

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

CONDITIONS

The following conditions are made under the authority of s.1 (2)
of the Act.

File Ref:

Animals must at all times be kept in accommodation suitable with respect to:

1. CONSTRUCTION

- 1.1 Accommodation must be constructed so that the floor and, to a height of at least 0.95 m (3 ft) the walls, of all kennels, cages, partitions and passages be surfaced with an impervious material adequately and readily cleansable.

Dogs

Wood is not impervious and its use will only be permitted provided any surface with which the animal can come into contact is faced with impervious sheeting (eg, metal or plastic).

Cats

Although wood is not impervious, it will be accepted if it is adequately coated with an impervious substance such as varnish or polyurethane. Where the cat is liable to scratch, eg, on timber uprights and around the doorframe, then the wood must also be protected with some form of shielding, eg plastic guttering or welded metal mesh.

- 1.2 Suitable drainage must be supplied.
- 1.3 The compartment runs must be paved or surfaced in such a way as to allow adequate cleaning and disinfection.

1.4 **Cats**

Sneeze screens must be provided between the runs unless there is a separation distance of 610 mm between each compartment.

2. WELFARE

2.1 Size - Dogs

Two minimum space standards are available, depending on approximate size of dog.

For medium and large dogs (eg above 10 kg), the sleeping quarters must have a minimum floor area of 1.86 sq m (20 sq ft). For toy and small dogs (eg below 10 kg), the sleeping quarters must have a minimum floor area of 0.84 sq m (9 sq ft). It must also be capable of being kept closed and only the dogs sleeping in that compartment must have access to it. Outer runs/exercise areas provided for individual dogs must have a minimum floor area of 2.2 sq m (24 sq ft). The height must be approximately 1.85 m (6 ft). Communal exercise areas must be

of adequate size for the number of dogs. The dogs must have access to shelter at all times.

2.2 **Size - Cats**

Cats should have a sleeping area and an exercise area to which they have access except at times of cleaning. The sleeping area must be large enough for the cat to stand up and turn around. The total floor area should be approximately 1.39 sq m (15 sq ft) for two cats. This size may be reduced to 1.18 sq m (12.7 sq ft) where only one cat is to be accommodated. Both the sleeping area and exercise area should be roofed.

The entrance to the run should be approximately 1.85 m (6 ft).

2.3 **Number of Occupants**

The maximum number of dogs and cats will be directly related to the number of compartments.

NB: No cats from different households may ever be housed together.

2.4 **Temperature**

The sleeping accommodation must be heated as necessary to ensure that a minimum temperature of 7°C (44.6°F) is maintained. Draughts and damp should be excluded.

2.5 **Lighting**

The accommodation must be adequately lit. If daylight is used it must have adequate supplementary artificial light to allow the proper working and cleaning of the compartments.

2.6 **Ventilation**

This must be adequate to maintain the atmosphere of the sleeping quarters of the animals, clean and draught free.

2.7 Animals must be supplied with sufficient suitable food and bedding material. Wholesome drinking water must be available at all times.

2.8 All animals must be provided with a bedding area or bench large and suitable enough to allow the animal to lie comfortably. Where bedding is used it should be maintained in a clean and dry state. Moveable benches should be removed for thorough cleaning at least twice weekly.

2.9 All animals must have adequate daily exercise.

- 2.10 Animals must be (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals of less than 4 hours except from 6.00 pm to 8.00 am.
- 2.11 Whenever animals are being boarded there must always be someone resident at the premises.
- 2.12 Sufficient precautions must be taken for the protection of the animals in case of fire or other emergencies.

3. HYGIENE

3.1 Cleanliness

In order to maintain efficient disease control and animal comfort the accommodation and ancillary areas, kitchen, corridors, runs etc., must be maintained in a state of cleanliness. All excreta and soiled material must be removed at least once daily (and more often if necessary) from all living compartments and exercise areas. The floors of living compartments must be kept clean and dry.

Cats must be provided at all times with a litter tray.

Facilities must be provided for the collection of all used bedding and cat litter and other waste material which must be disposed of in a manner approved by the Environmental Health Division.

- 3.2 All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent the spread amongst animals of infectious or contagious diseases. Adequate isolation facilities must be provided. Current vaccination certificates must be presented for each animal on arrival and details kept on record.
- 3.3 At each change of occupant, all bedding and water utensils must be changed and the compartment thoroughly cleaned and disinfected to ensure that diseases or parasites are not passed on. The disinfectant should be of sufficient strength to be effective.

NB: Remember using too strong a disinfectant can cause poisoning.
- 3.4 Feeding utensils must be satisfactorily cleaned or disposed of after each feed. A kitchen must be provided for preparing the animals' food which must be kept clean and vermin-free at all times. Refrigeration facilities must be provided. All bulk supplies of food must be kept in vermin-proof containers.

4. MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 A register must be kept containing a description of all animals received into the establishment, date of arrival and departure and the name and address of the owner. The Register must be kept available for inspection at all times by an authorised officer.
- 4.2 A copy of the licence must be conspicuously displayed to the public on the premises.
- 4.3 Precautions must be taken to minimise the nuisance to any residents in the neighbourhood from noise and the burning of waste.
- 4.4 No Licence will be issued to any person disqualified under:
 - (a) The Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963;
 - (b) The Pet Animals Act 1951;
 - (c) The Protection of Animals (Cruelty to Dogs) Act 1933;
 - (d) The Protection of Animals (Cruelty to Dogs) (Scotland) Act 1934; and
 - (e) The Protection of Animals (Amendment) Act 1954.

N.B. Where appropriate it is recommended that the establishment should be insured to cover illness of, or injury to animals.