contract for removal with an appropriate company and adhere to local authority regulations.

There should be appropriate arrangements in place for removal of dead animals.

11. Transportation to the Premises

11.1 Condition

When receiving animals, the licensee must make reasonable effort to ensure that they are transported in a suitable manner.

11.2 Condition

Any animals received or consigned shall be transported according to the regulations laid down in current legislation.

11.3 Condition

Animals must be transported or handed to purchasers in suitable containers,

Guidance

Buyers should be advised how to transport animals home so as to minimise stress.

12. Sale of Animals

12.1 Condition

No mammal shall be sold un-weaned or, if weaned, at an age at which it should not have been weaned.

Guidance

Young mammals require nutritional and behavioural support from their mothers.

12.2 Condition

In the case of non-mammals, they must be capable of feeding themselves.

13. Dangerous Wild Animals as defined by the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976

13.1 Condition

When dangerous wild animals are kept, the cages must be of a secure construction appropriate to the species and kept locked.

Guidance

Safety of staff and the general public should be of utmost importance and safety barriers may aid in this, as well as prevention of escape.

13.2 Condition

The local authority must be notified in the event that the pet shop wishes to offer for sale, any animal on the Schedule to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act.

Guidance

The primary requirements of the Act are to protect the public but there are also welfare implications.

Although it is acknowledged that there is an exemption contained within the Act in relation to pet shops, it is recommended that consideration should be given to complying with any special requirement(s) specified in the Act for the safe accommodation and care of the animal.

Licensees selling animals on the Schedule to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act should inspect the purchaser's licence to keep such an animal, and inform the issuing authority of the details of the purchase. Licensees should take note of the latest guidance from Defra/Scottish Government.

14. Pet care advice, staff training and knowledge

Condition

New applicants must have a qualification or be registered with a recognized body such as City & Guilds. They must have suitably progressed in 12 months and have completed the qualification within 2 years.

Guidance

Qualifications should be City & Guilds or Level 3 equivalent and appropriate to the species kept.

14.1 Condition

The licensee must ensure that the purchaser is informed of the correct care of the animal covering feeding, housing, handling, husbandry, accessories and veterinary care.

Guidance

Pet care leaflets or other similar written instructions suitable for the species (or group of species) in question should be made available to customers free of charge at the time of purchase, in addition to any offer to purchase pet care books or leaflets. Information can be in the form of Codes of Practice issued by governments. In addition, information may also be made available electronically.

14.2 Condition

Appropriate reference materials on the care of each species must always be available for use by staff.

Guidance

Further advice can be obtained from the organisations listed in the 'Useful Contacts' section at the back of this document.

14.3 Condition

Staff members must be able to provide suitable advice to purchasers and answer questions as required by them.

No animal should be stocked or sold unless the staff or at least one member of staff on call is familiar with the care and welfare of the animals stocked and has a recognised qualification and/or suitable experience/training.

14.4 Condition

The licensee must be able to demonstrate appropriate staff training is carried out and that that staff are competent in pet shop management and animal handling.

Guidance

Further advice, guidance and training can be obtained from the organisations listed in the Useful Contacts section.

15. Fire and other emergency precautions

15.1 Condition

Suitable emergency precautions and written procedures must exist and be made known to all staff, including arrangements for evacuation of animals.

Guidance

Staff should be aware of these procedures and a copy should be displayed for staff to refer to as and when needed. Evacuation should be regularly practised and practices recorded. All staff should undergo regular training and records should be kept of such training.

15.2 Condition

Entrances and exits must be clear of obstructions at all times.

Guidance

To facilitate risk free evacuation if needed, when designing accommodation, consideration should be given to using systems which would allow timely removal of the animals in the case of emergency. This provision would not usually apply to aquaria and ponds.

15.3 Condition

Suitable fire fighting, prevention and detection equipment must be provided, maintained, regularly serviced and sited as advised by the local fire protection/prevention officer and approved by the local authority.

Guidance

This will ensure that, if needed, the equipment will function correctly. Staff should be properly trained on the use of equipment provided.

15.4 Condition

The licensee, or a designated key holder, must at all times be within reasonable travelling distance of the premises and available to attend in case of emergency.

Guidance

A reasonable distance would, in normal conditions, be interpreted as no more than 20 minutes travelling time.

15.5 Condition

A list of key holders must be logged with the local police and local authority.

Guidance

For contact in cases of emergency.

15.6 Condition

In the interests of animal welfare, the following notice must be displayed prominently at the front of the premises: "In case of an emergency dial 999".

Guidance

For information of the public in cases of emergency, when a staff member is not on site.

15.7 Condition

When pet shops are sited within other premises, the licensee or key holders must have access at all times to the premises containing the animals.

Guidance

This is vital for access to the animals at all times to ensure correct care is provided

15.8 Condition:

All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe condition.

Guidance

For health and safety of staff and animals.

15.9 Condition

There must be an effective contingency plan for essential heating, ventilation and aeration/ filtration systems, as appropriate.

Guidance

Some species are very sensitive to temperature fluctuation.

Schedule B – Dogs

1. Condition

Puppies must be weaned before leaving the mother.

Guidance

To ensure puppies can eat the food provided. Puppies must be 8 weeks old or over. Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations prohibits the transport of puppies without their mother before this age.

2. Condition

The minimum kennel size must be:

2.1 For a batch of small breed puppies – max 6 pups – 1.5m² for sleeping, plus 2m² for exercise

2.2 For a batch of medium breed puppies – max 4 pups – 2m² for sleeping, plus 2m² for exercise

2.3 For a batch of large breed puppies – max 2 pups – 2m² for sleeping, plus 2m² for exercise

These are minimum requirements, for larger batches the size of the pens should be adjusted pro-rata accordingly. Ideally the puppies should have free access to the exercise area

at all times. Any covered pens should have a minimum height of 1.8m or removable covers to allow adequate access by staff for cleaning. These are minimum standards and meeting the correct size of pens alone are not a defence if the welfare of the animals are in question.

Guidance

The kennel area should be large enough to allow separate sleeping and activity areas. The kennel should allow each puppy to be able to walk, turn around and wag its tail without touching the sides of the kennel. The puppies should have sufficient room to play, stand on their hind limbs and to lie down without touching another individual. The kennel size required will increase in relation to the size and number of puppies housed at any one time. The length and the width should be sufficient to allow all the puppies to lie outstretched without their noses or tails touching the walls or other individuals. In certain circumstances it is permissible to have separate exercise areas to sleeping areas but in such cases puppies must be given access to the exercise area at

least four times a day. Any separate exercise area should be fully cleaned and disinfected between its use by different batches of puppies.

3. Condition

Suitable and sufficient exercise facilities must be available and accessible where appropriate..

4. Condition

Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

Guidance

Puppies are relatively sensitive to high/ low temperatures. Temperatures should not normally go below 12°C or exceed 26°C

5. Condition

General bedding must include an adequate amount of absorbent material.

Guidance

The use of enough absorbent material allows urine and faeces to be contained and reduce contamination of the puppies.

6. Condition

Any soiled material must be removed at least four times a day or as required to ensure the puppy does not have to lie in a soiled area.

Guidance

Puppies do not discriminate in where they toilet and this maintains a clean environment. A cleaning schedule or SOP should be provided

7. Condition

A specific lying place must be provided lined with soft material,

Guidance

The use of soft material will prevent skin lesions being caused by soiling or pressure sores.

8. Condition

Puppies must be fed at least four times daily, at appropriate intervals.

Guidance

The diet should be appropriate for puppies.

9. Condition

Puppies must have frequent, quality contact time with staff.

Guidance

“Suitable intervals” for puppies to be visited are frequent, as they require to be socialised. It is recommended that this should be a minimum of 4 times per day with 20 minutes of interaction per batch. There should be an SOP.

10. Condition

Batches of puppies must not be mixed until they have been on the premises for seven days or have shown no sign of infectious disease for seven days.

Guidance

Puppies are particularly susceptible to disease as they have immature immune systems. The new owner should be advised to register the puppy with a vet.

11. Condition

Ideally, single puppies must not be left alone in a kennel, but where they are, special attention should be paid to specific human interaction. When they are mixed they should be of similar size, age and temperament and there should be good supervision of mixing.

Guidance

Isolating healthy puppies does not allow them to exhibit natural behaviour patterns.

12. Condition

There must be environmental enrichment in all kennels.

Guidance

To allow puppies to exhibit normal behaviour patterns. Toys should only be given under supervision and should be easily cleaned or replaced between batches.

** Please see ‘Schedule A – General Conditions’ for food, water and isolation conditions

Schedule C – Cats

1. Condition

Kittens must be weaned before leaving the mother.

Guidance

To ensure kittens can eat the food provided. Kittens must be 8 weeks old or over. Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related legislation prohibits the transport of kittens without their mother before this age.

2. Condition

The minimum pen floor area for a batch of up to 4 kittens, up to 12 weeks of age, must be 1 m², with a minimum height of 0.6m (for example, 0.6m x 1 x 1) No dimension must be less than 0.6m. Any shelving or platforms must be in addition to the minimum floor area. Each additional kitten must have 0.25m² additional floor space.

Guidance

Kittens require adequate space to play together and to have space for a litter tray and bed. Varying heights to enable climbing should each also be provided. There should be adequate space for feeding, drinking, sleeping and litter tray to be kept separate.

3. Condition

Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

Guidance

Kittens are relatively sensitive to low temperatures owing to their small body weight. Temperatures should not normally go below 15°C or exceed 26°C.

4. Condition

Disposable or washable bedding must be provided and kept clean.

Guidance

Kittens need a warm sleeping, soft area, away from the litter tray and food.

5. Condition

A litter tray and appropriate litter must be available at all times and cleaned and disinfected at least once daily with an

appropriate disinfectant which is safe for use with cats and cleaned as appropriate. The disinfectant should be anti-viral and used in accordance with manufacturers' instructions, as some disinfectants are toxic to cats.

6. Condition

Kittens must be fed at least four times daily, at appropriate intervals.

Guidance

The diet should be appropriate for kittens.

7. Condition

Batches must not be mixed and if several batches are kept in one area then the pen must have solid sides.

Guidance

Diseases spread very easily between litters, both by direct contact or by sneezing. Kittens are particularly susceptible to disease as they have immature immune systems. The new owner should be advised to register the kitten with a vet.

8. Condition

Kittens must have frequent, quality contact time with staff.

Guidance

It is recommended that this should be a minimum of 4 times per day with 20 minutes of specific interaction per batch. Kittens should be protected from over-handling by staff or the public as they require time to rest.

9. Condition

There must be environmental enrichment in all cages such as toys, climbing frames and platforms.

Guidance

To allow kittens to exhibit normal behaviours, particularly climbing. Toys should be easily cleaned or replaced between batches.

Schedule D – Rabbits

1. Condition

Rabbits must be correctly sexed and housed in same sex groups.

Guidance

Rabbits are easier to sex at 8 weeks than any earlier, which will help prevent mis-sexing and unwanted litters.

2. Condition

The minimum enclosure size must be:

0.4m² for up to 4 standard juvenile rabbits and a height of 0.4m. 0.5m² for up to 2 giant breed juvenile rabbits and a height of 0.5m.

These are minimum requirements, for larger batches, larger breeds or adult rabbits the size of the pens should be adjusted pro-rata accordingly.

Guidance

Dwarf Lops/Dutch rabbits are the most commonly available in pet shops and weigh up to 4kgs. The height should allow the rabbit to rear up to perform natural behaviour. Rabbits should be kept in store in groups. Rabbits need to be able to move freely and to be able to perform vital behaviours such as caecotrophy and rearing.

3. Condition

There must be environmental enrichment in all enclosures. A hiding place must be provided.

Guidance

To allow rabbits to exhibit normal behaviours, indestructible toys; cardboard boxes; chewing substrates should be provided. Toys should be easily cleaned or replaced between batches. Rabbits are prey animals and should have the opportunity to hide if scared or stressed.

4. Condition

Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

Guidance

Ambient temperature should not normally go lower than 12°C or exceed 26°C. Providing cool water, cool packs in their bedding, air movement and air conditioning may each help to avoid the stress caused to rabbits by high environmental temperatures.

5. Condition

Rabbits must be provided with a suitable substrate and bedding material in sufficient amounts.

Guidance

Rabbits need a warm, softly-bedded sleeping area away from the litter and food/water.

6. Condition

Visibly soiled substrate and bedding must be removed daily. The pen should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before introducing a new animal.

Guidance

The disinfectant should be effective against both viral, bacterial and parasitic infection and safe for use on rabbits. Check with a vet or manufacturer if unsure. Diseases such as E-cuniculi can be spread via urine, so thorough cleaning is required between new occupants. Rabbits often choose to toilet in the sleeping area of a hutch and a litter tray could be placed here.

7. Condition

If batches are mixed you must ensure all animals are free from obvious parasitic infection.

Guidance

Diseases spread very easily between litters. Rabbits should be housed with batch mates where possible.

8. Condition

Rabbits must have a constant supply of fresh hay and water, and be offered an appropriate amount of dry food for the breed and age. Feed dishes should be suitable to ensure feed does not get contaminated by urine or faeces.

Guidance

Rabbits teeth are open rooted and therefore constant access to good quality hay is essential, for dental health, gastrointestinal health (without a constant supply of fibrous food, rabbit GI tracts slow down) and behavioural reasons (to relieve boredom). It is vital that hay is available throughout the day and sufficient provided for them at closing time to last them until the next business day. Dry food should be provided for youngsters to assist growth, see manufacturers instructions, but should not be fed ad-lib.

9 Condition

Animals must be provided with an appropriate diet and any new feeds must be introduced slowly.

Guidance

Due to the delicate digestive system, particularly under stress, if diets are to be changed then a slow transition between diets is advisable.

Schedule E – Other small mammals

1. Condition

All small mammals must be correctly sexed and housed in single sex groups unless a solitary species (or sold as a breeding pair),

Guidance

To help avoid unwanted litters, all animals should be sexed immediately on arrival to the premises and housed in single sex groups. Animals from different sources should not be mixed.

2. Condition

Animals must at all times be kept in suitably sized accommodation.

Guidance

Animals should be able to freely move around the accommodation and be able to perform natural behaviours. See attached table for species relevant sizing.

3. Condition

Animals must be provided with a suitable substrate in sufficient amounts.

Guidance

Providing sufficient and appropriate substrate keeps the accommodation clean and dry and allows digging where appropriate. There are a number of substrates available and the type used will depend on the animal kept.

4. Condition

Animals must be provided with a suitable bedding material in sufficient amounts.

Guidance

Bedding provides a place to sleep and rest, the type used will depend on the animal kept. It should be provided in sufficient quantities to enable the animal to feel secure and warm.

5. Condition

Animals must be provided with places to hide. Accessories and enrichment should be provided, suitable to the species.

Guidance

Animals must be given the opportunity to hide as a natural instinct and be given suitable accessories to allow for stimulation and to

reduce stress. Chinchillas and Degus should be given the opportunity to use a sand bath by offering one on a regular basis, e.g. 10 minutes daily. Rodents need to express natural behaviour such as running and chewing/gnawing. Toys such as hides, tunnels, paper bags filled with hay and fruit twigs are ideal for expressing natural foraging behaviour. Animals should be able to move away from direct lighting. Cool hides should be provided to prevent overheating.

6. Condition

Suitable food and drink receptacles must be provided and positioned to avoid faecal contamination.

Guidance

Water for small animals is usually provided in clean gravity fill drinking bottles, (which should be of a suitable size for the species) or automatic or semi – automatic drinking systems. Fresh water should be available at all times, or as appropriate to the species; some desert-dwelling species such as jerboas [family Dipodidae] should not be given water ad lib. Bottles should be kept clean and free from algae.

7. Condition

All rodents must be fed a suitable diet, ad lib and have free access to hay where required.

Guidance

The diet should be appropriate for the breed, life stage and species. Food should be refreshed regularly. Guinea pigs should have sufficient vitamin C in their diet. Guinea pigs are unable to synthesise Vitamin C.

8. Condition

All rodents must be fully weaned on admission.

Minimum accommodation requirements – small rodents

Area in square metres

No. of Animals	1-4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Minimum Cage Height (m)	Minimum Cage Depth (m)
Mice, Hamsters, Gerbils	0.068	0.079	0.09	0.100	0.113	0.124	0.135	0.30	0.25
Rats	0.135	0.157	0.18	0.202	0.225	0.247	0.27	0.30	0.28
Guinea Pigs, Degus	0.225	0.263	0.3	0.338	0.375	0.413	0.45	0.30	0.30
Chinchillas	0.25	0.375	0.5	0.625	0.75	0.875	1.0	0.45	0.45
Chipmunk	0.25	0.375	0.5	0.625	0.75	0.875	1.0	0.90	0.45

Schedule F – Ferrets

1. Condition

Ferrets must be at least eight weeks old

Guidance

Ferret kits can find separation from their mother very stressful and the stress response in a ferret often results in diarrhoea which can prove fatal.

2. Condition

Ferrets must be housed with batch companions

Guidance

Ferrets are naturally social animals that depend on the companionship of their own kind. Lone ferrets often suffer depression including poor appetite and lack of enthusiasm to move or play.

3. Condition

Ferrets must be housed in groups or pairs of either sex. Adult hobs (males) require individual accommodation.

Guidance

Ferret kits can be easily be sexed at 8 weeks of age. Adult, un-neutered hobs (males) may exhibit dominant behaviour and fight, so requiring individual accommodation. House the Jill (female) kits at a reasonable distance to prevent aggression between the hobs as they mature at around 20 weeks. Adult jills (females) should be prevented from having repeated seasons. Jills (females) left in season are prone to estrogen induced anaemia, a factor in shortening their normal lifespan. Veterinary advice should be sought.

4. Condition

Batches of ferrets must not be mixed.

Guidance

Not mixing will reduce the risk of disease spreading. Mixing can be stressful for ferrets.

5. Condition

The minimum pen floor area for a litter of up to 4 ferrets, up to 12 weeks of age, must be 1 m², with a minimum height of 0.6m. No dimension must be less than 0.6m. Any shelving or platforms must be in addition to the minimum floor area. Each additional ferret must have 0.25m² additional floor space.

Guidance

Enclosures should be placed on a hard surface and anchored to the ground. Ferrets require space for their toilet area removed from their sleeping or eating areas. Ferrets require space to exhibit their normal active behaviour – running backwards, forwards and sideways and to climb, explore and play. Ferrets are naturally clean and will usually select one corner as their toilet

6. Condition

Sleeping quarters must be draught free and dark.

Guidance

Ideally sleeping quarters should be raised. Ferrets seek dark areas for sleeping and sleep for long hours, up to twenty a day in the winter. Their natural instinct is to hide whilst sleeping.

7. Condition

Ferrets must have suitable bedding.

Guidance

Suggested bedding includes fabric items that can be laundered, straw and dust extracted wood shavings.

8. Condition

Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

Guidance

Temperatures should not normally go below 12°C or exceed 26°C. Ferrets tolerate cold better than heat. Provide plenty of warm bedding for when it is cold. Be aware heat prostration is likely at 32°C.

9. Condition

Ferret kibble must be provided at appropriate intervals.

Guidance

Feed a recognised and branded ferret kibble / biscuit. Small, frequent meals or ad lib feeding are recommended as ferrets have a rapid rate of digestion

10. Condition

Water must be supplied in both a heavy based bowl and a water bottle attached to the side of the enclosure.

Guidance

Ferrets are renowned for tipping bowls

Schedule G – Birds

1. Condition

There must be adequate perching space for all birds at the same time. Outdoor aviaries must include sufficient sheltered and non-sheltered space. Cage size must be adequate to allow birds to open their wings fully in all directions. Cages must include appropriate environmental enrichment.

Guidance

Stocking densities will depend on the type of bird as well as cage dimensions and number of perches. Access to rain can be beneficial for plumage. Some species will need adequate space to fly. Chickens require an appropriate area and substrate to perch.

2. Condition

Perches must be positioned so that birds do not defecate on each other and must be of appropriate size and shape for each species.

3. Condition

Ambient temperature must be appropriate for the species. Extremes of temperatures must be avoided.

Guidance

Birds are more sensitive to high temperatures.

4. Condition

There must be adequate drinkers/feeders commensurate with the number of birds and these must be cleaned regularly. Bowls etc. must be positioned so that birds do not defecate in food/water.

Guidance

Birds should not have to compete for drinkers/feeders and risk exclusion. Passerines should have food available at all times. Enrichment and feeding devices need to be provided for larger psittacids. For parrots, it is preferable to use swinging systems such that the keeper does not need to enter the cage in order to change food/ water. Bowls should not be able to be removed from holders by the parrot.

5. Condition

Cages must be constructed from materials suitable to the type and size of birds. Materials must be safe to birds and in good repair.

Guidance

Enclosures should be placed on a hard surface. Some species require more robust materials. Materials such as loose zinc coating can be toxic to birds.

6. Condition

Windproof nest boxes must be provided in all outside housing and inside where appropriate.

Guidance

Many birds find sleeping or sheltering in nest boxes an essential form of security or for sheltering from inclement weather but it is recognised that some species, such as canaries, will rarely if ever voluntarily enter nest boxes.

7. Condition

Flooring must be drop-through or easily washed/hosed.

Guidance

If ground living birds are kept with perching birds then attention should be paid to flooring such that bumblefoot issues are addressed - i.e. no concrete/rough stone. Where natural turf flooring is used, parasite status of the birds should be checked on a regular basis every few weeks.

Stocking Densities for Birds in Cages

Type	Length of Bird (cm)	Floor Area (m ²) housing up to 4 birds	Linear cms per additional bird on either cage length or depth* ³
Budgerigar		0.15	5
Canary		0.15	5
Cockatiel		0.48	7.5
Finches	Less than 12.5	0.113	5
	12.5 – 17.5	0.15	5
	more than 17.5	0.225	7.5
Parakeets and Lovebirds* ¹	less than 25	0.42	7.5
	25-30* ¹	0.48	7.5
	more than 30* ¹	0.675	7.5
Parrots	less than 30	0.225	10
	30 – 35* ²	0.4050	15
	more than 35* ²	0.4725	20
Chickens		1.6	
Bantams		1.6	
Quail		16	

*1. It is recommended that, wherever possible, these species are displayed for sale in aviaries or flights rather than cages per se.

*2. It is recommended that, wherever possible, these species are displayed for sale in aviaries or flights if more than two birds are housed together.

*3. The extra-linear centimetre per additional bird, is intended to refer to an increase in either width or length or a combination of the two ie, a 20cm increase could refer to 20cm width, 20cm length or say 10cm width combined with 10cm length.

Stocking Densities for Birds in Aviaries and Flights

Type	Length of Bird (cm)	Number of Birds per 'Standard' Aviary (1.8 x 0.9 x 1.8 m)
Budgerigar		18
Canary		18
Cockatiel		8
Finches	Less than 12.5	24
	12.5 – 17.5	18
	more than 17.5	12
Parakeets and Lovebirds *1	less than 25	10
	25-35	6
	more than 35	4
Parrots	less than 30	10
	30 – 35	6
	more than 35	4
Chickens		4 (min height 0.9m)
Bantams		6 (min height 0.9m)
Quail		8 (min height 0.9m)

Schedule H – Reptiles and Amphibians

1. Condition

Stocking and density must be appropriate to the species.

Guidance

Most reptiles and amphibians are not social and may, therefore, be kept individually. Communal enclosures should not be stocked as to appear overcrowded, common sense should be observed.

Mixing of species, although possible, should be undertaken with caution. Some species may require or seek seclusion or privacy either sporadically or permanently and provision for this should be made.

Snakes: may be housed individually or in small groups, of the same species. Snakes known to be cannibalistic, e.g. king snakes (*Lampropeltis* sp), should be housed individually.

Lizards: only species of similar size and from similar habitat and geographical areas should be kept communally. Lizards known to be cannibalistic, e.g. *Gambelia* sp, should be housed individually. Generally adult male lizards in breeding condition should not be housed together and groups of lizards housed communally should be regularly observed for signs of aggression.

Tortoises and Terrapins: only terrapins of similar size and habit and from the similar geographical area should be kept communally. Tortoises of different species should be housed individually. Also, adult males in breeding condition should be housed individually.

Frogs and Toads: only species of similar size, and from similar habitats and geographical areas, should be kept communally. Mixing of taxa (e.g. frog & toad) is not generally recommended. Cannibalistic species, such as horned frogs (*Ceratophrys* sp.) and African bull frogs (*Pyxicephalus* sp.) should be housed individually.

Newts and Salamanders: only species of similar size and from similar geographical areas should be kept together.

Generally mixed taxa [e.g. lizards and tortoises] are not recommended, although paludaria

which combine fish with small reptiles and/or amphibians of appropriate species are acceptable.

2. Condition

The enclosure size must be appropriate to the species and adjusted according to its size.

Guidance

Snakes: the length of the enclosure should be no less than two-thirds the overall length of the snake,.

Lizards: the length of the enclosure should be three times the full length of the lizard, or larger.

Tortoises and Terrapins: the length of the enclosure should be a minimum of 90cms, or four times the length of the animal, or larger. For aquatic species [turtles, terrapins] the enclosure should allow the animal to swim adequately, i.e. have water depth at least 4 times that of the animal, although some terrapins (e.g. *Cuora* sp., *Terrapene* sp. and *Glyptemys* sp.) do not require such deep water. Terrapins must also have an adequate land basking area.

Frogs and Toads: the length of the enclosure should be minimum 30cm x 30 cm x 30cm, or at least three times the length of the animal, or larger. For sedentary species, such as horned frogs (*Ceratophrys* sp.) and African bull frogs (*Pyxicephalus* sp.) the enclosure can be smaller. Fully aquatic species should be able to swim adequately, i.e. water depth should be at least 4 times the depth of the animal.

Newts and Salamanders: the length of the enclosure should be minimum 30cm x 30 cm x 30cm, or at least three times the full length of the amphibian, or larger. Aquatic species should be able to swim adequately, i.e. water depth should be at least 4 times the depth of the animal.

Height and Width: of the enclosure should be appropriate to the species, with arboreal species requiring more height than terrestrial species.

3. Condition

Temperature, humidity, lighting and ventilation must be appropriate to the species.

Guidance

Ambient and basking temperatures should be appropriate to the species concerned, with the following guidance for commonly kept species.

These are guidelines only and individual species should be researched as requirements for some species will fall outside of these recommendations. Vendors and staff must have access to relevant reference material (books, internet etc.). Basking spots may be provided by convection or radiant heat sources

(e.g. light bulb, or heat mat), as appropriate to the species. Ventilation should be appropriate to the species and should allow sufficient change of air without jeopardising the temperature or humidity in the enclosure.

4. Condition

Lighting must be appropriate to the species.

Guidance

An appropriate light period should be observed. Species requiring UVB lighting, e.g. diurnal lizards and tortoises, should have appropriate UVB emitting lamps. These should be replaced according to manufacturer's recommendations. Mercury Vapour or Metal Halide UVB emitting lamps may also be used to provide a daytime heat source. UV light sources must not be screened by non UV transmitting glass or plastic. Animals should have areas of shade so that they can escape from the light if desired.

5. Condition

Substrate appropriate to the species must be present.

Guidance

Substrate should be appropriate to the species concerned and may include, but not be limited to: newspaper, paper towel, bark chip, wood chip, terrarium humus, moss, gravel, calcium carbonate, terrarium sand etc. Measures should be taken to ensure that substrate is not ingested.

6. Condition

Enrichment must be provided appropriate to the species.

Guidance

Décor should be appropriate to the species and should not be harmful, e.g. sharp rocks, toxic or injurious plants. Décor should be secure and not able to fall and cause injury. Enclosure should be furnished in such a fashion as to allow inhabitants to exhibit natural behaviour, e.g. climb or hide where appropriate.

7. Condition

Food and water must be provided in the appropriate manner for the species.

Guidance

Feeding habits vary between species and between individuals. Staff should have knowledge of the requirements for all the species held. Food should be presented in a form or pattern that is acceptable to the species concerned. Food supplements [vitamin and minerals] should be provided as appropriate to the species concerned. Live food intended for use should be housed in suitable escape proof containers, and fed appropriately. Fresh foods [salads] should be kept refrigerated where appropriate. Frozen foods intended for use must be stored in an appropriate deep freeze and defrosted thoroughly before use. Feeding records for hatchling snakes should be kept and made available to purchasers. Fresh water should be available at all times, with the exception of certain desert species, such as *Uromastyx* sp. which should be offered water periodically. Certain species, such as chameleons, do not drink from standing water and should be offered water appropriately, e.g. by a dripper system or sprayer.

8. Condition

Hygiene: enclosures must be cleaned appropriately.

Guidance

Spoiled food stuffs should be removed at appropriate time periods, at least daily. Substrates should be replaced as appropriate, and spot cleaned daily. Décor should be sanitised as appropriate. Enclosures should be disinfected with appropriate disinfectant as necessary and always between different batches of animals. Disinfectant should be

appropriate for the contaminants likely to be encountered. Disinfectant hand gels should be available for staff to use between animals, to prevent the external environment being contaminated. Water bowls should be cleaned as appropriate and disinfected at least weekly. Slough [shed skins] should be removed daily.

9. Condition

Handling must be kept to a minimum at all times.

Guidance

Handling must be kept to a minimum at all times. Staff should receive training on how to handle animals and animals which may be aggressive should only be handled by competent staff. Staff and customers should wash hands after handling specimens, and any equipment used should also be disinfected.. Customers handling animals prior to purchase should be supervised and offered facilities to wash their hands afterwards.

Schedule I – Fish

1. Condition

Water quality is a key determinant of fish welfare. To assess it, levels of ammonia and nitrite must be checked first. Only if such measurements exceed the recommended standards below, or there is an unexplained problem, is there any need to proceed further. Minimum water standards must be:

Cold Water Species

Free Ammonia	max 0.02mg/l
Nitrite	max 0.2mg/l
Dissolved Oxygen	min 6mg/l
Nitrate	max 50mg/l above ambient tap water

Tropical Freshwater Species

Free Ammonia	max 0.02mg/l
Nitrite	max 0.2mg/l
Dissolved Oxygen	min 6mg/l
Nitrate	max 50mg/l above ambient tap water

Tropical Marine Species

Free Ammonia	max 0.01mg/l
Nitrite	max 0.125mg/l
Nitrate	max 100mg/l
pH	min 8.1
Dissolved Oxygen	min 4.0 mg/l

Guidance

It is virtually impossible to determine the quantity of aquatic organisms to be kept in a system purely on a weight or number of aquatic organisms per unit, volume, or water surface area. The variation in holding system used, the quality of husbandry and the types of aquatic organisms stocked vary so greatly that it would render any such system too complicated to be practical or too simple to be useful. The maintenance of water quality standards can be used to determine working stocking densities. The water quality standards should not be met at the expense of a correct feeding regime. Exceptions to these standards might occur e.g. when aquatic organisms are diseased, after transport or other stress. However in these cases appropriate remedial actions e.g. treatment,

acclimatisation or isolation should be undertaken. Sea water holds less oxygen than fresh water. The recommended level is 5.5 mg/l so extra care is needed to ensure that levels do not routinely fall below this.

2. Condition

Water quality must be checked regularly and records kept of all tests. Centralised systems must be tested weekly. 10% of individually filtered tanks or vat must be tested weekly. On aquaria or vats in which visual inspection indicates unusual behaviour or deaths, water quality inspections should be undertaken.

Guidance

One test is representative of all the water in the system of centralised systems. Standalone systems must each be tested. Poor water quality is often the underlying cause of problems presenting as disease or mortalities.

3. Condition

Holding systems must be cleaned and checked regularly.

Guidance

Aquaria must be checked daily and cleaned as often as is necessary to maintain good hygiene standards, consistent with the rate of stock turnover and consequent stocking densities.

4. Condition

No aquatic organisms should be exposed to excessive light or heat, or lack of adequate warmth.

Guidance

No fish or other aquatic organism should be subject to rapid fluctuation in light (lights should be on dimmers if automated), temperature and chemical composition of their water, other than for the controlled treatment of disease or as part of a controlled breeding programme. There are in excess of 4000 fish species in trade and thus the acceptable conditions may vary substantially and often counter intuitively. In case of doubt expert advice should always be sought.

Information

Register of Wild Animals and Endangered Species

Some species are listed on the Annexes of EU Wildlife Trade Regulations which implement CITES [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species]. Species listed on Annex A of EU Wildlife Trade Regulations [Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97] must have a valid Article 10 Certificate and may require microchipping or closed ring. Species listed on Annex B do not require Certificates but the vendor should be able to provide proof the animal was acquired legally.

Further information is available from Animal Health, Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service:
1-15 Temple Quay House, 2 The Square,
Bristol, BS1 6EB

Wild-caught specimens listed on Annex IV of the EU Habitats Directive [Council Directive 92/43 EEC] collected within the EU require the appropriate Certification. Captive-bred specimens are exempted from such requirements.

Breeding and Sale of Dogs Act

Puppies/dogs should be identifiable whilst at the shop. Under this legislation, the record should show:

- The identification of the animal
- The date of birth, breed, sex and any distinguishing features
- Details of any veterinary care provided while under care of the shop In addition, it is also good practice to record:
 - Details of any feedback provided to the breeder on health issues such as disease or inherited defects
 - Details of any health screening tests performed on the parents

Microchip is the preferred method of identification.

Useful Contacts

All pet shop licences are issued by your local authority who should be your first point of contact

General

British Veterinary Zoological Society

Email: secretary@bvzs.org

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

Chadwick Court, 15 Hatfields, London SE1 8DJ
Telephone: 020 7928 6006
www.cieh.org

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Animal Welfare Unit, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR Telephone: 08459 33 55 77
Email: helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
<https://www.gov.uk/government/topics/wildlife-and-animal-welfare>

Local Government Association,

c/o LGconnect, Local Government Group,
Local Government House, Smith Square,
London SW1P 3HZ
Telephone: 020 7664 3000
Email: info@local.gov.uk
www.lga.gov.uk

Veterinary Contacts

British Small Animal Veterinary Association

Woodrow House, 1 Telford Way,
Waterwells Business Park, Quedgeley,
Gloucester GL2 2AB
Telephone: 01452 726700
www.bsava.com

British Veterinary Association

7 Mansfield Street,
London W1G 9NQ
Telephone: 020 7636 6541
Email: bvahq@bva.co.uk
www.bva.co.uk

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

Belgravia House, 62-64 Horseferry Road,
London SW1P 2AF
www.rcvs.org.uk

All Species

The Blue Cross

Shilton Road, Burford, Oxon OX18 4PF
Tel: 01993 822651
Email: info@bluecross.org.uk
www.bluecross.org.uk

Pet Industry Federation

Bedford Business Centre,
170 Mile Road, Bedford MK42 9TW
Telephone: 01234 273 933
www.petcare.org.uk

People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA)

Head Office, Whitechapel Way,
Priorslee, Telford, Shropshire TF2 9PQ
Telephone: 01952 290999
www.pdsa.org.uk

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

RSPCA Enquiries Service, Wilberforce Way,
Southwater, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 9RS
Telephone: 0300 1234 555
www.rspca.org.uk

Wood Green Animal Shelters

Kings Bush Farm, London Road,
Godmanchester, Cambs PE29 2NH
Telephone: 0844 248 8181
Email: info@woodgreen.org.uk
www.woodgreen.org.uk

Cats

International Cat Care

Taeselbury, High Street, Tisbury,
Wiltshire SP3 6LD
Telephone: 01747 871872
Email: info@icatcare.org
www.icatcare.org

Governing Council of the Cat Fancy

5 King's Castle Business Park,
The Drove, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 4AG
Telephone: 01278 427575
Email: info@gccfcats.org
www.gccfcats.org

Dogs

Dogs Trust

17 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7RQ Telephone: 0207 833 7685
Email: info@dogstrust.org.uk www.dogstrust.org.uk

The Kennel Club

1-5 Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London W1J 8AB Telephone: 08444 633 980
Email: info@thekennelclub.org.uk www.thekennelclub.org.uk

Fish

Ornamental Aquatic Trade Association

1st Floor Office Suite, Wessex House, 40 Station Road, Westbury,
Wiltshire BA13 3JN Tel: 01373 301353
www.ornamentalfish.org

Permanent identification databases Microchipping Advisory Group [www.bsava.com/Advice/MicrochipAdvice/
tabid/154/Default.aspx](http://www.bsava.com/Advice/MicrochipAdvice/tabid/154/Default.aspx)

National Dog Tattoo Register Telephone: 01255 552455 www.dog-register.co.uk

Animalcare

Telephone: 01904 487 687 Email: office@animalcare.co.uk www.animalcare.co.uk

AVID Plc

PO Box 190, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 9GD Telephone: 0800 652 7 977
Email: pettrac@avidplc.com www.avidplc.com

Petlog

The Kennel Club, 4A Alton House,
Gatehouse Way, Aylesbury, Bucks HP19 8XU Telephone: 0844 463 3999
Email: petlogadmin@thekennelclub.org.uk www.petlog.org.uk

Pet Protect

Furness House, 53 Brighton Road, Redhill, Surrey RH1 6RD Telephone: 0800 587 0660 www.petprotect.co.uk

Rabbits and small mammals,

British Rabbit Council Purefoy House, 7 Kirkgate, Newark, Notts NG24 1AD
Telephone: 01636 676042 www.thebrc.org

Rabbit Welfare Association and Fund

PO Box 603, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 5WL Telephone: 0844 324 6090
Email: hq@rabbitwelfare.co.uk www.rabbitwelfare.co.uk

Reptiles

REPTA (Reptile & Exotic Pet Trade Association)

Telephone: 02380 440999
Email: info@repta.org www.repta.org

Qualifications and Training

Contact your trade association, local technical or agricultural college for information on current training and qualifications

Animal Medicines Training Regulatory Authority

Unit 1c, Woolpit Business Park, Windmill Avenue, Woolpit, Bury St. Edmunds IP30 9UP
Telephone: 01359 245801 Email: info@amtra.org.uk www.amtra.org.uk

City & Guilds

1 Giltspur Street, London EC1A 9DD Telephone: 0844 543 0000 www.cityandguilds.com

LANTRA

Lantra House, Stoneleigh Park, Coventry, Warwickshire CV8 2LG Telephone: 0845 707 8007 Email: connect@lantra.co.uk www.lantra.co.uk



STANDARD CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO LICENSES FOR DANGEROUS WILD ANIMALS

General

- a) These Standard Conditions will apply to all licenses unless disapplied or varied by the Council.
- b) The granting of a licence for a Dangerous Wild Animal shall not be deemed to convey any approval or consent which may be required under any enactment by law, order or regulation other than the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (as amended).

Standard Conditions

1. While any animals are being kept under the authority of this licence:
 - i. the animal shall be kept by no person other than the person specified in the licence;
 - ii. the animal shall normally be held at such premises as specified in the licence;
 - iii. the animal shall not be moved from those premises except for veterinary treatment or with the written consent of the Council;
 - iv. the licence holder shall hold a current insurance policy which insures him/her, and any other person entitled to keep the animal under the authority of this licence, against liability for any damage which may be caused by the animal, the terms of such policy being satisfactory in the opinion of the Council;
 - v. the public liability insurance required in (iv) above shall provide cover to a minimum of ten million pounds. This figure may be reduced according to the number and species of animals; however, a minimum cover of ten million pounds is required unless stated otherwise on the licence.
2. The species and number of animals of each species which may be kept under the authority of this licence shall be restricted to those specified in the Schedule of Animals attached to the licence.
3. The licence holder shall, at all reasonable times, make available the licence to any person entitled to keep any animal under the authority of the licence.
4. Any change in species, or increase in numbers of a species, will only be permitted if written consent of the Council is first obtained and the Schedule of Animals attached to the licence is amended by the Council.
5. Special conditions – given the unique nature of these establishments, the Council may impose specific special conditions relating to the individual premises based on the species and number of each species kept. These conditions would be imposed in consultation with a specialist veterinary surgeon, or other recognised expert, and attached to the licence as a Schedule of Special Conditions.

Before granting a licence the local authority must be satisfied that:

- It is not contrary to the public interest on grounds of safety, nuisance or other grounds.
- The applicant is a suitable person to hold a licence to keep the animal(s) listed on the application.
- The animal(s) will be kept in accommodation that prevents its escape and is suitable in respect of size, temperature, drainage and cleanliness.
- The animal(s) will be supplied with adequate and suitable food, drink and bedding material and be visited at suitable intervals.
- Appropriate steps will be taken to ensure the protection of the animal(s) in case of fire or other

emergency.

- All reasonable precautions are taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease.
- The animal(s) accommodation is such that it can take adequate exercise.

Where the Council issues a licence, that licence is subject to such conditions as the Council sees fit and in each case these conditions will specify that:

- only the person named on the licence shall keep the animal;
- the animal shall only be kept on the premises named on the licence;
- the animal shall not be moved or may only be moved in accordance with conditions specified in the licence;
- the licensee must hold a current insurance policy, approved by the Council, which insures against liability for damage caused by the animal;
- only the species and number of animals listed on the licence may be kept;
- the licensee shall make a copy of the licence and its contents available to any other person listed on the licence as being able to look after the animal.

The council may at any time revoke or amend any licence condition.



CIEH Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Dog Breeding Establishments



Breeding of Dogs Acts 1973 and 1991

Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999

Model Conditions for inspection of breeding establishments

Guidance for local authorities and their authorised officers and veterinary inspectors

Acknowledgements

The following organisations comprise the working party:

- Advisory Council on the Welfare Issues of Dog Breeding
- British Small Animal Veterinary Association
- British Veterinary Association
- City of London Corporation
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- Dogs Trust
- Epping Forest District Council
- The Kennel Club
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

This document has been prepared in the best interests of animal welfare and to advise those tasked with the inspecting, advising and licensing of dog breeding establishments. No responsibility or liability for loss or consequential loss occasioned to any person as a result of making use of this publication (including the recommended best practice contained within), is accepted by the contribution bodies, the members of the working party or the authors of this publication. It should also be borne in mind that laws change and expert advice should always be sought

as to the legal position.

Background

In 1978 the BVA published guidelines for local authorities and their veterinary inspectors under the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973. In 1996 a working party comprising representatives of all the parties involved in the inspection and licensing of breeding establishments was set up to update and substantially increase the guidance in light of developments since the 1973 Act. In 1998 the BVA published guidance based upon the 1973 and 1991 Breeding of Dogs Acts. That guide was revised to take into account the requirements of the Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999 and superseded previous BVA guidelines. In 2012 as a result of a specific request by Defra the current working party came together to update guidance for Inspectors to include the provisions that must be taken into account under the Animal Welfare Act 2006. In addition, guidance with regards to puppy rearing, socialisation and habituation have been produced through the Animal Welfare Foundation / RSPCA Puppy Contract and the Dogs Trust and Kennel Club Puppy Plan.

Guidelines for Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been produced, all of which should help the inspection process.

This document applies to England only.

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Breeding of Dogs Acts 1973, 1991 & Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999 & Animal Welfare Act 2006

Guidance for local authorities and their authorised officers and veterinary inspectors

1. INTRODUCTION

The 1973 Breeding of Dogs Act ('the 1973 Act') requires proprietors of breeding establishments to be licensed (see point 3 for the definition of a breeding establishment). Under the authority of the 1973 Act, local authorities may issue licences to proprietors of breeding establishments stipulating conditions which must be complied with by the licensee. No person is entitled to a licence if at the time he/she is disqualified from keeping a dog breeding establishment, pet shop or boarding kennels or if he/she has been disqualified from keeping dogs or other animals as a result of specified convictions for cruelty. However, a person aggrieved by refusal of a local authority to grant a licence or by any condition to which the licence is subject may appeal to a Magistrates' Court.

The 1991 Breeding of Dogs Act ('the 1991 Act') extends the powers of inspection to unlicensed premises, excluding a private dwelling, and is discussed further at point 5 below.

In addition, the Animal Welfare Act (2006) states that anyone responsible for an animal should take reasonable steps to ensure that the animal's needs are met.

These needs include:

- a suitable environment/place to live
- a suitable diet including fresh water
- the ability to exhibit normal behaviour
- housed, as appropriate, either with or apart from other animals
- protection from and treatment of pain, suffering, injury or disease

See also the Defra Codes of Practice:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69390/pb13333-cop-dogs-091204.pdf

The ability of the breeder to meet the above needs should be taken into consideration when inspecting a breeding establishment.

It should be remembered that the aim of the licensing system is to ensure that minimum standards of animal health and welfare are maintained in breeding establishments. Licence conditions will inevitably vary; however, local authorities should bear in mind the principal aims as set out in Section 1(4) of the 1973 Act as well as the Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999 ('the 1999 Act') which amends and extends the existing breeding of dogs' legislation.

Whilst the legislation allows local authorities to specify any conditions in the licence that they consider necessary or expedient in a particular case, there is no power to impose other, unrelated, conditions in the licence. The local authority can, though, withhold a licence on grounds other than failing to satisfy Section 1(4). This discretion is referred to in that section. In addition, where a breeding establishment previously operated illegally and where the local authority believes it is necessary, prosecution proceedings may still be brought notwithstanding a licence being subsequently granted.

Throughout the text and as a licence condition, the following applies:

- Unless otherwise stated, these conditions shall apply to all buildings and areas to which dogs have access and/or used in association with the breeding of dogs.
- Use of the term 'kennel' refers to combined sleeping and individual outdoor run areas unless otherwise specified.

2. HEALTH AND WELFARE

As highlighted above, the Animal Welfare Act 2006 makes owners and keepers responsible for ensuring that the welfare needs of their animals are met.

Anyone who is cruel to an animal, or does not provide for its welfare needs, may be banned from owning animals, fined up to £20,000 and/or sent to prison for up to 6 months.

Where there is concern for the health and welfare of the dogs, veterinary advice must be sought. For breeding establishments licensed under the 1999 Act, there are a number of safeguards to protect the health and welfare of the bitch. For example, the number of litters a bitch is allowed to have in her lifetime is restricted to six. In addition, no more than one litter may be born in any twelve month period and bitches may not be mated if they are under one year old (see also Section 6 - Health and Welfare of the Breeding Stock and Litters).

3. DEFINITION OF A BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT

The 1999 Act amends the definition of a breeding establishment in the 1973 Act. A breeding establishment is defined as any premises where the business of breeding dogs for sale is carried out. The reference to five litters per establishment per year within the legislation should not be considered a minimum threshold for requiring a licence. To be clear, an establishment breeding less than five litters would require a licence, where the dogs are bred for sale as a business. Defra advise that it will be a matter for local authorities and their legal advisers to decide whether or not a particular establishment is required to be licensed.

In summary, a person is presumed to be carrying out the business of breeding dogs for sale where, they breed and sell more than two litters in a 12 month period, or during any 12 month period, five or more litters are born to his/her bitches which are:

- (a) kept by him at any premises during any period of 12 months;
- (b) kept by any relative of his at those premises;
- (c) kept by him elsewhere; and
- (d) kept by any person under a breeding arrangement with him. This presumptive test will not apply if a breeder is able to prove that none of the

puppies born to bitches at their premises or under a breeding arrangement was in fact sold during the 12 month period. More detailed guidance may be found in the relevant circulars (See Annex A – Useful Information).

4. INSPECTION OF BREEDING ESTABLISHMENTS

Upon application for a licence which has not previously been granted, the premises must be inspected by a veterinary surgeon appointed by the local authority and a local authority officer. For subsequent applications the local authority has discretion as to whether the inspection is carried out by a veterinary surgeon, or a person with the appropriate level of competence and a local authority officer, or both. A report, following inspection, shall be considered by the local authority before determining whether or not to grant a licence.

It is recommended that inspections are carried out well before the licence date for renewal to allow for any repairs and/or maintenance to be completed before the licence expires (see also Section 1 - Accommodation).

Once a licence has been granted, regular inspections should be carried out during the licence period (12 months) to protect the health and welfare of the dogs, most particularly when there is concern over a specific breeding establishment. Routine inspections would normally take place once or twice a year, but inspections may also be unannounced.

5. POWERS OF INSPECTION UNDER THE 1991 ACT

The 1991 Act empowers a Justice of the Peace to issue a warrant to any authorised person (e.g. local authority inspector) to enter, by reasonable force if necessary, and inspect unlicensed premises (excluding private dwellings) where the Magistrate is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that a dog breeding business is being unlawfully carried out without a licence.

It should be noted that although inspection of unlicensed private dwellings is specifically excluded under the 1991 Act, Section 1(3) allows a warrant to be obtained in relation to a garage, outhouse or other structure which belongs to the premises and therefore may be inspected under this section.

Inspection of domestic premises is allowed where licensed.

6. FEES

The cost of inspecting premises shall be met by the local authority which has the power to charge fees in respect of applications for licences and in respect of inspections of premises. A local authority may set the level of fees with a view to recovering reasonable costs and may set different fees for different circumstances.

7. COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION OF THE LICENCE

A local authority has three months from the application to determine whether to grant a licence. The duration of the licence is for one year, effective from either the day stated in the application or the day the licence is granted, whichever is the later.

With previously unlicensed breeding establishments, there is an expectation that all appropriate conditions will be met before a licence is granted. However, the situation is more complicated where an application is made for a licence where improvements are necessary.

Whenever improvements/repairs are required, it is recommended that the applicant for a licence be notified in writing of:

- (i) a schedule of works (preferably agreed with the breeding establishment);
- (ii) the date by which such works must be completed; and
- (iii) the consequences of non-compliance (that is, refusal to grant a licence).

The local authority should apply discretion when taking enforcement measures during the period for compliance stated in the notice.

There may be occasions where the required remedial work is extensive. In these circumstances the local authority should agree a schedule of works to be completed over a reasonable period of time and ensure that the work is being carried out as agreed in the Schedule (see para (i) above).

Persons who shall not apply for a licence

- If they are disqualified under -
 - (a) Protection of Animals Act (1911)
 - (b) Breeding and Sale of Dogs Act (1973) as amended by Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1991 and 1999
 - (c) Animal Welfare Act (2006)
- If they have been disqualified from keeping animals under any other -
 - (a) animal welfare legislation; or
 - (b) dog control legislation;
- A person under the age of 16 years of age shall not apply for a licence (Animal Welfare Act 2006)
- A person banned under the Animal Welfare Act (2006) may not have care and control of any animal and this should be taken into consideration when cohabiting with a person applying for any licence.

8. OFFENCES AND DISQUALIFICATION

The court has powers to order imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months and/or a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale upon conviction for keeping a dog breeding establishment without a licence.

There are additional powers for the court to order cancellation of a licence, disqualification from keeping an establishment which is required to be licensed and disqualification from having custody of any dog specified. Where the offender is not the owner, there is provision to allow the owner to make representations.

Where a disqualification order has been made in respect of custody of a dog, the court may also make an order for any dog described to be delivered to a specified person and for the offender to pay for its care until permanent arrangements are made. Local authorities should have contingency plans in case dogs need to be housed. A list of welfare and breed rescue organisations may be helpful.

Upon conviction for intentionally obstructing or delaying any person in the exercise of their powers of entry or inspection as provided for by the Breeding of Dogs Act 1991, the maximum penalty is a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale.

9. REQUIREMENTS OF THE 1973 ACT (as amended)

Section 1(4) of the Act states:

'In determining whether to grant a licence for the keeping of a breeding establishment for dogs by any person at any premises, a local authority shall in particular (but without prejudice to their discretion to withhold a licence on other grounds) have regard to the need for securing:

(a) that the dogs will at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects construction, size of quarters, numbers of occupants, exercising facilities, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness;

(b) that the dogs will be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and bedding material, adequately exercised, and visited at suitable intervals;

(c) that all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent and control the spread among dogs of infectious or contagious diseases;

(d) that appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the dogs in case of fire or other emergency;

(e) that all appropriate steps will be taken to secure that the dogs will be provided with suitable food, drink and bedding material and adequately exercised when being transported to or from the breeding establishment;

(f) that bitches are not mated if they are less than one year old;

(g) that bitches do not give birth to more than six litters of puppies each in their lifetime; (see also Appendix A - Useful Information on Kennel Club registration of litters)

(h) that bitches do not give birth to puppies before the end of the period of twelve months beginning with the day on which they last gave birth to puppies; and

(i) that accurate records (in a form prescribed by regulations) are kept at the premises and made available for inspection there by any officer of the local authority, or any veterinary surgeon authorised by the local authority to inspect the premises; and shall specify such conditions in the licence, if granted by them, as appear to the local authority necessary or expedient in the particular case for securing all the

objects specified in the paragraphs (a) to (i) of this subsection.'

10. RECORD-KEEPING

Having regard to '...securing all the objects specified in section 1 (4) (a) to (i) ...' above, it is essential that detailed records are kept covering all aspects concerning the health and welfare of the dogs since this will provide the inspector with valuable information on the adequacy of the various regimes in place within the breeding establishment. Records will also be helpful should problems arise and for supplying information to purchasers – completing puppy contract etc. Therefore completing and maintaining accurate records is regarded as essential.

The Breeding of Dogs (Licensing Records) Regulations 1999 (SI 1999 No 3192) prescribe the form of records to be kept by licensed breeding establishments in England and Wales. These records must be kept on the premises and made available to local authority inspectors or any veterinary surgeon authorised by the local authority (see also Appendix C).

11. SALE OF DOGS

The 1999 Act establishes restrictions on the sale of dogs born at licensed breeding establishments. The keeper of a licensed breeding establishment has two methods of sale. He or she may either sell a dog direct to its final home, provided the dog is not less than eight weeks old and the keeper does not know or believe that the buyer intends to sell the dog on.

Alternatively, he or she is restricted to sell to licensed third parties, namely a licensed pet shop provided the dog is wearing a collar with an identifying tag or badge indicating the licensed breeding establishment at which it was born. Extreme caution should be exercised when selling puppies to third parties.

The Sale of Dogs (Identification Tag) Regulations 1999 (Statutory Instrument 1999 No 3191) require additional information to be shown on the identifying tag, namely the date of birth of the dog and any identifying number allocated to the dog by the licensed breeding establishment where it was born.

It is an offence for a licensed pet shop to sell a dog

which, when it was supplied by the licensed breeder was wearing a collar with identification tag but was not wearing the tag when it was supplied to the purchaser.

12. TRANSPORT

Section 1(4)(e) of the 1973 Act is concerned with safeguarding the welfare of dogs 'when being transported to or from the breeding establishment'. Dogs and puppies being transported under these circumstances should be properly supervised to ensure compliance with the obligations under the 1973 Act. (See the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006 and Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations under Other Relevant Legislation).

13. INSURANCE

Insurance should be considered when operating a breeding establishment. There may be dogs housed on the premises which are 'on loan' for which the breeding establishment proprietor may be liable. Veterinary fees may be insured against.

Employers Liability Insurance is mandatory for employers under the Employers Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969.

Certificates of Insurance must be prominently displayed.

14. LICENCE DISPLAY

A copy of the licence and its conditions must be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position in, on or about the breeding establishment.

15. BREEDERS

There are generally two ways in which dog breeding establishments are operated. Some breeders maintain their stock within their private dwelling house while a number of breeders keep dogs in outside accommodation consisting of buildings of one sort or another, either attached or separated from the private dwelling but in which numbers of dogs are bred. It should be borne in mind that there are a number of breeders who keep dogs both in their private dwelling and in other buildings.

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

Home Office Circular Number 53/1999 provides guidance to local authorities in England on licensing dog breeding establishments.

A list of useful addresses and relevant pieces of legislation is included at the back of the guide.

MODEL CONDITIONS

1. ACCOMMODATION

The following definitions are provided for the purposes of inspection:

Kennel – this is the physical structure and area that consists of an indoor sleeping area and outdoor run

Run – A run is defined as an area attached to and with direct and permanent access from a kennel

Outdoor exercise area – a separate area from the kennel itself where dogs may, for example, exercise, play, interact with other dogs and people

Crate – a safe, secure area that a dog can go into for short periods of time. Usually consists of a wire frame with a removable tray in the base for bedding, but can also be plastic, or fabric. Uses include security, transportation or following veterinary advice. NB: this should only be a temporary enclosure for a dog and only where the dog is habituated to it

General

Condition

Dogs must at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects construction, size of quarters, numbers of occupants, exercising facilities, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness; Breeding and Sale of Dogs Act 1973 S.1(4)(a)

Dogs kept in domestic premises must have free access to more than one room and every dog must be provided with continual access to a comfortable, dry, draught-free, clean and quiet place to rest.

Guidance

Local authorities may wish to refer to Council of Europe guidelines (see Appendix D) and the Kennel Club Assured Breeder Scheme which provide useful guidelines for minimum kennel sizes. These sizes are not prescriptive. The assessor's own expertise, opinion and common sense will be applied, and consideration given to the daily routine in place, the breed, and temperament and activity levels of the animals kept.

Condition

Dog crates, where used (and whilst not acceptable as permanent housing) must be of sufficient size to allow each dog to be able to sit and stand at full height, step forward, turn around, stretch and lie down in a natural position and wag its tail without touching the sides of the crate and to lie down without touching another individual.

Guidance

Bitches with litters should be provided with further space.

Kennel Construction

Condition

Where kennels are provided, within converted outbuildings, consideration must be given to cleaning, wildlife access, vermin control, natural lighting and ventilation.

Guidance

In new constructions, wood should not be used on exposed surfaces of walls, floors, partitions, door frames or doors in the dog kennelling area.

Existing buildings may be more expensive to adapt and less efficient to operate than new build kennels. Proposed building works may require approval from the building control department and/or planning department.

Where wood has been used in an existing construction it must be smooth and treated to render it impervious. The purpose of avoiding wood on surface structures of kennel interiors is because of the possibility of damage to the material caused by scratching or chewing by dogs. Worn and splintered material is difficult to clean, harbours bacteria, viruses and so on, and allows the splinters to penetrate the animal's skin.

Condition

All internal surfaces used in the construction of walls, floors, ceilings, partitions, doors and door frames must be durable, smooth and impervious, easily cleaned and disinfected. Kennels must be free from hazards and there must be no projections or rough edges liable to cause injury.

Sleeping areas of kennels must be insulated so as to

prevent extremes of temperature.

Guidance

All exterior wood should be properly treated against wood rot, e.g. tanalised. Only non-toxic products should be used.

The interior and exterior of the buildings should be kept in good decorative order and repair. Outer paths, gardens, exercise areas and general surroundings should be kept in good, clean, safe condition.

Security

Condition

The construction must be such that the security of the dog is ensured.

Fencing material must be safe and secure.

Guidance

Where galvanised welded mesh is used for fencing and cages or kennels, the wire diameter should not be less than 2mm (14 standard wire gauge) excluding any covering and the mesh size should not exceed 5cm (2in).

Walls and Partitions

Condition

Walls with which dogs may come into contact must be of smooth impervious materials, capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected.

Guidance

Where concrete or other building blocks or bricks are used, they should be sealed so as to be smooth and impervious, and resealed as necessary.

Junctions between vertical and horizontal sections should be covered. If impractical in existing premises, all joints should be sealed.

It is suggested that partition walls between kennels and individual exercise areas should be of solid construction and of sufficient height to prevent direct nose-to-nose contact between dogs.

Partition construction may be solid from floor to ceiling, but this should not be to the detriment of other welfare considerations such as the dog's outlook, lighting, ventilation. Suitable materials for the construction of partition walls include properly surfaced impervious brick/block constructions, moulded plastic, glass reinforced plastic (GRP) and pre-formed plastic

surfaced board.

Constructing a solid partition provides a physical barrier to infection.

Floors

Condition

Flooring must be of a non-slip, urine-resistant material. It must be laid in a way and at a fall that avoids the pooling of liquids. Slatted or wire mesh floors must not be used.

Guidance

It is recommended that new kennels should incorporate a damp proof membrane.

All floors of kennels and individual exercise areas should be constructed and maintained in such a condition as to prevent pooling of liquids.

Condition

Floors of all buildings, individual exercise areas and kennels must be of smooth, impervious materials, capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected while providing sufficient grip for the animal to walk or run without sustaining injury.

Guidance

In new constructions, it is recommended that floors should be laid to a minimum fall of 1 in 80 leading to a shallow drainage channel or effectively covered deep drainage channel.

Communal exercise areas should also be suitably drained to prevent pooling of liquids.

Ceilings

Condition

Ceilings must be capable of being cleaned and disinfected.

Doors

Condition

Kennel doors must be strong enough to resist impact and scratching and must be capable of being effectively secured.

Guidance

Where metal bars and frames are used, they should be of suitable gauge with spacing adequate to prevent dogs and puppies escaping or becoming entrapped.

Where metal edging is used, this should not present a risk of injury to the dog.

Door openings should be constructed such that the passage of water/waste is not impeded, or allowed to accumulate due to inaccessibility.

When designing kennel doors, regard should be had to the health and safety of the person working in the kennel, for example, large dogs may push against the door which may give rise to difficulties in securing the door and even to accidents to the person on the opposite side of the door when it opens outwards. A door which opens inwards may also reduce the possibility of escape. (See Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 under Other Relevant Legislation).

Windows

Condition

Windows must not pose a security risk and must be escape proof for the protection of the dog as well as the public.

Guidance

When windows are so situated that they could pose a security risk, it is recommended that welded mesh or reinforced glass, polycarbonate or other impact-resistant material is used. (See Other Relevant Legislation concerning the Control of Dogs Order and the Dangerous Dogs Act).

Drainage

Condition

The establishment must be connected to mains drainage or an approved sewerage disposal system. (See Environmental Protection under Other Relevant Legislation)

Guidance

Drainage channels should be provided near to the kennel edge so that urine cannot pass over walk areas in corridors and communal access areas. A separate drainage channel may be needed in the exercise area. Advice concerning waste water outlets should be sought from the Environment Agency and/or, the local authority. (See Environmental Protection under Other Relevant Legislation)

Lighting

Condition

During daylight hours light must be provided to

exercise and sleeping areas so that all parts are clearly visible.

Guidance

Where practicable this should be natural light.

Condition

Lighting must be of sufficient standard to enable efficient working both during and after daylight hours.

Supplementary lighting, adequate to allow inspection, must be provided throughout the establishment.

Guidance

It is recommended that breeding establishments should have a low level night light for use after daylight hours.

Ventilation

Condition

Ventilation must be provided to all interior areas without the creation of excessive, localised draughts in the sleeping area.

Guidance

A balance should be struck between providing adequate ventilation while avoiding unnecessary loss of heat. Checks need to be made during the day and night to allow for temperature fluctuations. Ventilation is important in disease control. It provides protection against accumulation of odour and prevents excessive humidity. High humidity increases the risk of infectious bronchitis ('Kennel Cough').

Kennel Design (Size, layout and exercise facilities)

Condition

Kennels must be divided into sleeping and activity areas.

Kennels must be provided with an adequate size of sleeping area, such that dogs can stand, turn around, stretch and lie down flat in a natural position, with sufficient space for the door to open fully.

Guidance

Special consideration should be given to whelping bitches and bitches in season. Kennels should cater for the maximum number of puppies having regard to the size of the breed and litter size. (See also Appendix D)

When constructing kennels, an appropriate design and correct materials should be used to overcome problems of noise emission and to ensure energy conservation. This is in order to minimise discomfort to the dog and risk of nuisance to persons in the vicinity of the site. (See Nuisance under Other Relevant Legislation).

All parts of the kennel should be easily accessible to undertake thorough cleaning by staff.

Condition

Adequate exercise areas must be provided for all kennels. How much space will depend upon the size of the dog as well as the circumstances of each breeding establishment. Dogs must be able to walk, turn around easily, wag their tails without touching the kennel sides, and lie down without touching another dog.

Kennels and runs must open onto secure corridors or other secure areas so that dogs are not able to escape from the premises.

Exercise areas must not be used as sleeping areas

Outdoor areas where animals exercise and interact cannot have strict temperature regulation. Dogs must not be restricted to such areas when climatic conditions may cause them distress. They must have constant access to fresh clean water, shade and shelter so they can avoid rain, wind, snow, ice or direct sunlight, etc.

In adverse weather conditions, the responsible person must decide whether or not dogs are given free access to their run.

The run must be at least partially roofed to provide the dog with sufficient protection against all weathers.

Guidance

Depending upon the breed, consideration should be given to covering the whole of the runs.

Beds and Bedding

Condition

The bed must have clean bedding and be large enough for each dog to lie flat on their side.

Beds must be suitable to allow dogs to be comfortable, ie of durable construction, be sited away from and offer protection from draughts and be of a suitable size for the size and type of dogs kept.

Bedding must be capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected.

Guidance

All bedding material in use should be clean, non-irritant, parasite free and dry.

Chewing or destruction of bedding should not result in restricted access, rather alternative materials should be tried.

Number of Dogs Permitted

Condition

The maximum number of dogs to be kept at any one time is to be determined by the Local Authority (see also Appendix D).

The number of dogs permitted must relate to the number and size of the kennels or space available and should be stipulated clearly on the front sheet of the licence. The decision regarding the number of dogs permitted to be kept must take into account the maximum likely litter size as well as the effectiveness of site management.

Guidance

This figure should include any dogs kept on the breeders' premises which are not being used for breeding and must not be exceeded.

Temperature in Accommodation

Condition

Heating facilities must be available in the kennel and used according to the requirements of the individual dog.

Guidance

There should be some part of the sleeping area where the dog is able to enjoy a temperature of between 10°C -26°C. Temperature should be relevant to the type and breed of dog. If necessary, heating and/ or automatic cooling/ventilation should be used to achieve this.

The materials used on the kennel exterior should offer adequate protection against temperature variations throughout the year. The difficulty of maintaining the ideal temperature is acknowledged; however, these are realistic temperatures and should not be exceeded in normal circumstances.

Condition

Devices used for heating and cooling must be safe and free from risk of burning or electrocution. Manufacturer's instructions must be followed. Open flame appliances must not be used. (See Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 under Other Relevant Legislation).

Guidance

There should be the ability to record temperatures at dog level. (See also Record Keeping at Section 6 – Health and Welfare of the Breeding Stock and Litters).

There will be periods in the year where ambient external temperatures will cause temperatures to fluctuate above or below the recommended levels. If the higher temperature level is exceeded due to structural shortcomings rather than normal ambient temperature, then artificial means of counteracting this high temperature should be introduced.

Where temperatures fall below the recommended level, the use of individual heating lamps for dogs may prove adequate. In some circumstances additional background heating will also be required.

Failure to give adequate attention to construction and insulation may cause dogs to suffer and increase running costs. Geographical orientation will affect temperature, e.g. north facing openings make it difficult to maintain adequate heating levels. Correct orientation of the kennel will allow maximum use of natural light.

Cleanliness (see also Appendix E -Cleaning Standard Operating Procedure (SOP))

Condition

All kennels, corridors, common areas, kitchens and so on must be kept clean and free from accumulations of dirt and dust so that disease control is maintained. An agreed SOP must be followed.

Each occupied kennel must be cleaned daily at a minimum.

Guidance

Regular disinfection should be demonstrated by keeping records of disinfecting regimes (see also SOP - Appendix E).

Condition

All excreta and soiled material must be removed

from all areas used by the dogs as necessary.

All sleeping areas and bedding must be kept clean and dry.

Facilities must be provided for the proper reception, storage and disposal of waste.

Guidance

Advice should be sought from the Environment Agency or local authority concerning removal of waste such as dog faeces, soiled material and infectious material.

Condition

Measures must be taken to minimise the risks from rodents, insects and other pests within the breeding establishment.

Guidance

Such pests should be adequately dealt with without delay to eradicate the infestation.

Condition

Foul waste water must be disposed of by discharge to the appropriate or an approved

drainage system. Those wishing to operate an incinerator must seek advice from the Environment Agency and/or the local authority. (See Environmental Protection under Other Relevant Legislation)

Guidance

There is a range of cleaning regimes. The regime, for which all establishments should have an SOP, should include:

1. Removal of solids
2. Washing
3. Disinfection
4. Drying

The physical collection of faeces is usual ('poop scoop' or shovel and bucket). The use of detergent and water will 'wash down'. Pressure hoses or steam cleaning will wash down more effectively. Bacteria, viruses, fungi need to be controlled by the sanitising process. Because disinfectant is washed away after a short period of time, the long term activity of chemicals used to control viruses, bacteria and fungi should be considered (see also SOP – Appendix E).

Great care should be taken when using any chemicals. Chemicals and materials should be used and

stored correctly. (See notes on COSHH Regulations under Other Relevant Legislation). Combinations of bactericides, fungicides and virucides may prove expensive to use and may not necessarily provide the best system. Professional advice should be sought for the most effective method.

The following link includes DEFRA's approved disinfectant list for statutory use on disease control. http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI

(See column (v) – general orders)

Staff working from kennel to kennel further increase the risk of spreading disease. Staff should be trained in good kennel hygiene. Complete disinfection of kennel and equipment should be carried out between occupancies.

Whelping Facilities

Condition

There must be a separate whelping pen or room for each whelping bitch in which to whelp. There must be direct access to the whelping area for kennel personnel without disturbing the general kennel population. Once separated there must be increased social contact with humans.

Guidance

Bitches should be moved to their whelping accommodation 60 days after mating or sooner if signs of imminent whelping are shown.

Condition

Each whelping pen must be constructed of easily cleanable impervious materials. The area must be cleaned regularly and a record kept of cleaning procedures. The whelping pen must have a divider to allow the bitch to access an area where she cannot be reached by the puppies. There must be natural daylight.

There must be a whelping bed raised off the floor and with sides high enough to prevent new born puppies from falling out. The bed must contain sufficient bedding to ensure a soft surface for the bitch and to enable the absorption of mess resulting from whelping. The bed must be constructed of easily cleanable impervious material and must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between litters.

Guidance

Where a bitch is whelped in a domestic environment it is acceptable for a temporary disposable covering to be used.

Varnishing wood will make it impervious.

Condition

The whelping area must be maintained at an appropriate temperature. The bitch must be able to move away from heat spots.

Guidance

There should be an area maintained between 26-28 degrees Celsius. This can be achieved with a local heat source such as a heat lamp.

Puppies under four weeks of age should be kept at a temperature between 26°C (79°F) to 28°C (82°F) with provision for the bitch to move to a cooler area.

Condition

Bitches must be adequately supervised during whelping and records kept of:

- time of birth of each puppy
- puppies' sex, colour and weight
- placentae passed
- any other significant events.

Bitches must be allowed a minimum of four periods a day for toileting and exercise away from their puppies.

Bitches in Season

Guidance

Consideration should be given to separating bitches in season and they should not be kept with entire male dogs.

2. MANAGEMENT

General

Condition

Dogs must be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and bedding material, adequately exercised, and visited at suitable intervals; BDA 1973 S.1(4)(b)

The 1999 Act strengthens the requirements for dogs to be visited at suitable intervals.

The Animal Welfare Act (2006) sets out the Duty of Care which must be met by the person responsible for the animals (see Animal Welfare Act under Other Relevant Legislation)

Guidance

(See also Appendix L - Daily Routine SOP).

Supervision

Condition

A fit and proper person must always be present to exercise supervision and deal with emergencies.

Guidance

Any person with responsibility for supervision should be over the age of 16.

Where staff are employed, ideally a written training policy should be provided. Training of staff, whether permanent or temporary, should be demonstrated (via appropriate training records) to have been carried out on all aspects of the care of all ages of dogs and updated regularly. Staff should be adequately trained in the work they are expected to carry out. For example, in handling dogs safely and in procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency. (See Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 under Other Relevant Legislation).

The following are regarded as essential topics to be covered in the training programme relating to the care of dogs: Animal Health and Welfare; Cleanliness and Hygiene; Feeding and Food Preparation; Disease Prevention and Control; Recognition of Sick Animals; Dog Handling; Health and Safety; Emergency Procedures, Normal Whelping and Responsible Breeding.

There are a variety of animal care courses available and staff should be encouraged to attend Relevant NVQs attained at Level 2 or the equivalent should enable staff to gain a minimum level of competency.

Numbers of staff

Condition

Numbers of staff must be appropriate for the breed/type and number of dogs being bred. Numbers must be sufficient to provide the level of care set out in these model conditions.

Guidance

Staff numbers should be of concern when there

is evidence that the standards maintained or the condition and behaviour of the animals is being compromised, or where an unrealistic routine is in place.

Condition

Sufficient adequately trained staff must be available every day to carry out all the interactions and procedures with dogs specified in this document. Guidance

Condition

Establishing the number of staff required will require an assessment of the conditions at the establishment. As a guideline, it may be considered that a full time attendant may care for up to 20 dogs. In domestic environments, it is advisable for other members of the household, or dog sitters to be provided with guidance notes in regard to general day to day care – feeding, grooming, cleaning, exercise and compatibility issues – especially where several dogs, or breeds of dogs, are involved. Guidance

Condition

Dogs must not be left alone for long periods and must be checked at the start and end of every working day and regularly by a member of staff at least every four hours during the day.

Guidance

These checks should be more frequent when bitches are imminently due to whelp, whelping and puppies that are not yet weaned (See also Section 2 – Management and Section 6 – Health and Welfare of the Breeding Stock and Litters). Condition

Environmental Enrichment and Exercise

Condition

Dogs must be provided with environmental enrichment and the ability to have some control over their environment. Guidance

Guidance

Toy and activity feeders that are changed regularly are ideal enrichment. There should be more toys or feeders than there are dogs in the kennel. The use of raised beds and the ability to move out of other dogs' sight should be provided (see also Puppy Plan Annex B).

Condition

Breeding establishments are the permanent home for some dogs and therefore provision of exercise

facilities must be adequate for the long term. Dogs must not be kept permanently confined.

Arrangements must be made for the dogs to be exercised at least twice a day.

Guidance

Exercise may also be provided by walking. Where dogs are exercised off the premises, reference should be made to the Clean Neighbourhoods Environment Act (2005) and the Control of Dogs Order 1992 (see Other Relevant Legislation). The name, address and telephone number (including the emergency number) of the establishment's veterinary practice should be displayed prominently preferably by the telephone.

Handling and habituation

Condition

Breeding dogs must be handled and examined regularly to identify changes in health, weight and behaviour, also to ensure dogs are habituated to handling by people. This is particularly important for bitches, as fear of people will influence development of puppy behaviour

Guidance

An SOP for the socialisation and habituation of puppies from birth to the point of sale should be used (see also Puppy Plan Annex B and Annexes F & G on Socialisation and Habituation).

Food and Water Supplies

Condition

All dogs must be adequately supplied with suitable food. Clean water must be available at all times and changed at least daily. Dogs must be fed a diet appropriate to their age, breed, activity level and stage in the breeding cycle. Dogs must be fed individually with separate bowls. Food must be stored in vermin-proof containers and fresh food must be refrigerated.

Guidance

The dog's weight should be monitored and recorded quarterly and diets adjusted where necessary, unless otherwise advised by a veterinary surgeon or a significant change in the dog's weight/body condition is noticed.

Condition

Eating and drinking vessels must be capable of being easily cleansed and disinfected to prevent cross-contamination. They must be maintained in a clean condition and cleaned and disinfected or disposed of after each meal.

Guidance

If necessary, the veterinary surgeon should be consulted to advise. Special dietary considerations should be given to young and old dogs and to whelping and nursing bitches. Nutrition is particularly important during pregnancy and lactation and consideration should be given to the varying nutritional requirements of individual dogs. Body condition score should be monitored and feeding adjusted appropriately. (See also Annex H - SOP on feeding).

Condition

Dogs must be fed sufficiently well to maintain health.

Guidance

Inspectors should observe the general condition of the dogs and check on the quantity of food in store and the process of preparation.

Weaning Procedures

Condition

Puppies must start the weaning process as soon as they are capable of ingesting food on their own. The food offered must be appropriate for the stage of development of the puppies.

Puppies at weaning must initially be offered food five times a day. It must be ensured that each puppy takes the correct share of the food offered.

Guidance

Weaning should normally commence at 3-4 weeks old. The initial diet may be liquid progressing to solid food over the ensuing period.

Condition

During lactation, the bitch must have sufficient appropriate food to satisfy the demands being made upon her.

Guidance

Lactation will last until the puppies are weaned.

Consideration should also be given to how many puppies the bitch is nursing. During lactation the bitch should be closely monitored for signs of complications (eg eclampsia). The feeding level required for the bitch after weaning will depend upon her body condition.

Where a proprietary food source is used the manufacturer's guide should be followed. Veterinary advice should be sought if in doubt.

Food provision can be used to enhance enrichment, for example through the use of devices increasing the time and effort taken to access food (e.g. puzzle feeders, activity balls, stuffed rubber toys). Where these are used they should be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly between each use. Where dogs are kept in pairs or larger groups, more devices should be available than the number of dogs, use should be monitored carefully to identify where aggression occurs. Dogs which show aggression associated with feeding, or when provided with food based enrichment, should be separated from other dogs prior to feeding.

Kitchen Facilities

Condition

Facilities, hygienically constructed and maintained, must be provided for the storage and preparation of food for the dogs.

Where fresh and cooked meats are stored, refrigeration facilities must be provided. Food contamination must be avoided.

A sink with hot and cold running water must be available for washing kitchen utensils and eating and drinking vessels.

Guidance

A separate hand basin with hot and cold running water should be provided for staff.

Condition

Containers for storing foods must be provided and must be constructed and maintained to guard against insects and other pests.

Cross-contamination must be avoided.

Guidance

Dishes and bedding should be washed separately from domestic items.

First-Aid Kit for Dogs

Condition

A fully maintained first-aid kit suitable for use on dogs and puppies must be available and accessible on the premises.

Guidance

A veterinary surgeon should be consulted concerning its contents and a competent member of staff should be in charge of its maintenance.

Isolation Facilities

Condition

Veterinary advice must be sought for any animal with a potentially infectious disease.

Guidance

Where advised, the dog should be isolated immediately and the procedure documented.

Condition

Facilities for isolation must be available when required. Isolation facilities must be used where the presence of infectious disease is suspected or known.

Guidance

Procedures should be in place, and understood by all staff, to prevent the spread of infectious disease between isolated animals and the other dogs.

Condition

Isolation facilities must be in compliance with the other licence conditions but must be physically separate from other dogs.

Guidance

Intervening buildings and construction detail (ie window and door positions) should be taken into account because individual circumstances may significantly affect the recommended distance.

For airborne diseases, ideally a distance of at least 5 m (15 ft). The requirement for 5 m distance between isolation facilities and the other dogs is based upon consideration of the distance that airborne infection can carry.

Condition

Hands must be washed after leaving the isolation facilities before handling other dogs.

Protective clothing, footwear and equipment, for use

only in the isolation facility, must be used to reduce the spread of infection and must not be worn outside the isolation facility.

Guidance

The use of disposable clothing is recommended.

A management regime should be followed where an isolation case is being handled. For example, isolation cases must be cared for after all other dogs have been attended to. Records of the isolation cases and the management regime to be followed should be kept. (See also Record Keeping under Section 6 – Health and Welfare of the Breeding Stock and Litters).

Condition

Complete disinfection of the isolation facilities and equipment must be carried out once vacated.

3. DISEASE CONTROL, VACCINATION AND WORMING

General

Condition

All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread among dogs of infectious or contagious diseases; BDA 1973 S.1(4)(c). Licence holders must take all reasonable steps to protect the animal from pain, suffering, injury and disease.

All breeding establishments must be registered with a Veterinary Practice and ensure full details are made available to the Licensing Authority.

Guidance

Registered breeders should produce a health and welfare plan (see Appendix I) approved by a veterinary surgeon. This should be updated on an annual basis and needs to take into account the health, preventive treatment, socialisation, and welfare of the animals.

4. EMERGENCIES/FIRE PREVENTION

General

Condition

There must be Emergency Evacuation and Contingency Plans (see Appendix J) in place which meets approval with the local authority, and in consultation with the local authority.

Guidance

Contingency plans should also include consideration for alternative housing for a large number of dogs.

For the occasions where it is not possible to evacuate the dogs to alternative locations other contingency measures should be in place, this may include long term provision of feed/water or euthanasia (see Appendix K on Euthanasia).

5. TRANSPORT

Section 1(4)(e) of the 1973 Act is concerned with safeguarding the welfare of dogs 'when being transported to or from the breeding establishment'.

General

Condition

Dogs and puppies being transported to and from breeding establishments must be properly supervised to ensure compliance with the obligations under the 1973 Act.

All appropriate steps must be taken to ensure that the dogs will be provided with suitable food, drink and bedding material and adequately exercised when being transported to or from the breeding establishment.

Bitches must not be transported in the last stages of pregnancy, ideally not from 54 days after mating, unless to a veterinary surgeon for treatment.

Bitches must not be transported for 48 hours after whelping unless it is to see a veterinary surgeon for treatment.

Guidance

It is recommended that records are kept of the vehicles used when dogs are transported, as well as details of journeys undertaken (see Record-keeping section below at Section 6- Health and Welfare of the Breeding Stock and Litters). (See also the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006 under Other Relevant Legislation). All vehicles are considered commercial and subject to EU Transport Regulation 1/2005.

Condition

Whenever dogs are transported they must be fit and healthy for the intended journey. Injured and/or diseased dogs must not be transported (except for minor illness or injury, as determined by trained and competent staff) unless they are being taken to a veterinary surgery.

Guidance

The transporting of distressed dogs should be avoided whenever possible.

When transporting animals, there is a general duty of care to protect them from injury or unnecessary suffering (see Article 4 of Welfare of Animals [Transport] [England] Order 2006) and to also ensure they are transported in suitable containers. If the transportation is carried out in connection with an 'economic activity', as defined by the Regulations, then there are further legal requirements to comply with under this legislation. Furthermore, there is a requirement under the Highway Code that animals should be "suitably restrained" when transported (Rule 57, Highway Code). Any vehicle used for transporting dogs should be suitable and have the correct ventilation and temperature control so that the dog remains comfortable during the journey, whatever the outside temperature. Dogs should not be left unattended in a vehicle for any length of time.

Dogs should not be fed within two hours of a journey and should be exercised immediately before they are loaded to give them the opportunity to go to the toilet.

During a journey dogs should be securely and comfortably confined. If a dog is transported alone in a container, he or she should have enough space to stand, sit erect, lie in a natural position and turn around normally while standing up for long journeys. If transported with other dogs, there should be sufficient space for all the dogs to carry out all these behaviours without touching other dogs.

If transporting adult dogs by road, sufficient breaks should be offered for water and the chance to go to the toilet.

Condition

Puppies must not be transported before eight weeks of age without their dam unless a veterinary surgeon agrees otherwise for health and/or welfare reasons, or in an emergency (See Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order (England) 2006 - Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005).

Guidance

Where possible, puppies should be trained to stay calmly in a crate by using reward-based training prior to transportation.

6. HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE BREEDING STOCK AND LITTERS

Mating

Condition

Bitches must not be mated if they are less than one year old.

BDA 1973 S. 1(4) (f)

Guidance

It is the responsibility of the licensee to make every reasonable effort to ensure that both sires and bitches are in good health prior to mating. This includes checking for the presence of both infectious and genetically inherited diseases which may affect the health of either parent or resulting puppies. Where necessary, veterinary advice should be sought.

Breeding stock should be selected on their temperament and genetic health. Dogs that have required surgery to rectify an exaggerated conformation that has caused adverse welfare

(an excessively flat face or short nose or eyelid abnormalities etc.) should not be bred from.

Dogs with exaggerated conformations that may be associated with adverse welfare should not be bred from.

Maximum Number of Litters

Condition

Bitches must not give birth to more than six litters of puppies each in their lifetime.;

BDA 1973 S. 1(4) (g)

Guidance

(See also KC guidance on number of litters - Appendix A)

Twelve Months Between Litters

Condition

Bitches must not give birth to puppies before the end of the period of twelve months beginning with the day on which they last gave birth to puppies; BDA 1973 S. 1(4) (h)

Social Contact for Dogs and Socialisation of Puppies

Adult Dogs

Condition

Social contact is very important, and all dogs used for breeding must be kept in an environment that allows adequate social contact with both other dogs and people.

Guidance

Social contact with other dogs may be achieved through pair or group housing, although the behaviour of individuals within each group should be monitored carefully for signs of aggression or fear. The compatibility of the dogs may vary depending on the stage of the breeding cycle (seasons and lactation) and this should be monitored carefully. Dogs which show behavioural signs of fear or anxiety associated with contact with other dogs may be better housed and exercised singly, as long as they are provided with sufficient human contact. They should not be used for breeding. A policy should be in place for monitoring the introduction of new dogs to existing groups in either domestic or kennel environments, to avoid stress to either new or resident animals.

Bitches close to whelping and when lactating should not generally be mixed with other adult dogs. On these occasions where dogs have to be kennelled on their own, the level of social contact with humans should be increased to compensate.

When the social contact is provided by humans, the contact should be for the majority of the day. When dogs are kept in a kennel environment this should be the working day and in a domestic environment the normal waking hours of the household.

Puppies

See also **Puppy Plan (Appendix B)**.

Condition

Puppies must be handled regularly from shortly after birth for short periods (e.g. gently picking up and examining) to habituate them to human contact and to examine them for any sign of disease and to ensure they are feeding properly.

Guidance

The early experience of puppies has a profound effect on their adult behaviour, and it is important that the facility has in place an adequate programme

to socialise puppies and prepare them for life in a domestic environment. SOPs should be available so that all staff know how to appropriately socialise puppies.

Where bitches are anxious or aggressive when puppies are approached, this process should be gradual to acclimatise the bitch to the presence of people around the litter.

Condition

From 3 weeks old puppies must be habituated to events likely to be encountered in a domestic environment.

Guidance

This should include the sights and sounds in households, such as appliances, as well as differing surfaces on which to walk. Introduction to novel sights and sounds should be gradual so that puppies do not show a fearful response such as startling or withdrawal. Puppies should also be introduced to a variety of people including adults of both sexes, children of different ages, and wearing a variety of clothing styles.

Condition

To learn social skills with other dogs, puppies must be maintained as a litter or with puppies of a similar age and size.

Guidance

They should also ideally be introduced to non-aggressive and healthy, vaccinated adult dogs in addition to the bitch. However, it is also important for puppies to start to learn to be separated from others, so should be separated from litter mates and the bitch for short periods from the age of six weeks. During periods of separation there should be human social contact.

Household sounds may occur naturally in domestic environments but could be achieved through the playback of recordings for dogs housed in kennels.

Record Keeping

(See also **Appendix C**)

Condition

Accurate records in a form prescribed by regulations as shown below must be kept at the premises and made available for inspection there by any officer of the local authority or any veterinary surgeon, authorised by the local authority to inspect the

premises; BDA 1973 S. 1(4) (i)

The Breeding of Dogs (Licensing Records)

Regulations 1999 (SI 1999 No 3192) prescribe the form of records to be kept by licensed breeding establishments. These records must be accurate and kept on the premises and made available to local authority inspectors or any veterinary surgeon authorised by the local authority.

A record must be kept by every licensed dog breeder for each breeding bitch providing the name of the bitch, date of birth, address where she is kept, breed, description, date of mating and details of sire. Licensed dog breeders must also keep a record of any litters, including the sex of the puppies, date of birth, weight, description and total number in the litter. The record must also show the details of sale, namely the date of sale, name and address of who was supplied and the status of the purchaser (ie, private owner or pet shop).

Guidance

Although the sub-section does not provide any scope for flexibility, the Home Office guidelines to local authorities expect local authorities to take into account any difficulties in relation to factors beyond the breeder's control, such as when a bitch whelps prematurely. Accurate records showing matings and whelpings will be essential.

Additional records will provide useful information to the local authority inspectors should problems arise. It is suggested that this information should include:

- The details and number of all dogs kept on the premises, including movement on and off the premises;
- oestrus dates of breeding bitches;
- microchip or tattoo numbers or other suitable form of permanent identification. If the dogs are KC or breed association registered, these numbers should also be recorded;
- where dogs are under a breeding arrangement, the details of such dogs, together with their whereabouts;
- vaccination and worming records and details of other veterinary treatment given;
- cleaning and disinfecting regimes (see also SOP);
- feeding and exercise routines;

- accommodation temperatures;
- details of any isolation cases and the management regime in place;
- details of vehicles used for transporting dogs, as well as time and length of journeys taken. Records should also show which dogs are transported and their destination;
- date and cause of death if known;
- Number of dogs required to be euthanised, reason for euthanasia, date of euthanasia and the name of the veterinary surgeon in attendance;
- Number of breeding bitches retired, details of each individual breeding bitch's microchip (or other permanent identification) number, outcome for the bitch e.g. rehomed and to where
- If dogs have come from abroad, specific additional information should be recorded.
- Health Plan (Annex I)
- health screening test results;
- puppy contract

This list is by no means exhaustive.

Documentation should also be routinely provided to purchasers of puppies, for example as a 'puppy pack', including information on the puppy's diet, worming history, five generation pedigree where relevant, any parental or puppy health check results, any veterinary treatment or ongoing medication, health insurance, socialisation history, and advice on ongoing care. Purchasers of puppies should also receive a puppy contract (AWF/RSPCA), and full contact details of the breeder. (See also Puppy Plan – Annex B).

Other relevant legislation

ALL LEGISLATION IS CORRECT AT DATE OF PUBLICATION – PLEASE CHECK CURRENT STATUS OF LEGISLATION AT TIME OF INSPECTION

References to other relevant legislation are made simply to alert the reader to other issues, such as those relating to health and safety matters, as well as environmental protection, which should also be considered in the operation of a breeding establishment.

References to legislation should not be taken as a detailed explanation of the law, and this publication may not refer to all legislation that may be relevant depending on the circumstances.

It should be borne in mind that laws change and expert advice should always be sought as to the current legal position.

A list of useful addresses is included at the back of the guide

1. Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974

Employers must ensure the safety of their workers, both voluntary and paid, and visitors to the workplace. This is underpinned, inter alia, by the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999. A safe system of work must be in place and there must be adequate training and supervision. For example, staff employed to handle dogs must be competent and properly trained for the work they are expected to carry out.

The Health and Safety Executive (hse.gov.uk) and/or the local authority should be contacted for further advice and information.

2. Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002

These Regulations require employers to:

- assess the risks to health from work activities which involve a hazardous substance, e.g., chemicals or micro-organisms;
- prevent or, where this is not reasonably practicable, adequately control exposure to the hazardous substances;

- introduce and maintain control measures;
- inform, instruct and train employees about the risks and precautions to be taken;
- regularly review risk assessments and the effectiveness of control measures.

These Regulations also cover zoonoses (diseases transmitted between animals and people, such as Salmonellosis, Toxocariasis and Toxoplasmosis) and suitable advice on risks and precautions should be brought to the attention of staff. Staff should also be appropriately vaccinated. It is vital that those working with dogs are aware of the importance of preventing disease transference. Cross-contamination risks are high and good hygiene is important.

3. Staff – Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992, Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981, Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992

Suitable and sufficient toilet and washing facilities must be available for staff in accordance with health and safety requirements. There is a general duty on employers to ensure there is adequate first aid provision for employees. The minimum requirement is a suitably stocked first-aid box, an appointed person to take charge of first-aid arrangements and information for employees about first-aid arrangements, such as where the first-aid box is and who the appointed first-aider is. Every employer must ensure that suitable personal protective equipment is provided to his employees who may be exposed to a risk to their health or safety while at work except where and to the extent that such risk has been adequately controlled by other means which are equally or more effective. Accordingly Staff may need to be provided with items such as protective clothing, dog catching devices and muzzles.

For guidance see HSE: www.hse.gov.uk

4. Waste – Environmental Protection Act 1990 and related legislation

Certain waste may only be passed to registered carriers or appropriate licensed or authorised disposal facilities. Those wishing to dispose of waste on their

premises or operate an incinerator must seek advice from the local authority.

The type of waste likely to be produced by breeding establishments would include faeces, soiled material, waste water, blood and other discharges, and tissue. There are regulations which pertain to the collection, carriage and disposal of such waste and place a duty of care on those producing and handling certain types of waste, particularly animal by-products. Advice should be sought from the Environment Agency Regional Office which produces information sheets and from AHVLA or from the local authority.

5. Nuisance – Environmental Protection Act 1990

It is important to consider the potential problem of noise and odour nuisance. Such noise or odour that is prejudicial to health or a nuisance may amount to a statutory nuisance in relation to which Local authorities may serve an abatement notice and, if this is ignored, a summons may follow. Persons aggrieved may also complain on notice.

Monitoring a single dog barking at close range may produce a reading in the region of 95 dB(A). It is important to design and site kennels to prevent any cause for complaint from neighbours. The choice of appropriate materials, and their correct use in design, in terms of preventing noise (and odour) nuisance is extremely important. It should be borne in mind that if the nuisance is unreasonable having regard to the area, a cause of action could still arise even if the nuisance was already present when the complainant moved to the area. If the nuisance amounts to a public nuisance such “prescription”, as it is known, will never be a defence.

Environmental Health Officers within the local authority should be able to give further advice and guidance on nuisance problems and related statutory provisions. Certain types of noise, for example, are the subject of specific statutory controls.

6. Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996

This Act empowers local authorities to designate certain land for the purpose of making it an offence to allow a dog to defecate on such land. If the person in charge of a dog allows that dog to defecate on designated land and fails to remove the faeces forthwith, then that person will be guilty of an offence, unless he has reasonable excuse or has

the consent of an authorised person not to remove the faeces. It should be borne in mind that the Act specifically states that it will not be considered reasonable excuse if the person is without the means to remove the faeces or is unaware that the dog has defecated.

The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 is only applicable in England and Wales.

Department of the Environment Circular No. 18/1996: Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 provides useful guidance on the Act. Where dogs are exercised off premises, the provisions of this Act should be borne in mind.

7. Dog Fouling – Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

Part 6 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 relates to dogs and became law in 2006. Under this Act local authorities and parish councils in England and Wales have been given the powers to introduce new Dog Control Orders (DCOs) in respect of any land in their area to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access with or without payment.

This Act empowers local authorities to designate certain land for the purpose of providing for offences relating to the control of dogs which, inter alia, can include offences relating to the fouling of land by dogs and the removal of dog faeces.

The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 is largely repealed by this Act. Some savings were made by Article 4 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 (Commencement No. 1, Transitional and Savings Provisions) (England) Order. The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 empowered local authorities to designate certain land for the purpose of making it an offence to allow a dog to defecate on such land without removing the faeces forthwith and the savings provide that the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 shall continue to have effect in respect of any land which is designated land before 6 April 2006, save to the extent that a DCO applies in respect of it, if the designation order in question is revoked or, if the designation order in question is amended so as to reduce the extent of the designated land, to the extent of that reduction. The savings also mean that various other legislative provisions shall continue to apply in respect of the continued effect of the 1996 Act in the form in which they were immediately prior to the enactment of the

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.

8. The Control of Dogs Order 1992

This Order replaces and extends the Control of Dogs Order 1930 and provides that every dog, subject to specific exceptions, while in a highway or in a place of public resort shall wear a collar with the name and address of the owner inscribed on the collar or on a plate or badge attached to it. It should be noted that it is the local authority which has the power to enforce the Order, not the police force for any area.

9. The Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order (England) 2006

- The transport legislation, which in England administration and enforcement of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection and related operations, makes it an offence to transport any animal (not exhaustive);
- that is unfit; Unless there are arrangements for its needs to be met during the journey, including unloading at the place of destination, and for its welfare conditions to be regularly checked and appropriately maintained;
- using violence or any method likely to cause unnecessary fear, injury or suffering when handling the animals. N.B., the use of instruments administering electric shocks is recognised, but is to be avoided if at all possible.

There are general rules on the construction and maintenance of vehicles. There are also species-specific rules. Specific requirements include ventilation and loading equipment such as ramps. Animals must be transported with sufficient space to prevent suffering. There are also rules on the segregation of non-compatible animals.

Animal Transport Certificates (ATCs) must accompany vertebrate animals on most journeys as part of a economic activity, although farmers are exempted from carrying an ATC when transporting their own animals in their own means of transport on journeys up to 50 km from their holding, or as part of seasonal transhumance. The information required is set out in Article 4(1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005; there is no prescribed legal format but Defra does provide a suggested form.

10. Dangerous Dogs Act 1991

The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 prohibits persons

from having in their possession or custody dogs of a type specified in Section 1. It enables restrictions to be imposed in relation to other types of dog which present a serious danger to the public and makes further provision for ensuring that dogs are kept under proper control by their owners and those in charge of them.

The Home Office has released several circulars on the 1991 and 1997 Acts and these may be obtained from the relevant Government Departments.

11. The Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Act 1997

The Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Act 1997 amends the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 and allows the Courts limited discretion where previously a destruction order would have been mandatory.

12. Animal Welfare Act 2006

The Animal Welfare Act 2006 makes owners and keepers responsible for ensuring that the welfare needs of their animals are met. These include the need:

- for a suitable environment (place to live)
- for a suitable diet
- to exhibit normal behaviour patterns
- to be housed with, or apart from, other animals (if applicable)
- to be protected from pain, suffering, injury, and disease

Anyone who found guilty of an offence of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal or failing to provide for its welfare needs may, among other sanctions, be banned from owning animals, fined (in the case of causing unnecessary suffering, up to £20,000) and/or sent to prison.

13. Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order 1974, Council Directive 92/65/EEC

of 13 July 1992 laying down animal health requirements governing trade in and imports into the Community of animals, semen, ova and embryos not subject to animal health requirements laid down in specific Community rules.

14. Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011, Regulation (EC) No 998/2003

of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of pet animals

Dogs can be imported into Great Britain and therefore England for trade (N.B., the exchange of payment is not a necessary element of trade in this context), which would include breeding, from another EU Member State, Norway, Switzerland or Liechtenstein without undergoing quarantine, provided the requirements of the Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011 and Council Directive 92/65/EEC are met. N.B., Council Directive 92/65/EEC has been amended on several occasions and also makes certain requirements of Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 (of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of pet animals) part of the trade requirements.

These requirements are quite complicated and further information is available from the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/.

15. Regulatory Reform Order (Fire Safety) 2005

The Order imposes a number of specific duties in relation to the fire precautions to be taken. These include:

- suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks
- implementation of preventive and protective measures
- elimination or reduction of risks from dangerous substances
- provide appropriate fire-fighting equipment, including fire detectors and alarms which is easily accessible and simple to use
- ensure that routes to emergency exits from premises and the exits themselves are kept clear at all times and are adequate with regard to use, equipment and dimensions of the premises and the maximum number of persons who may present there at any one time
- establish and, where necessary, give effect to

appropriate procedures, including safety drills and emergency arrangements, to be followed in the event of serious and imminent danger to relevant persons

- ensure that the premises and any facilities, equipment and devices provided are maintained in efficient working order and in good repair
- appoint one or more competent person to assist in undertaking the preventive and protective measures
- provide employees, and the employer of any employees from an outside undertaking who are working in or on the premises, with comprehensible and relevant information on risks, preventive and protective measures, procedures in place
- provide employees with adequate safety training and inform them of their duties under the Order

This publication is intended to be helpful but represents only a statement of opinion. It does not contain legal advice or a complete statement of the law. It should not be used as a substitute for legal advice or as the basis for giving advice without checking the primary sources. References to legislation should not be taken as a detailed explanation of the law, and this publication may not refer to all legislation that may be relevant depending on the circumstances. Legal advice should always be obtained on specific facts or on the adaptation of model conditions to specific circumstances.

No responsibility or liability for loss or consequential loss occasioned to any person, as a result of making use of this publication (including the recommended good practice contained within), is accepted by the contributing bodies, the members of the working party or the authors of this publication. It should also be borne in mind that laws change and expert advice should always be sought as to the current legal position.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Advisory Council on the Welfare Issues of Dog Breeding

Website: www.dogadvisorycouncil.com
Email: heather@drydaytonestate.com

Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency

Website: www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en

Animal Welfare Foundation

7 Mansfield Street, London W1G 9NQ
Tel: 020 7908 6375
Email: bva-awf@bva.co.uk

British Veterinary Association

7 Mansfield Street, London W1M 0AT
Tel: 020 7636 6541
Fax: 020 7436 2970
Email: bvahq@bva.co.uk

British Small Animal Veterinary Association

Woodrow House, 1 Telford Way
Waterwells Business Park, Quedgeley,
Gloucestershire GL2 2AB
Tel: 01452 726700
Fax: 01452 726701
Website: www.bsava.com
Email: administration@www.bsava.com

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

Chadwick Court, 15 Hatfields, London SE1 8DJ
Tel: 020 7928 6006
Fax: 020 7827 5862

Local Government Association

Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ
Tel: 020 7664 3000
Fax: 020 7664 3030
Website: www.local.gov.uk
Email: info@local.gov.uk

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Nobel House, 17 Smith Square London SW1P 3JR
Tel: 08459 33 55 77
Website: www.defra.gov.uk
Email: defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Dogs Trust

17 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7RQ
Tel: 0207 837 0006
Website: www.dogstrust.org.uk
Email: info@dogstrust.org.uk

Health and Safety Executive

Website: www.hse.gov.uk

Home Office

Direct Communications Unit
2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF
Tel: 020 7035 4848
Fax: 020 7035 4745
Website: www.homeoffice.gov.uk
Email: public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

International Sheep Dog Society

(Registration authority for sheep dogs)
Clifton House, 4a Goldington Road
Bedford MK40 3NF
Tel: 01234 352672
Fax: 01234 348214
Email: office@isds.org.uk

The Kennel Club

1-5 Clarges Street, Piccadilly London W1J 8AB
Tel: 0844 463 3980
www.the-kennel-club.org.uk

AWF/RSPCA Puppy Contract

www.puppycontract.org.uk

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

Belgravia House, 62-64 Horseferry Road
London SW1P 2AF
Tel: 020 7222 2001
Fax: 020 7222 2004
Email: info@rcvs.org.uk
Website: <http://findavet.rcvs.org.uk>

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Wilberforce Way, Southwater
Horsham, West Sussex RH13 9RS
Website: www.rspca.org.uk

The Stationery Office

Tel: 0870 600 5522

Trading Standards

Please contact your local authority for details.

APPENDIX A

Useful information

Kennel Club Litter Registration

The Kennel Club of the UK will not register a litter if the bitch was under one year old at the time of mating or if she has already whelped four litters. Neither will it register a first litter if the bitch has reached the age of eight years of age at the date of whelping. Also if: the offspring are the result of any mating between father and daughter, mother and son or brother and sister, save in exceptional circumstances or for scientifically proven welfare reasons; the dam has already had two litters delivered by caesarean section, save for scientifically proven welfare reasons and this only normally provided the application is made prior to the mating; or the dam was not resident at a UK address at the date of whelping.

There are schemes in place for screening for hereditary conditions in dogs. The BVA, in conjunction with the Kennel Club and the International Sheep Dog Society, encourages responsible breeding through its Canine Health Schemes. Breeders may have their dogs screened for various hereditary and breed-related conditions to assist them to make responsible breeding decisions.

BVAO

British Veterinary Association

REPORTING SURGICAL CORRECTIONS TO CONFORMATIONAL PROBLEMS IN PEDIGREE DOGS

The Kennel Club (KC) asks that any conformation alteration surgery is reported. Presently, the level of reporting to the KC by owners of surgical correction on their dogs far exceeds that done by veterinary surgeons. This needs to change and the profession needs to be much more proactive. The reporting forms are available on both the BVA and RCVS websites and the KC are setting up a facility to enable on-line reporting.

Using the list of issues the Advisory Council on the Welfare Issues of Dog Breeding considered to be the most pressing welfare problems as an initial basis, we have created a list of the conformation problems requiring surgical correction which therefore be the highest priority for vets to report.

Conformation problems requiring surgical correction For which the surgery should be reported to the Kennel Club
RESPIRATORY Brachycephalic airway obstruction syndrome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Stenotic nares o Elongated soft palate o Everted laryngeal sacculae laryngeal collapse Tracheal collapse Tracheal hypoplasia Cleft palate Hairlip
MUSCULOSKELETAL My joint replacement (other than for proven trauma) Cruciate repair Joint dysplasia Patellar luxation
OPHTHALMIC Adnexal problems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Entropion o Ectropion o Other eyelid plastic surgery o Distichiasis o Trichiasis o Incomplete eyelid closure o Diamond eye o Nictitating gland prolapse Lens luxation Cataract Glaucoma Retinal detachment Keratoconjunctivitis sicca Corneal ulceration that is breed associated
CARDIAC Any cardiac or major vessel surgery (e.g. POA)
NEUROLOGICAL Syringomyelia Intervertebral disc protrusion Cervical spinal instability (Webbier syndrome) Atlantoaxial subluxation Lumbosacral stenosis Oenoid sinus Persistent hepatic portal vein Hydrocephalus
DERMATOLOGICAL Skin fold surgery Ear canal surgery
ALIMENTARY Dental malocclusion Cheiloplasty Vascular ring anomalies Cricopharyngeal achalasia Hiatal hernia Gastric torsion Oesophageal stenosis
UROGENITAL Retained testicle Vaginal prolapse Urolithiasis Ectopic ureter
MISCELLANEOUS Umbilical hernia Inguinal hernia

APPENDIX B – The Puppy Plan



The latest version of the Puppy Plan, supported by Dogs Trust and the Kennel Club, can be downloaded here: www.thepuppyplan.com/

APPENDIX C – Record Keeping

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Unit: PAG1

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1999 No. 3192

ANIMALS, ENGLAND AND WALES

The Breeding of Dogs (Licensing Records) Regulations 1999

Made - - - - - 29th November 1999

Laid before Parliament 7th December 1999

Coming into force - - 30th December 1999

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 1(4)(i) and (4A) of the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973(a), hereby makes the following Regulations:

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Breeding of Dogs (Licensing Records) Regulations 1999 and shall come into force on 30th December 1999.

(2) These Regulations shall not extend to Scotland.

2. For the purposes of section 1(4)(i) of the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973, the records referred to in that section shall be in the form set out in the Schedule to these Regulations.

Home Office
29th November 1999

Mike O'Brien
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State

(a) 1973 c. 60, as amended by section 2 of the Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999 (c. 11).

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Unit: PAG1

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

The Breeding of Dogs Act 1973, as amended by the Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999, requires the local authority to have regard to certain matters in determining whether to grant a licence for the keeping of a breeding establishment and about which conditions must be included in the licence. One such matter is that accurate records should be kept at the premises and made available for inspection (Section 14(i) of the 1973 Act).

These Regulations, which do not apply to Scotland, prescribe the form in which those records must be kept.

APPENDIX D – Minimum Kennel Sizes

Council of Europe guidelines: Kennel size

- The kennel area should be large enough to allow separate sleeping and activity areas.
- The kennel must be sufficiently large to allow each dog to be able to walk, turn around and wag its tail without touching the sides of the kennel, to play, to stand on its hind limbs and to lie down without touching another individual.
- The minimum kennel size should be at least 4m² for dogs under 20kg, and 8m² for dogs over 20kg. This should be increased in relation to size, and number of dogs, such that both the length and width are sufficient for all the dogs to lie outstretched at all angles with neither their tail nor snout touching the walls or another individual.
- Bitches with litters should be provided with double this space allowance.
- For post weaned stock, the following minimum enclosure dimensions and space allowances should apply (taken from Council of Europe (2006)):

Weight of dog (kg)	Minimum enclosure size (m ²)	Minimum floor area/ animal (m ²)	Minimum height (m)
Up to 5	4	0.5	2
Over 5 to 10	4	1.0	2
Over 10 to 15	4	1.5	2
Over 15 to 20	4	2	2
Over 20	8	4	2

- For dogs over 30kg these sizes should be scaled up accordingly and should be proportionate.

APPENDIX E – Cleaning SOP

Cleaning

In a domestic environment the hygiene measures that are normally used in a household will also protect the welfare and health of the dogs. Faeces should be removed from the exercise areas on a daily basis to reduce the likelihood of infection and to prevent any roundworm larvae from maturing.

When adult dogs are kennelled there is likely to be a greater level of contamination and therefore cleaning should be more structured.

Daily: remove all soiled material and wash contamination away using detergent if necessary. Dry after cleaning. Remove soiled bedding and replace with clean. Hose down and dry exercise areas where impervious material is used. Dispose of faeces according to waste regulations.

Weekly: remove all furniture from kennels, hose down using disinfectant and allow to dry before returning furniture. Replace all bedding.

Litters of puppies require a more intensive cleaning regime.

Daily: remove all soiled bedding as required to ensure the area is kept clean and dry, and dispose of appropriately. Wash soiled areas using detergent and dry while the litter is being exercised.

Recently whelped bitches require even more work.

Daily: remove all soiled bedding as required to ensure the area is kept clean and dry, and dispose of appropriately. Wash soiled areas using disinfectant twice daily and replace bedding while the bitch is being exercised.

Bleach – Sodium Hypochlorite

Bleach is commonly thought of a disinfectant and does have some disinfectant properties. However it is not as effective at killing bacteria, viruses and fungi as more commonly used commercial disinfectants and it may cause toxic effects to animals and staff as well as degrading the structure of the building. Bleach acts as an oxidiser and is therefore corrosive to both materials and animals. High concentrations can cause ulceration of the skin and mucous membranes (inside the mouth and conjunctiva). If mixed with some other disinfectants it can release toxic gases that are harmful to both humans and animals causing severe respiratory distress. Generally bleach is not a suitable disinfectant for use in animal premises.

APPENDIX F – Socialisation SOP

Socialisation of puppies to people

Principles

Puppies need to meet a range of different people during their 'socialisation period' (between about 3 and 12 weeks of age) to ensure that they accept contact with people as a normal and positive part of life. During this period, puppies learn what is 'normal' in their environment and what to expect in different circumstances. It is therefore important for all puppies to learn that contact with all sorts of different people is a normal part of life. They also need to learn about the various types of interaction that people have with dogs. For example, they need to accept being handled all over, picked up, their feet being handled and cleaned, ears examined, coat groomed, and nails cut. They also need to learn about the various things that people do, for example, coming in and out of the house/kennel area. They also need to learn that sometimes people interact and play, but at other times they may be present but not interacting with the puppies.

The aim of a structured socialisation programme is to give puppies the best chance of coping well with the various types of people, circumstances in which they appear, and ways in which they interact with dogs, before they are homed to a domestic environment. In order to ensure that they develop a positive perception of people, it is important for the introduction of new experiences to be gradual and controlled. It is also important that puppies are not already anxious or fearful when they interact with people, as this will increase the risk that they will associate contact with a negative experience.

Preparation

- Plan in advance how you will ensure that puppies experience different types of people. All puppies should have contact with a minimum of four people. This should include at least one person of each gender. It should also include at least one person who is above retirement age. Puppies should also experience controlled contact with children. Ideally this should include at least one older child (> 8 years), and also a baby or toddler. For safety, children should only have contact with puppies under the supervision of their parents or

responsible adult. Where access to young children is not feasible, puppies should be exposed to the noises of babies and young children using good quality recordings.

- Prepare in advance any items which will help broaden puppies' experience of people. For example, having a brightly coloured and rustling jacket (as worn by postmen or delivery people), a motorcycle helmet, a cap, a back-pack, a pushchair, a zimmer frame and an umbrella available will mean that people engaged in socialising the puppies can introduce puppies to items that they will commonly see associated with people as adults.
- Ensure that puppies are in an environment in which they are familiar before socialisation starts
- Make sure that you have toys and food treats available before starting the socialisation sessions
- Socialisers should be familiar with behavioural signs of anxiety in puppies to ensure appropriate intensity of interaction for individual puppies

Socialisation to different types of people

- Puppies should be familiar and confident with their main carer before the introduction of further people. This person should spend time playing and interacting with puppies until all of the puppies in the litter approach the carer voluntarily on entering the kennel/room. Where individual puppies show signs of fear or anxiety, such as cowering at the back of the pen, moving away, trembling, or pulling back on contact, they should be given additional attention. This should involve the carer being quiet and calm, crouching or sitting a short distance away from the puppy and encouraging the puppy to approach. Approach should be rewarded with food treats. Interaction with nervous puppies should develop with gentle stroking on the chest area: avoid putting the hand directly towards the puppy's head as this may be perceived as threatening. With increased confidence, the puppy can be gradually stroked on the shoulder, back, flanks and head.

- Once all puppies in a litter confidently approach and interact with their main carer, a programme of introduction to other people can be started. Puppies' response to the introduction of one other person should be evaluated first. Signs of fear or anxiety in individual puppies should be addressed as by the main carer. Once puppies confidently interact with the second person, further new people can be introduced. These should include adults of both gender.
- When puppies are confidently interacting with a number of adults in a familiar environment, they can be introduced to people in different circumstances. For example they should experience people coming and going through a threshold (e.g. door in a household), and meeting people when they are in an outside garden or run.
- The socialisation programme can then be expanded to include contact with children where possible. Older children can interact with puppies, but should be instructed how to appropriately handle and play with puppies before the interaction begins. Contact with children should be supervised at all times to prevent the occurrence of negative experiences for either puppies or children. Where younger children or babies are introduced to puppies, they should be held by their parents. Should direct contact with children be impossible, puppies should experience the range of noises made by babies and children through use of a good quality sound recording (see SOP for introducing noises to puppies).
- Puppies should be given additional experience about the variation in the ways people might appear to them through the use of 'props'. For example people can interact with the puppies wearing a fluorescent jacket, motorcycle helmet or backpack. They can also walk past the puppies using a 'zimmer frame' or pushing a push chair or trolley. These experiences will help puppies to learn that all these variations of how people appear are a normal part of life.

Ensuring puppies are familiar with different types of interaction

- In the domestic environment, dogs need to accept that people come and go regularly from the house, and that this is not a cause for either anxiety or excitement. They also need to learn

that periods of contact with family members sometimes involves interaction, but sometimes also periods when people are busy doing other things. In addition, puppies need to accept all the things that people regularly do with their dogs, such as examining their ears, smoothing them all over, reaching over them, stepping over them, drying their feet and grooming them.

- To ensure that puppies accept as normal people coming and going into a household, ensure that they experience this during the socialisation period. Puppies need to accept that it is normal for people to come and go out of their environment, and that this is neither scary, nor necessarily predictive of positive interaction. This can be achieved by asking friends or neighbours to come in and out of the area in which puppies are housed. They can be asked to sometimes ignore puppies during short visits, and sometimes interact with puppies, but only doing so once they are calm and quiet.
- To ensure that puppies have appropriate expectations of human contact they need to spend time with people when they experience play and interaction, but also periods where people are present but not interacting with puppies. This will better simulate their life with people after re-homing than always expecting people to engage in interaction with them. The latter expectation commonly develops where puppies are housed away from normal family activity and people only go in to see the puppies to play or interact with them. To make sure that puppies which are housed in kennels or quiet areas of the house develop appropriate expectations of interaction, ensure that family members spend time with the puppies when interaction does not occur, for example by sitting quietly and reading a book or watching TV.
- Every puppy should be handled all over by at least four people. They should also be picked up and cuddled, have their feet and ears examined, and be turned over. Throughout all of these interactions puppies should be observed carefully for signs of fear or anxiety. Should such behaviours occur, interactions should stop, and be subsequently re-introduced in a manner that the puppy finds less threatening.

APPENDIX G – Habituation of Puppies SOP

Habituation of puppies to household and potentially aversive noises

Principles

The aim of giving puppies experience of noises before they are homed is to ensure that they perceive such noises are 'normal' and 'unimportant' to protect against the development of fear responses later in life. In order to achieve this, every puppy needs to be exposed to noises at such a volume that they never show signs of anxiety or fear. In this way, sounds become a normal part of each puppy's experience. Before starting this program, you should make sure that you are familiar with behavioural signs of anxiety and fear in dogs.

It is important that puppies are not already anxious or fearful when they first hear noises, as this will increase the risk that they will associate the noises with a negative experience. It is therefore important to ensure that puppies are relaxed, or engaged in positive behaviours such as play, before exposure to noises. Noises need to be first presented at a low volume to ensure that none of the puppies show signs of anxiety. It is better to start at a very low volume, where noises are barely audible to the human ear, to ensure that no puppies respond negatively. The puppies need to be observed to ensure that no signs of anxiety or fear occur. They should continue playing or interacting as if nothing different has happened. Where no signs of anxiety or fear are identified, the volume of the sound can be slightly increased in the subsequent session. This process is repeated, with the volume of noises increased gradually over sessions, ensuring that the puppies do not react in a negative manner. Should any puppy show signs of anxiety during a session, the sound should be stopped immediately. Once the puppy is relaxed again, the sound should be repeated but at a lower volume, such that the puppy no longer reacts. Subsequent increases in volume should be made in smaller increments.

Preparation

- Plan in advance how you will ensure that puppies experience a range of household noises, such as washing machines, vacuum cleaners, doorbells, telephones, radio or TV, and food mixers. In a

domestic environment, this may be through direct exposure as events occur in the household; in kennels good quality recordings of these noises may be required. These are available commercially (e.g. 'Sounds Sociable' is a CD with a range of noises for puppy habituation).

- Consider how you will ensure that puppies will be exposed to sounds which do not occur in the household, such as fireworks, gunshots, traffic and thunder. These sounds are usually best introduced in a controlled manner using good quality recordings. Direct exposure of puppies to loud noises such as fireworks risks causing a fear response in some individuals.
- Ensure that puppies are in an environment in which they are familiar before habituation starts
- Make sure that you have toys and food treats available before starting the habituation
- Ensure familiarity with behavioural signs of anxiety in puppies to ensure appropriate levels of noise exposure at each stage

Habituation to household noises

- In a domestic environment, habituation to most household noises may occur through everyday exposure. For this to occur, puppies need to spend some time in areas of the house where normal household appliances and routines occur. Where puppies are housed in a quiet area of the house, moving them to busy parts of the house for periods of time is beneficial. Exposure to louder, potentially aversive sounds, such as vacuum cleaners should be gradual. For example, initially a switched off vacuum cleaner can be left in an area occupied by puppies. Subsequently, the appliance can be moved around, whilst switched off. The next stage may be to have the appliance turned on but immobile and in an adjacent room, then in the same room, and finally both turned on and moving. During all stages of habituation, puppies should be observed carefully for signs of anxiety and fear. Where these occur, the appliance should be turned off, and subsequent sessions start again at a lower level of exposure.

- Where puppies are housed entirely in quiet areas of a house or in kennels, exposure to household noises is through playing recordings of noises. Noises should be played at times when puppies are engaged in positive activities, such as play. Recordings should be initially played at a low volume, such that they are just audible to people, and the volume increased over subsequent sessions provided that puppies do not show signs of fear. Recordings should include those noises to which dogs will commonly encounter in the domestic environment, such as telephones, doorbells, vacuum cleaners and washing machines.

Habituation to non-household noises

- Prepare or acquire good quality recordings of relevant noises in advance. The noises which commonly cause fear and anxiety in dogs are: fireworks, traffic, trains, aeroplanes, gunshots, hot air balloons and thunder. Recordings should enable the presentation of these sounds as separate elements (e.g. the 'whizz' and 'bang' of fireworks presented separately as well as together), and include the variations in types of noise which dogs are likely to encounter later in life (e.g. shotgun and rifle sounds).
- Ensure that puppies are in a familiar environment, associated with positive experiences (e.g. an area where the puppies are brought out to play). Have toys ready, and ensure there are enough people present to engage the puppies in play.
- Set up the recording in advance, so you are sure that it will play at a very low volume initially. Also start by presenting the separate elements of complex sounds if possible.
- Engage the puppies in play before starting the recording.
- Observe the puppies, and make sure none show signs of fear or anxiety. If this occurs, then stop the sound immediately. Continue to play with puppies until all are relaxed and engaged positively in play. Subsequent exposure to the sound should be at a lower volume, such that signs of anxiety or fear are not induced.
- Where puppies remain engaged in play during the recording, the volume can be slightly increased during the next session, provided puppies do not show signs of fear or anxiety.
- The protocol should be repeated dependent on the puppy's reaction, with the volume of recordings increased on each occasion.

Homing puppies

When puppies are homed, ensure that their new owners are informed of the level of habituation achieved with them. Encourage new owners to continue with the programme of habituation once the puppy is settled in its new home, emphasising the importance of the programme in preventing a serious behaviour problem in their new pet. Advise the new owner how to continue with the programme, emphasising the importance of gradual exposure.

APPENDIX H – Feeding SOP

Feeding

Adults: adult dogs (over 6-8 months old depending on breed) should be fed twice daily to provide environmental enrichment as well as nutrition. The food should be appropriate for the dog's lifestyle and age, and consistent. Any significant changes should be made over a period of several days. Adults should also be given food in a variety of food toys that are changed on a daily basis. Care should be taken that competition for food is not going to result in aggression between dogs.

Pregnant and lactating bitches: The nutritional requirements for pregnant and lactating bitches are significantly greater than for other adult dogs. The food should be appropriately high quality and bitches should be fed more frequently according to the schedule below:

Pregnant 0 – 4 weeks: xx times daily *

Pregnant 4 – 6 weeks: xx times daily *

Pregnant > 6 weeks: xx times daily *

Lactating 0 – 2 weeks: xx times daily *

Lactating 2 – 4 weeks: xx times daily *

Lactating 4 – 7 weeks: xx times daily *

Puppies also require more frequent feeding with food appropriate for growth according to the table below:

Age	Food	Frequency
3 – 4 weeks	*	* times daily
4 – 6 weeks	*	* times daily
6 – 8 weeks	*	* times daily

* Insert details as appropriate

After the age of four weeks puppies should be fed in individual bowls and supervised to ensure that each puppy eats its fair share of food. When necessary, individual puppies may need to be removed during feeding if they are not eating all their own food.

Hygiene: All food and water bowls should be thoroughly washed at least once daily. Utensils used for distributing food should be washed between feeding sessions. All food should be kept in vermin-proof containers. Food should be measured to ensure that every dog receives an appropriate amount of food.

In a domestic environment different utensils should be used to deal with dogs' food and feeding utensils should be washed separately from those used by the people.

In a kennel environment there should be a separate kitchen to prepare dogs' food and this should be cleaned with appropriate cleaning fluids after each feeding session.

APPENDIX I – Health & Welfare Plan

Breeding establishment veterinary health plan

The veterinary health plan for a breeding establishment is a statement of requirements of routine veterinary treatment. It may not be necessary for all breeding establishments to cover all the issues suggested. A list of those issues that should be included for consideration, usually in consultation with the breeder's veterinary surgeon, in establishing a health plan is below:

Primary vaccination regime;

Booster vaccination regime;

External parasite treatment regime (breeding stock and puppies);

Internal parasite treatment regime (breeding stock and puppies);

Microchip implantation and registration regime;

Socialisation and habituation programme for puppies

Pet insurance cover for puppies

Routine health check arrangements;

Review of cleaning regime;

Review of quarantine/isolation arrangements.

The health plan should be produced in consultation with the establishment's veterinary practice and must be signed and stamped by the attending veterinary surgeon.

Medicines

All medicines should have a current Marketing Authorisation for sale in the UK, within its expiry date, and used as per instruction. They should be stored in a suitable secure cabinet. They should be protected from light and extremes of temperature.

Prescription Only Medicine – Veterinary (POM-V) medicines should only be used for the specific animals to which they are prescribed. The specific veterinary instruction should be followed.

Non Food Animal Medicine – Veterinary, Pharmacist and Suitably Qualified Person (NFA-VPS) and Authorised Veterinary medicine – General Sale List

(AVM-GSL) medicines should be used in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines.

Contagious/infectious diseases on the premises

All dogs subject to this licence should be vaccinated against Canine Distemper, Infectious Canine Hepatitis (Canine Adenovirus), Leptospirosis and Canine Parvovirus unless vaccination is contraindicated on the direction of the Veterinary Surgeon and recorded on individual dogs' records. It may be necessary to vaccinate against other diseases and veterinary advice should be sought.

Vaccination records should be kept for each dog and be up to date according to the vaccine manufacturer's datasheet unless certified by the veterinary surgeon.

Adequate precautions should be taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious and contagious diseases and parasites among dogs and zoonoses among dogs and visitors. Records should be kept of all vaccination and worming regimes (See also Record Keeping – Section 6).

Infectious canine bronchitis ('Kennel Cough') can be problematic in kennels, and staff should be aware of the clinical signs. However, because vaccination will depend on the local level of infection, it is recommended that the advice of a veterinary surgeon is sought.

Parasitic control should be in the health plan and the log book and should also show treatments and prevention routines for external parasites including fleas, mites, lice and ticks. Appropriate treatment must be carried out if they are found on any of the dogs. When treating these infestations it is important to take account of the life cycle of the parasite in order to achieve maximum control or even eradication. For instance, simply killing the adult flea is unlikely to provide adequate control.

Several mange mites affect dogs, including *Demodex folliculorum*, *Sarcoptes scabiei* and *Cheyletiella*, species, all of which attack the skin, and *Otodectes cynotis*, which is most commonly seen in the ears. Any of these infestations can cause illness in puppies and older dogs.

Some of these parasites can cause disease in humans. Ringworm (a fungal infection) can also be passed to humans. Early diagnosis and thorough treatment of both dogs and environment is essential if the disease is to be controlled. The veterinary surgeon should be consulted if any of these conditions is suspected or known. Particular care is required with pregnant bitches and suckling puppies when using treatments for these infestations.

For the control of roundworms, pregnant and nursing bitches should be given additional worming treatment. Breeding bitches require particular attention and veterinary advice should always be sought. As a rule of thumb, it is suggested that bitches are wormed before mating and then again after the 41st day of pregnancy with an appropriate anthelmintic. The bitch should be wormed at the same time as the puppies, every two weeks from two to twelve weeks of age. Thereafter it is recommended that puppies should be wormed at regular intervals, according to manufacturer's instructions (often monthly until 6 months of age). From 26 weeks of age into adulthood, worming should be carried out routinely – at least 4 times per year

Advice concerning dogs with tapeworms should be sought from the veterinary surgeon.

Health status of dogs

There should be a daily physical inspection of every animal to check for any signs of illness or distress.

Advice from a Veterinary Surgeon should be sought where a dog shows signs of disease, injury, or illness or behavioural disorder.

If dogs are imported from abroad, appropriate health testing should be carried out.

APPENDIX J – Emergency Evacuation/ Contingency SOP

Introduction

All appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the dogs in case of fire or other emergency; Breeding and Sale of Dogs Act 1973 S. 1(4)(d).

There should be an Emergency Evacuation Plan (EEP) and fire warning procedure in place. This should be posted where staff may become familiar with it.

This procedure should include instructions dealing where dogs are to be evacuated to and contingency for their accommodation/care if the premises are rendered unsafe or unsuitable.

Prior to formulating an Emergency and Evacuation Plan carry out a Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) to identify any potential fire risk hazards within your establishment.

Emergency situations and the requirement to evacuate from the establishment can arise from a number of situations like; Fire, Flooding, Damage to building, Power failure and disease.

Being prepared and planning a simple but well understood procedure to be carried out in the event of an emergency is essential to offer maximum protection for you, your staff and the animals in your care. This need not be a lengthy document but should include a plan of the site giving exit points, location of telephone, emergency equipment (fire extinguishers and storage of leads/baskets/cages) rendezvous point and designated holding area for animals. The emergency contact details of a supervisor or the proprietor and the establishments Veterinary Surgeon should also be displayed.

Fire fighting equipment and detectors must be properly maintained. All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe condition. There should be a residual current circuit breaker system on each kennel block /for the premises. Heating appliances should not be sited in a location or manner where they may present a risk of fire / risk to dogs. Precaution should be taken to prevent any accumulation of material which may present a risk of fire.

Fire Risk Assessment

1. Identify potential fire risk hazards in the workplace
2. Decide who might be in danger (staff, Visitor, animal) in each area
3. Evaluate the risks arising from hazards and what can be done
4. Record your findings
5. Keep assessment under review

There should be adequate means of raising an alarm in the event of a fire or other emergency. In the event of a fire breaking out within your establishment, remember that your safety and those of your staff is of prime importance and no risks should be taken which may compromise any person's safety. No task in tackling the fire or evacuating animals should be undertaken unless it is safe to do so.

Upon Discovery of Fire

- Leave fire area immediately
- Close all doors behind you
- Alert occupants of building by sounding alarm (if present) or yell "Fire"
- Telephone Fire and Rescue Services dialling 999 from a safe location
- Evacuate animals when it is safe to do so to the designated holding area
- Use exit to leave building

Upon Hearing of a Fire Condition

- If safe, staff can assist with evacuating animals / occupants
- Leave building via nearest safe exist
- Close doors behind you
- Remain Calm
- Proceed to the designated RV area

Fire and Evacuation Action Plan

Planning Your Escape	<p>You only have a short time to get out so prepare a plan of escape in advance rather than waiting until there is a fire or evacuation of the establishment.</p> <p>Think of another way out in case the normal route is blocked.</p> <p>Know where door and window keys are kept.</p> <p>Know where spare leads/baskets/cages are stored.</p> <p>Know where the RVP/Holding areas are.</p>	
If you discover a fire		<p>Leave fire area immediately.</p> <p>Close all doors behind you.</p> <p>Sound the alarm and call 999 from any phone.</p> <p>Stay calm, speak clearly and listen to the operator.</p> <p>Where safe to do so, assist others to evacuate and remove animals to the safe holding area.</p> <p>If there is a fire elsewhere in the establishment, stay where you are and await instructions or if you have to move remember to check doors with the back of your hand before opening.</p> <p>If it feels warm, do not open it and go another way.</p> <p>If there is a lot of smoke, crawl along floor where the air will be cleaner.</p> <p>If in doubt – Get out, Stay out and get the Fire & Rescue Services Out.</p>
Contacts in an Emergency	<p>(enter details here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proprietors name and Telephone Number(s) • Supervisors Name and Telephone Number(s) • Establishments Veterinary Surgeons Name(s) and Telephone Number(s) 	<p>(enter details here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone at (enter location) • Emergency equipment at (enter location) • RVP at (enter location) • Animal Holding area at (enter location) • Fire Extinguishers located at (enter location) • Keys kept at (enter location)
<p>RVP = Rendezvous Point</p>		

The onus is upon the breeding establishment to ensure adequate fire prevention precautions are in place.

It is recommended that plans and details for large breeding establishments are lodged with the police and fire authorities. Fire prevention advice may be sought from the Fire Prevention Officer based at your local fire station. This officer can give advice on fire drills, fire escapes, equipment and should be consulted when new buildings are constructed or existing buildings modified.

Smoke detectors are recommended and you must make sure that Fire Detection and fighting equipment are easily accessible and regularly tested. Exit routes should be kept clear. Staff should be familiar with the fire evacuation procedure by use of fire drills and how to use the fire extinguishers. The Fire Precautions (Workplace) Regulations 1997 place a duty on employers to carry out a risk assessment for the premises not covered by a fire certificate.

APPENDIX K – Daily Routine SOP

Daily routine

Daily routine should be set out in detail so that dogs can be cared for in an emergency or when owners are away by a person with minimal knowledge of them. The following should be set out:

- **Dogs' (pet) names, ages and general character traits** (likes & dislikes) – who mixes best, exercises, plays or sleeps with whom and general care and management of groups of dogs, where applicable.
- **General Timetable** for (daily duties) waking, feeding, cleaning, exercising, grooming and sleeping arrangements. This may also provide specific or non specific designated periods during the day when carers may leave the dogs unattended, provided the dogs are left in a secure and safe environment (indoor/outdoor kennel, fenced enclosure or kitchen/utility room) – a maximum of 3/4 hours per day being a suggested time.
- **Feeding schedules** (for each dog) containing explicit details as to the times, place, quantities, type of food required. This may be the same or several times each day or vary according to the needs of the dog(s).
- **Cleaning schedules** – what is required and when, what cleaning materials are to be used and means of disposal. This will include washing, drying and (frequency of) replacement of dogs' bedding and places (dog beds, utility room/kitchen, outdoor or indoor kennel) where the dog(s) rest/sleep and exercise (outdoor enclosures, exercise pens, gardens, paddocks etc).
- **Exercise/play** – (for each dog), or groups of dogs with explicit direction as to whether dogs are to be exercised/walked separately, or in groups and when, where, how frequently, for what length of time. Exercise may be taken in a fenced enclosure, paddock, garden, on and off the lead (private/public road, parks, woodland, fields etc). No dog(s) to be removed from the premises (other than for exercise) without (verbal/written) explicit permission from the owner.
- **Grooming** – (for each dog). Including daily brushing/combing of coat, general care (teeth, ear cleaning, bathing etc). Bathing or washing may be required, dependent on how dirty the dog becomes during the course of the day/night, or in the event that it becomes unwell (sickness, diarrhoea etc). Unless fully qualified or approved (by qualification and/ or prior agreement between owner and carer), trimming of coat, or nails, with either scissors or clippers will generally not be required. Should this be necessary, ability (qualification) or willingness to carry out such a task should be discussed prior to the owner leaving the premises.
- **Medication** (prescriptive and/or holistic) (for each dog) – oral (by mouth), or topical (applied externally), or by injection, if and when required – a time and check list (before, with or after mealtimes or specific time of the day) for administration should also be provided. If use of daily injections is required, for example for diabetic dogs, special instruction should be provided to the satisfaction of both the owner and carer, or arrangements made for a veterinary visit, if preferred.
- **Contact information Sheet** providing contact details for absent owner, Veterinary Surgeon, Dentist, Doctor, Plumber, Electrician (for household/carer requirements), etc and other family or friends who might be needed to be contacted for assistance in an emergency.
- **Special paperwork** (example attached**) to be signed by both owner and carer as to both daily responsibility and in the event of urgent veterinary attention, especially, if or when, euthanasia becomes a clinical necessity. This may be more applicable in the event that any, or some, of the dogs are elderly or clinically infirm or in case of accident. The Veterinary Surgeon, looking after said dog(s), should be advised prior to the owner's absence, especially for long periods of time (holiday/business) that a carer is in sole charge. In any event, all effort must first be made to contact the owner prior to a decision by the Vet that euthanasia is the only option.

ANNEX L – Template Inspection Proforma

LICENCE CONDITIONS INSPECTION SHEET FOR DOG BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS										Tick boxes √/x		
Name				Date of Inspection			Breeding		Rescue		Boarding	
Address of Establishment				Person seen		Signature	Full Inspection		Part Inspection		Revisit	
				Inspectors name(s)								
Licence on Display		Insurance		Pest Control policy/contract		Breeder's Vet details displayed			Accident Book (H&S)		Emergency Contact displayed	
Has copy of Licence Con & Legislation		Register and Back up										

Non Domestic Establishment		Domestic Establishment		Semi-outdoor/indoor					Number of dogs	F	
										M	
Metal		Brick		Wooden		Other		Number Units		Litters (present)	
								Number of Staff		Litters (planned)	

Index

Identification code	Section	Description
1	Accommodation	Kennel Unit Design: Drainage: Exercise Area and Run: walls, floors, ceilings, doors, occupant nos., security, bedding, cleanliness. Interior Surfaces: Lighting: Litter Trays: Roofing: Safety Corridors: Sizes: Temperature: Ventilation
2	Management	Drinking: Eating: Refrigeration: Storage of foods: Washing equipment: Supervision: E. Enrichment: Handling: Kitchen facilities: Isolation: First Aid
3	Vac disease Con	Health and Welfare Plan: Registered Vet
4	Emergency	Monitoring: Emergency Evacuation and Contingency Plans
5	Transport	Transportation of dogs and puppies
6	Health and Welfare of the breeding bitch	Mating: Max no. of Litters: Puppy Plan: Record Keeping: S.O.P's

Rating	0	Does not meet the minimum standard	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; min-height: 100px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 0;"><u>Comments</u></p> </div>
Rating	1	Meets standard, but with noticeable limitations	
Rating	2	Meets the standard	
Rating	3	Exceeds the standard	

ANNEX L – Template Inspection Proforma

Area	Identification Code	Description	√	x	Rating	Actions or Comments	Done √
Records	4	Written emergency plan and risk assessment					
Records	6	Prescribed Forms					
Records	6	Breeding Arrangements					
Records	6	Assured Breeder Scheme					
Records	6	Permanent identification					
Records	6	Movement of dogs					
Records	6	Register and Back-up					
Records	6	S.O.Ps including Feeding and Exercise Regime					
Records	6	Vaccinations & Health records & Isolation Cases					
Records	6	Whelping records					
Records	6	Barrier nursing S.O.Ps					
Records	6	Veterinary details/displayed/health screening					
Records	4	Fire equipment records					
Records	6	Temperature records					
Records	3	Health Plan					
Records	6	Puppy Contract					
Records	6	Retired					
Records	6	Transport (Journey times)					
Records	2	Staff Training records					
Kitchen/Eating	2	Cleanliness/Condition of Eating and Drinking Vessels					
Kitchen	2	Cleanliness of Kitchen					
Kitchen/Eating	2	Refrigeration					
Kitchen/Eating	2	Washing equipment					
Kitchen/Eating	2	Storage of foods and quality kept					
Kitchen/Eating	2	Feeding regime					

ANNEX L – Template Inspection Proforma

Area	Identification Code	Description	√	x	Rating	Actions or Comments	Done √
Unit	1	Sound and safe construction					
Unit	1	Suitable Construction Materials					
Unit	1	Sleeping accommodation sizes					
Unit	1	Secure windows, doors & fencing					
Roofing	1	Safe and Waterproof roofing					
Unit/Drainage	1	Drainage/Drain covers					
Unit	1	Escape-proof area					
Door and Corridor	1	Secure Corridor and width/secure doors					
Unit	1	Flooring					
Unit	1	Lighting					
Unit	1	Walls & Partitions					
Lighting	1	Adequate lighting					
Ventilation	1	Ventilation/Draughts					
Interior	1	Good repair, clean and sealed joints					
Temperature	1	Max-Min Thermometer/Temperature					
Unit/Temperature	1 + 4	Safe Appliances + Fire fighting equipment					
Unit	1	Waterproof sockets					
Unit	1	Sharp edges/Other hazards					
Unit	1	Dog crates					
Bedding	1	Bedding materials					
Unit	1	Windows					
Exercise Run	1	Exercise Run Area sizes					
Exercise Run	1	Access to Run					
Exercise Run	1	Clean and secure Run					
Unit	1	Whelping facilities					
Behaviour	2	Toys/Environmental enrichment					
Hygiene	1	Cleaning products					
Management	2	First Aid Kit for dogs					

Area	Identification Code	Description	√	x	Rating	Actions or Comments	Done √
Isolation	2	Hygeine protocols and protective garments					
Isolation	2	Veterinary instruction					
Isolation	2	Location of isolation					
Isolation	2	Cleanliness and pocedures for use					
Isolation	2	Size if Isolation					
Transport	5	Use of vehicles for transportation					

ADDITIONAL NOTES

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ZOO LICENSING CONDITIONS

The following conditions are attached to all zoo licences pursuant to section 5 (2A) and section 5 (3) of the Zoo Licensing Act 1981.

Conservation Measures for Zoos

Promote public education and awareness about biodiversity conservation. In particular, provide information about the species of wild animals kept in the zoo and their natural habitats;

Accommodate and keep the animals in a manner consistent with the standards set out in the Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice.

Prevent escapes and put in place measures to be taken in the event of any escape or unauthorised release of animals.

Introduce practical measures designed to prevent the intrusion of pests and vermin into the premises of the zoo.

Keep up-to-date records of the animals, including numbers of different animals, acquisitions, births, deaths, disposals and escapes, causes of deaths and the health of the animals.

Participate in at least one of the following:

- research which benefits the conservation of wild animals
- training in relevant conservation skills
- exchanging information about the conservation of wild animals
- breeding of wild animals in captivity
- repopulating an area with wild animals, or re-introducing wild animals

Information must be kept to show how it has complied with this condition and supply it to the local authority upon request.

Insurance

Within one month of the date of the licence and one month of the date of renewal of the policy, where applicable, a copy of the zoo's current public liability insurance policy, and of subsequent renewals thereof, is to be sent to the licensing authority.

Hazardous animals

The licensing authority to be notified in writing, at least one month in advance, of the proposed addition of any animal listed in category 1 of the Hazardous Animal Categorisation (see Appendix 12 of the Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice), which is from a taxonomic family of which Category 1 species have not previously been kept in the zoo.

Temporary removal of animals from the zoo

The licensee/s to notify the licensing authority before the temporary removal from the zoo (other than for veterinary attention or inter-zoo movements) of any animal listed in category 1 of the Hazardous Animal Categorisation of the Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice. Such notification is to be given as early as possible and, in any case, no later than 12 hours before the removal, unless the licence holder and licensing authority mutually agree a shorter period. When giving notification, details of the destination and method of transportation of the animal and of the arrangements for its well-being, as well as for the safety of the public whilst it is away from the zoo, to be provided.

Escapes

In the event of any non-domestic animal escaping from the confines of the zoo, notification shall be made to the licensing authority as soon as possible, and, in any case, not later than 24 hours following the escape.

Note 1. These conditions are attached to the licence without prejudice to the application, where relevant, of the Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice specified in accordance with powers conferred under section 9 of the Zoo Licensing Act 1981.

Note 2. The grant of this licence does not imply that the requirements of any other legislation have been met.