

# **TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **LICENSING CONDITIONS AND GUIDANCE FOR HOME BREEDING OF DOGS**

# Contents

## **1. GENERAL CONDITIONS**

1.1 Licence Display

## **2. ACCOMMODATION & ENVIRONMENT**

2.1 Domestic Environment

2.2 Size of Quarters

2.3 Bedding

2.4 Temperature & Heating

2.5 Lighting

2.6 Ventilation

2.7 Cleanliness

2.8 Pest Control

2.9 Waste Disposal

2.10 Whelping

## **3. DIET AND NUTRITION**

3.1 Food & Drink

3.2 Food Preparation & Storage Facilities

## **4. NORMAL BEHAVIOUR**

4.1 Exercise

4.2 Supervision

4.3 Staff ratio/stocking density

4.4 Domestic Layout

## **5. HEALTH AND WELFARE**

5.1 Registration with a Veterinary Surgeon

5.2 Medicines

5.3 Contagious/Infectious diseases

5.4 Health Status of dogs

5.5 Breeding

5.6 Isolation facilities

5.7 First aid kit

5.8 Protection from fire

5.9 Safety of Electrical Equipment

## **6. RECORD KEEPING**

6.1 Dog Identification

6.2 Puppies

6.3 Sales of Breeding Bitches and Stud Dogs

6.4 Transport of Dogs

## **7. ANIMAL WELFARE ACT 2006**

7.1 Puppy Facilities

7.2 Exhibiting Normal Behaviour Patterns

7.3 Socialisation of Puppies

7.4 Responsible Breeding

7.5 Strategy for the retirement of breeding bitches and stud dogs.

## **8. OTHER GUIDANCE**

8.1 Other Current Relevant Legislation

## **OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF A LICENCED ESTABLISHMENT**

A – Appeals Procedure

B – Fire Precautions Guidance

C – Health and Safety

## **ADDITIONAL SCHEDULES**

Schedule 1 – Breeding Bitch Log Book

Schedule 2 – Breeding Stud Log Book

Schedule 3 – Puppy ID Card

## **1. GENERAL CONDITIONS**

<b>Licence Condition</b>	<b>Guidance</b>
<b>1.1 Licence Display</b>  a. A copy of the licence and its conditions must be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position at the breeding establishment.	

## **2. ACCOMMODATION & ENVIRONMENT**

*Dogs must be kept in accommodation that is appropriate for construction, size of quarters, bedding, exercising facilities, temperature and heating, lighting, ventilation, cleanliness, and waste disposal. Whelping and puppy facilities must be available.*

<b>Licence Condition</b>	<b>Guidance</b>
<b>2.1 Domestic Environment</b>  a. All dogs must live, sleep and whelp within the domestic premises. b. The domestic premises must be a safe environment for the dogs to live in.	<p>Dogs should have adequate resources to avoid competition and monopolisation in the domestic environment, e.g. this includes hiding places, beds, toys etc.</p> <p>Paths, gardens and exercise areas should be well maintained and in good, clean, safe condition.</p> <p>All floors should provide sufficient grip for the dogs to walk or run without slipping.</p> <p>The domestic environment should also prevent against, the risk of escape.</p>

<p><b>2.2 Size of Quarters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Dog cages may be used as overnight sleeping accommodation for a maximum of 9 hours only.</li> <li>b. If they are used they must be sufficiently large to allow each dog to be able to stand, turn around and wag its tail without touching the sides.</li> </ul> <p>Please refer to 2.10 with regards to Whelping facilities.</p>	
<p><b>2.3 Bedding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Beds and bedding must be provided and be suitable to allow dogs to be comfortable.</li> <li>b. Beds and bedding must be capable of being easily cleaned, disinfected and sited away from draughts.</li> <li>c. All bedding material in use must be clean, non-irritant and dry.</li> <li>d. A dog bed must be of a durable impervious construction and be a suitable size for the breed of dogs kept.</li> <li>e. Each dog must have access to a bed of its own.</li> </ul>	<p>A dog bed is defined as a base and 3 or 4 side walls (3D) with the option of a roof.</p> <p>Examples of suitable bedding are 'Vetbed' and fabric or fleece materials (capable of being washed).</p>
<p><b>2.4 Temperature &amp; Heating</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Heating and cooling facilities must be available in the domestic environment and used according to the requirements of the individual dog and pups.</li> <li>b. There must be some part of the sleeping area where the dog is able to enjoy a minimum temperature of 10°C and a maximum temperature of 26°C</li> </ul>	<p>As puppies have limited thermoregulatory control in the first ten days or so of life, additional local heating should be provided within the whelping enclosure. Temperatures at dog level should be monitored and recorded.</p> <p>The source of heat should cover a large enough area for the whole litter.</p> <p>Outdoor areas provided for animals to exercise and interact</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. In the isolation area there must be a means of maintaining the temperature at a level suitable for the condition of the dog, and dependant upon veterinary advice. However, the temperature in the isolation kennel must not be allowed to rise above 26 C or fall below 13 C</li> <li>d. Licensees must ensure that all heat sources are safe and comply with all regulatory requirements for both the animals and people working there.</li> </ul>	<p>cannot have strict temperature regulation. Animals should not be restricted to such areas under climatic conditions which may cause them distress.</p> <p>In order to maintain temperatures as required, the use of individual heat sources for dogs may prove adequate. In some circumstances additional background heating will also be required.</p> <p>Devices used for heating and cooling should be safe and free from risk of burning or electrocution. Open fires should be suitably guarded.</p> <p>By their very nature heat lamps are installed at low level and cannot be fitted with plastic covers but should have metal mesh guards to protect dogs from direct contact with hot bulbs.</p> <p>There is a far greater chance of heat lamps being knocked and bulbs broken when suspended at low levels but there are bulbs available on the market that are resistant to breakage during normal use. These bulbs should be sourced and used if at all possible.</p>
<p><b>2.5 Lighting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Light must be provided to exercise and sleeping areas so that all parts are clearly visible. Where practicable this should be natural light.</li> <li>b. Lighting needs to be switched off at night time to allow proper sleep patterns.</li> </ul>	<p>Consideration should be given in the domestic environment to the positioning of any free standing lights, which could otherwise be knocked over by dogs.</p>

<p><b>2.6 Ventilation</b></p> <p>a. Ventilation must be provided to all interior areas without the creation of excessive, localised draughts in the sleeping area. It must also be able to regulate changes in temperature.</p>	<p>In the domestic environment adequate ventilation can be provided by simply opening a window, but full consideration should be given and steps taken to prevent the risk of escape or compromise the safety of the dogs.</p>
<p><b>2.7 Cleanliness</b></p> <p>a. All excreta and soiled material must be removed from all areas used by the dogs at least daily and more often if necessary.</p>	<p>A list of disinfectants can be found at:  <a href="http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/">http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/</a></p>
<p><b>2.8 Pest Control</b></p> <p>a. Measures must be taken to minimise the risks from rodents, insects and other pests within the home. Such pests must be adequately dealt with without delay to eradicate any infestation.</p>	<p>The manufacturer's guidance should be followed when using control products in order to minimise risk to dogs.</p>
<p><b>2.9 Waste Disposal</b></p> <p>a. Facilities must be provided for the proper reception, storage and disposal of waste.</p> <p>b. Particular care must be taken to segregate waste arising from the treatment and handling of dogs with infectious diseases.</p> <p>c. Disposal facilities for animal waste must be agreed with the Licensing Authority.</p>	<p>The licensee should check with the Environment Agency for current guidance on the appropriate means of disposal.</p>

## 2.10 Whelping Facilities

- a. All bitches must be provided with a designated area prior to whelping, with a suitable whelping box/bed.
- b. Heating facilities must be adequate, secure and safe and capable of providing the range of temperatures, suitable for both pups and bitch.
- c. An area must be provided where a bitch can rest away from her pups.
- d. Dog cages are not suitable and must not be used as whelping beds

Bitches should generally be housed with other dogs in a pair or group, but should be individually housed for a few days prior to whelping. However, they should continue to have sight, sound and smell of other familiar bitches and daily contact with humans.

The whelping box/bed should be of a suitable size to contain the bitch and all puppies comfortably taking into account breed and size of litter. Also, beds with crush bars are advisable to avoid the accidental crushing of puppies by the bitch.

From approximately 3 days after parturition, bitches should be given short periods of exercise away from their litter.

Bitches due to whelp should be inspected regularly. When in labour, bitches should be closely monitored and if any signs of difficulty are shown, a vet should be contacted as a matter of urgency. Contact details for veterinary support should be readily available.

### 3. DIET AND NUTRITION

*Dogs must be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink at all times for breed, age and varying nutritional requirements. Adequate food preparation facilities must be available.*

<b>Licence Condition</b>	<b>Guidance</b>
<p><b>3.1 Food &amp; Drink</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. All dogs must be supplied with a diet suitable for their type, age and breed.</li><li>b. Fresh clean water must be available at all times and changed daily.</li><li>c. Eating and drinking vessels must be of a design that prevents spillage as far as is practicable.</li><li>d. Vessels must be capable of being easily cleansed, sterilized and must be maintained in a clean condition.</li></ul>	<p>All dogs including weaned puppies should have access to separate feeding vessels.</p> <p>All dogs must receive a diet which fulfils their nutritional requirements and is matched to their age, breed, reproductive status, body condition score and activity level.</p> <p>Veterinary advice should be sought where puppies fail to gain weight, or lose weight.</p> <p>Refer to Welsh Government Codes of Practice</p>
<p><b>3.2 Food Preparation &amp; Storage Facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Suitable facilities, hygienically constructed and maintained, must be provided for the storage and preparation of food for the dogs.</li><li>b. Where fresh and cooked meats are stored, refrigeration facilities must be provided. Food contamination must be avoided.</li><li>c. A sink with hot and cold running water must be available for washing kitchen utensils and eating and drinking vessels.</li></ul>	<p>Dog food preparation should be kept totally separate from areas used for human food preparation for hygiene reasons.</p>

- d. Containers must be provided for the storage of foods and shall be so constructed and kept in such good order, repair and condition as to be proof against insects and other pests.

#### 4. **NORMAL BEHAVIOUR**

*Dogs must be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns at all times. They must have the opportunity to enjoy exercise and be adequately supervised. Consequently owners must comply with approved staff ratios. Dogs will be kept in an environment with facilities to enhance and enrich their environment and to enable the socialisation of puppies.*

<b>Licence Condition</b>	<b>Guidance</b>
<p><b>4.1 Exercise</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All dogs must have sufficient exercise for their individual needs to ensure their physical and mental wellbeing.</li> <li>b. Where dogs do not have a specific exercise area or free access to an exercise area, a written exercise programme must be provided and approved by the local authority.</li> </ul>	<p>In a domestic environment dogs should have regular exercise outside the domestic environment. This could take the form of walks in the park/on the beach.</p>
<p><b>4.2 Supervision</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Where the Licensee is absent for some time then supervision of the premises must be by a suitable and competent person of least 16 years of age.</li> <li>b. Those that supervise must have a thorough and detailed knowledge of the licensing conditions and comply with them at all times.</li> </ul>	<p>Anyone supervising the dogs, need to have sufficient knowledge and experience to be able to handle the dogs correctly and safely. They must also be able to recognise if a dog's behaviour suggests there is a problem and act appropriately.</p>

<p>This is necessary to ensure their health, safety and welfare and prevent any unnecessary suffering.</p> <p><b>c.</b> Dogs must be checked at regular intervals to ensure their health, safety and welfare.</p>	<p>All breeders and staff should have access to and be familiar with the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs and all other relevant legislation.</p> <p>They should have a sound working knowledge of dog breeding and be aware of good practice and trait(s) of their chosen breed(s).</p>
<p><b>4.3 Dog Numbers</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> The maximum number of dogs kept at any one time is stated on the licence and must not be exceeded.</p> <p><b>b.</b> This maximum number of dogs will be determined by the facilities of the premises.</p> <p><b>c.</b> The number of dogs will be reduced if there is a failure to comply with other licence requirements. A 'dog' is defined as any canine over 6 months old to include stud, breeding, retired and juveniles.</p>	<p>Consideration will be made by the licensing authority to the establishment as a whole; to include available accommodation, exercise facilities, health &amp; welfare programmes, any other commitments of licensee (e.g. work) and level of continued licence compliance.</p> <p>Where the licensing authority is not content with the ability of the proposed licence holder or existing licence holder to comply with licensing conditions, they may reduce the number of dogs that the establishment can keep.</p> <p>This may be evidenced by failure to meet licence conditions e.g. lack of exercising dogs and poor cleanliness.</p>
<p><b>4.4 Domestic Layout</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> All dogs must be kept in the company of other dogs unless for an individual's safety and wellbeing it is required to be kept in isolation.</p>	<p>The layout should enable all dogs to choose whether or not to be able to see another dog.</p> <p>Unless the individual dog is emotionally or physically unsuitable, all dogs should be housed in groups (min 2 dogs).</p>

## **5. HEALTH AND WELFARE**

*Reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious or contagious diseases. Registration with a vet is essential. There is a requirement to have appropriate health plans, to use licensed medicines as necessary and to promote the health status of the dogs through proper breeding. Isolation facilities, first aid equipment and fire protection are necessary.*

<b>Licence Condition</b>	<b>Guidance</b>
<p><b>5.1 Registration with a Veterinary Surgeon</b></p> <p>a. All licensees must be registered with a Veterinary Practice and ensure full details are made available to the Licensing Authority.</p>	<p>Addresses of veterinary surgeries can be accessed from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons:  <a href="http://www.rcvs.org.uk/FindAVet">http://www.rcvs.org.uk/FindAVet</a></p>
<p><b>5.2 Medicines</b></p> <p>a. All medicines used must have a current Marketing Authorisation for sale in the UK.</p> <p>b. Each medicine used must be within its expiry date, and used as per instruction.</p> <p>c. They must be stored in a suitable secure cabinet. They must be protected from light and extremes of temperature.</p>	<p>Prescription Only Medicine – Veterinary (POM-V) medicines should only be used for the specific animals to which they are prescribed. The specific veterinary instruction must be followed.</p> <p>Non Food Animal Medicine – Veterinary, Pharmacist and Suitably Qualified Person (NFAM-VPS) and Authorised Veterinary medicine – General Sale List (AVM-GSL) medicines must be used in accordance with the manufacturer’s guidelines.</p> <p>Homeopathic medicine is allowed with veterinary approval</p>
<p><b>5.3 Contagious / Infectious diseases on the premises</b></p> <p>a. All dogs must be adequately protected from contagious and infectious disease and parasites as determined by your veterinary surgeon.</p>	<p>Adequate precautions should be taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious and contagious diseases and parasites among dogs, and zoonoses among dogs, staff and visitors.</p>

<p><b>b.</b> Up to date records must be kept for each dog detailing what treatments and vaccinations they have received.</p>	<p>Records to be kept of all vaccination and worming regimes.</p>
<p><b>5.4 Health Status of dogs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a.</b> There must be a daily physical inspection of every animal to check for any signs of illness, injury or distress.</li> <li><b>b.</b> Stud dogs and breeding bitches must be physically and behaviourally sound.</li> <li><b>c.</b> Any breeding stock which appears to the licensing inspector to exhibit unsound hereditary or behavioural characteristics may be required to be verified as sound by the licensee's veterinary surgeon.</li> <li><b>d.</b> Advice from a Veterinary Surgeon must be sought without delay where a dog shows signs of disease, injury, illness or behavioural disorder and results maintained in the dog's log book and be available to potential purchasers.</li> </ul>	<p>Any breeding stock that show signs of fear or anxiety do not normally make good parents.</p> <p>Puppies should be the product of healthy, sociable and environmentally competent parents.</p>
<p><b>5.5 Breeding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a.</b> Breeding bitches must not be mated if they are less than one year old.</li> <li><b>b.</b> A breeding bitch must not give birth to more than six litters of puppies in their lifetime.</li> <li><b>c.</b> Breeding bitches must not give birth to more than one litter of puppies in a period of twelve months.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>5.6 Isolation facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Isolation facilities must be available and must be in compliance with the other licence conditions but must also be physically isolated from other dog accommodation.</li> <li>b. Adequate facilities to prevent the spread of infectious disease between isolated dogs and other dogs must be available.</li> <li>c. Effective biosecurity measures must be in place and understood.</li> </ul>	<p>Veterinary advice about the isolation of dogs with potentially infectious diseases should be documented and followed immediately.</p> <p>Procedures and facilities should be in place to allow the quarantining of new arrivals as devised in consultation with a veterinary surgeon.</p> <p>Veterinary advice should be sought when new arrivals show any signs of disease before they are mixed with other dogs.</p> <p>Isolation animals need to be effectively isolated and evidence of veterinary involvement will be expected.</p>
<p><b>5.7 First aid kit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A fully stocked first-aid kit suitable for use on dogs and puppies must be available and accessible on the premises.</li> </ul>	<p>A first aid kit should include the following:</p> <p>A selection of Dressings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non adherent wound cover</li> <li>• Retaining bandages</li> <li>• Covering bandages</li> <li>• Cotton wool</li> <li>• Scissors</li> <li>• Tweezers</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Torch</li> <li>• Suitably sizes muzzle/s</li> </ul> <p>Contact number for Veterinary Surgeon including out of routine hours details.</p> <p>Available medicines to be stored in medicine cabinet include: Wound cream &amp; Antiseptic solution.</p>
<p><b>5.8 Protection from fire</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. There must be an emergency fire and evacuation plan in place.</li> <li>b. There must be adequate means of raising an alarm in the event of a fire or other emergency.</li> <li>c. Firefighting equipment and detectors must be properly maintained and fire extinguishers need to be serviced or replaced as required.</li> <li>d. Heating appliances must not be sited in a location or manner where they may present a risk of fire, or risk to dogs.</li> <li>e. Precautions must be taken to prevent any accumulation of material which may present a risk of fire.</li> </ol>	<p>This procedure must include instructions dealing with where dogs are to be evacuated.</p> <p>To aid with the compliance of the regulations please see details in the attached Schedule B.</p>
<p><b>5.9 Safety of Electrical Equipment</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. You must ensure that all electrical systems are adequately constructed and maintained so as to prevent danger, so far as is reasonably practical, in accordance with the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.</li> </ol>	<p>To aid with the compliance of the regulations please see details in the attached Schedule C</p>

## **6. RECORD KEEPING**

*Accurate and up to date records must be kept on the premises. These must be made available to Authorised Inspectors.*

<b>Licence Condition</b>	<b>Guidance</b>
<p><b>6.1 Dog Identification</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. A list of all stud dogs/bitches must be kept by the licensee, detailing the dogs name, breed and microchip number</li><li>b. Breeding bitches and stud dogs must be microchipped by a suitably competent person and registered on a recognised national database.</li><li>c. A logbook supplied by the Licensing Authority, must be completed and kept for both breeding bitches and stud dogs. The microchip is the link between the dog and the log book.</li></ul> <p><u>Schedule 1 – Breeding Bitches Log Book</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>d. This log book must be kept, recording details including microchip number, name, date of birth, breed, Kennel Club registration number, the address at which it is kept and it's record of health status.</li></ul> <p>Additionally, the log book for breeding bitches must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• results of any British Veterinary Association (BVA)/Kennel Club * health scheme;</li></ul>	<p>Please refer to Schedule 1 for an example of a Breeding Bitch log book.</p> <p>Please refer to Schedule 2 for an example of a Stud Dog log book.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• results of any validated DNA screening tests appropriate to the breed*;</li> <li>• details of all litters (initial details to be entered at birth) as required by the Breeding of Dogs (Licensing Records) Regulations 1999*. which also includes, date of mating and details of sire, the sex of the puppies, date of birth, weight description and total number in the litter.</li> </ul> <p>*available from the Kennel Club</p> <p><u>Schedule 2 – Stud Dog Log Book</u></p> <p>e. This log book must be kept, recording details including microchip number, name, date of birth, breed, Kennel Club registration number, the address at which it is kept and it's record of health status.</p> <p>Additionally, the log book for stud dogs will also include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• results of any BVA/Kennel Club health scheme;</li> <li>• details of all mating; and</li> <li>• the details of each bitch mated.</li> </ul> <p>f. After the dogs have left the licensed premises, records must be kept for a minimum of 24 months and must be available on demand to authorised officers.</p>	
<p><b>6.2 Puppies</b></p> <p>a. No puppy must be sold before it is 56 days old.</p> <p>b. All puppies must be identified by micro-chip before being sold or homed and the details referenced to the breeding bitch.</p>	<p>A puppy Identity card includes the following details::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breeder name and address/contact details</li> <li>• Date of birth and date of sale</li> <li>• Micro-chip no. of puppy (if applicable)</li> </ul>

<p>c. The details of the microchip must be registered on a recognised database.</p> <p>d. Microchips must be registered to the breeder before the puppy moves off the premises.</p> <p>e. Puppies considered to be too small to be micro chipped will only be exempted by a letter from a veterinary surgeon</p> <p><u>Schedule 3 – Puppy ID Card</u></p> <p>f. A puppy I.D card must be completed for each puppy bred and a copy given to the purchaser at the time of sale. The breeder must retain the original.</p> <p>The records must also show:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the details of sale, namely the date of sale;</li> <li>• name and address of who was supplied;</li> <li>• it's microchip number.</li> </ul> <p>Sales of puppies must be recorded in the Breeding of bitches log book</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name and micro-chip number of both parents (to include Kennel Club reg no. if applicable)</li> <li>• Vaccination details</li> <li>• Worming details</li> <li>• Guidance on re-registering micro-chip to new owner</li> </ul> <p>N.B. all puppies must be accompanied by their individual cards through each phase of their journey to their final permanent home.</p> <p>Please refer to Schedule 3 for an example of a Puppy I.D Card.</p> <p>Purchasers of puppies should be provided with a 'Puppy Pack', this should include: - Ration of food currently fed, insurance details (if provided), any breed specific advice/information and reference to existence of the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs (Government Publication).</p>
<p><b>6.3 Sales of Breeding Bitches and Stud Dogs</b></p> <p>a. When sold for further breeding, bitches must be accompanied with their logbook which includes their full breeding history.</p> <p>b. Stud dogs must be accompanied by their log book when sold for further breeding.</p>	<p>Logbooks must accompany breeding bitches when sold to other breeding establishments, to ensure that the number of litters produced does not exceed the maximum number of litters a bitch can have.</p> <p>Currently the maximum number is six litters at not less than yearly intervals.</p>

<p><b>6.4 Transport of Dogs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. When stud dogs, breeding bitches and puppies are being transported, licensees must ensure that all appropriate steps are taken to ensure that the dogs are provided with suitable food, drink, bedding material, and adequate exercise.</li> <li>b. Full compliance with current Welfare of Animals in Transport legislation must be adhered to.</li> </ul>	<p>The legislation defines the requirements to ensure the 'Welfare of Animals in Transport'. You can ask your licensing inspector for details of the current regulations. Examples include; Securely fitted dog cage(s) and suitable ventilation. As well as the requirement to hold a Transporters authorisation.</p>

## **7. ANIMAL WELFARE ACT 2006**

*Section 9 of the above Act places a duty of care on a person who is responsible for an animal. The Act states that a person commits a criminal offence if they do not take reasonable steps to ensure for the needs of that animal. In order that you comply with these duties the Council has detailed certain requirements and guidance that you must follow.*

*Where there is a potential breach of a Duty of Care under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, the council may, at its discretion, issue an Improvement Notice to remedy the problem.*

<b>Licence Condition</b>	<b>Guidance</b>
<p><b>7.1 Puppy Facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Adequate and suitable facilities for the socialisation of all litters must be provided.</li> </ul>	<p>In domestic homes, there will be a natural environment and an enriched socialising situation, so there is no need for a specific separate area.</p> <p>Ample socialisation with both humans and other animals is</p>

	<p>considered necessary to ensure puppies are able to face the rigours of modern family life.</p>
<p><b>7.2 Exhibiting Normal Behaviour Patterns</b></p> <p>a. All dogs kept must be given the opportunity for daily interaction and stimulation in order to express normal behaviour.</p> <p>b. Evidence of the provision of enhancement and enrichment must be supplied to the local authority inspector.</p>	<p>Examples of environmental enrichment are: appropriate exercise, play, and sufficient contact with humans (grooming, training or playing) and food finding activities e.g. puzzle feeders or scavenging exercises.</p> <p>In a domestic environment dogs will enjoy freedom of the house and garden plus additional leash exercise and licensees need only produce short documented programmes.</p>
<p><b>7.3 Socialisation of Puppies</b></p> <p>a. All puppies must be socialised before being sold or homed and the method of implementing this must be discussed and agreed with the local authority inspector.</p>	<p>Puppies should be the product of sociable and environmentally competent parents.</p> <p>A socialisation plan should, amongst other things include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gently handling each puppy,</li> <li>• the introduction of low level noise from 14 days onwards;</li> <li>• from 21 days the animal should be introduced daily to a variety of human contact, play with suitable toys organised to play away from the mother. Where biosecurity allows, puppies of other litters should mix in suitable environments. Care should be taken that removal of puppies for handling is done in such a way that does not distress the dam.</li> </ul> <p>When employed, any training should be reward-based. Use of electric shock collars is banned.</p>

<p><b>7.4 Responsible Breeding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Any breeding stock which proves to exhibit unsound hereditary or behavioural characteristics must not be bred from.</li> <li>b. When intentionally breeding crossbreeds, breeders must have due regard to the breeds' compatibility for ease of whelping and to produce healthy puppies.</li> </ul>	<p>Licensees should be familiar with the health screening tests available to their chosen breeds, in consultation with their own Veterinary Surgeon.</p> <p>Cross breeds are defined as offspring of any two or more recognised breeds of dogs.</p> <p>Breeding closely related animals should be carefully considered.</p> <p>Close breeding examples include mating between brother and sister, father and daughter, mother and son, grandparent and grandchild or half brother or sisters.</p>
<p><b>7.5 Strategy for the retirement of breeding bitches and stud dogs.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All retired breeding bitches and stud dogs being kept within the licensed premises will still be included on the licence.</li> <li>b. Breeders must have a plan for dealing with retired dogs.</li> </ul>	<p>Breeders should plan for the retirement of their breeding dogs and ensure that if they are to be re-homed that suitable domestic homes are sourced in advance.</p>

## **8. OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

*Licencees and Staff should make themselves aware of current relevant legislation and guidance relevant to dog welfare.*

<b>Licence Condition</b>	<b>Guidance</b>
<p><b>8.1 Other Current Relevant Legislation &amp; Codes of Practice</b></p> <p>a. Licence holders and staff must be aware of current Animal Welfare and Dog Breeding legislation to enable full compliance with the conditions.</p>	<p>List of current relevant legislation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ The Docking of Working Dogs' Tails (Wales) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/1028 (W.95)).</li><li>◆ Dangerous dogs Act 1991 (as amended)</li><li>◆ Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999</li><li>◆ Pet Animals Act 1951</li><li>◆ Animal Welfare Act 2006</li><li>◆ Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs – Welsh Government</li><li>◆ Breeding of Dogs Act 1973</li><li>◆ Control of Dogs Order 1992</li><li>◆ The Breeding of Dogs (Licensing Records) Regulations 1999</li><li>◆ The Animal Welfare (Electronic Collars) (Wales) Regulations 2010 No. 943 (W. 97)</li><li>◆ Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Wales) Order 2007</li></ul>

## **OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF A LICENCED ESTABLISHMENT.**

### **A. APPEALS PROCEDURE**

#### **Pet Animals Act 1951 - Section 1 (4)**

Any person aggrieved by the refusal of a local authority to grant such a licence, or by any condition subject to which such a licence is proposed to be granted, may appeal to a magistrates' court; and the court may on such an appeal give such directions with respect to the issue of a licence or as the case may be, with respect to the conditions subject to which a licence is to be granted as it thinks proper.

### **B. FIRE PRECAUTIONS GUIDANCE**

The following information is supplied to licensees, in order to aid compliance with the fire precaution requirements detailed in the Council's licence conditions that require appropriate steps to be taken for the protection of animals in case of fire or any other emergency.

The guidance is aimed at ensuring that the means of escape and associated fire precautions are adequate for human occupants. It should be borne in mind that the fire safety requirements for people maybe covered by other legislation.

The following matters must be considered:

1. Access for Fire Fighting and Water Supplies - There should be good access for firefighting appliances (minimum width of 3.7m) to all hydrants and other water sources and hard standings should be provided. The name board of the premises should be clearly displayed beside the nearest road access.
2. Means of Escape - Escape routes for animals should be designed to provide a straight run out of buildings, with the minimum of human assistance. Pen doors should be so arranged that animals can be evacuated quickly and acute turns, obstructions and ramps in the escape routes should be avoided as far as possible.
  - a) All premises should be provided with exits of sufficient width and height to allow easy access to the animals at all times.
  - b) The exits should be easily opened from the inside without the use of a key.

c) If necessary provision should be made for the ready summoning of a key holder.

In buildings exceeding 18 metres in length or where considerable numbers of animals are housed, at least two exits should be provided and situated as far apart as possible. The distance of travel should be limited to 45 metres.

3. No Smoking Signs - No smoking notices should be displayed in the vicinity of all hay and straw and where practicable precautions should be taken against unauthorised entry especially by children.
4. Electrical Installations - Electrical installations including lamps should be cleaned regularly to avoid the build-up of dust. Electrical equipment, heaters etc should be positioned and secured so that they are kept at a safe distance from any likely accumulation of flammable bedding material.
5. Fire Fighting Equipment
  - a. Portable Fire Extinguishers -The following are recommended as a minimum:
    - Buildings not exceeding 200sqm in area require at least 2x9 litre water extinguishers for buildings over 200sqm an additional fire extinguisher must be provided for every additional 200sqm or part thereof.
    - Portable fire extinguishers must meet the requirements of BS EN 3 and be installed and maintained according to the recommendations given in BS 5306.
    - Depending on the outcome of your fire risk assessment, it may be possible to reduce this to one extinguisher in very small premises with a floor space of less than 90m<sup>2</sup>.
    - Fire extinguishers that when operated produce a loud noise, e.g. CO<sub>2</sub>, or large clouds of dry powder, **should not** be used in close proximity to animals.
  - b. Hose Reels - Hose reels can be provided as an alternative to portable fire extinguishers. There should be a minimum of one hose for each 800sqm in area or part thereof. It should conform to BS 5306: Part 1. Wash down hoses may be acceptable provided there is a constant flow of water that is able to produce water jet with a minimum throw of 5 metres. Hose reels must not exceed 45m in length and should be sited so that the nozzle can be taken to within 6m of each part of the protected premises.

6. Fire Notices - All staff at the establishment should be familiar with what action must be taken in the event of a fire. A clearly written and conspicuous notice should be provided indicating the action to be taken in case of fire and the location of the nearest telephone. This notice may include the following:

“On discovering a fire, ensure the building involved is evacuated.  
Call the Fire Brigade {the nearest telephone is sited at .....}.  
Attack the fire using the firefighting equipment provided, if safe to do so  
etc”

7. O/S Map Reference - An Ordnance Survey map reference number should be made available for the premises and displayed with the Fire Notice provided.

**The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005** requires that necessary fire precautions are put in place to protect relevant persons in case of fire in, and in the vicinity of all premises to which the legislation applies.

Responsibility for complying with the order rests with the ‘responsible person’. In a workplace, this is the employer and any other person who may have control of any part of the premises, e.g. the occupier or owner. In all other premises the person(s) in control of the premises will be responsible.

The responsible person must:

Carry out a Fire Risk Assessment, the significant findings of which must be recorded if five or more persons are employed, if the premises are licensed or if an alterations notice is in force.

To further assist you, the Fire Safety Guide to Animal Premises and Stables (ISBN: 978 1 85112 884 6) is available from the stationary office or via the Department for Communities and Local Government website ([www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk)).

### **C. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Health and safety law applies to all businesses, no matter how small. As an employer or a self employed person, you are responsible for health and safety in your business. You need to take the right precautions to reduce the risks of workplace dangers and provide a safe working environment.

Please refer to the guide, “Health and Safety made simple”. This guide makes life easier for you by providing the basic information on what you need to do in one place. It will help you get started in managing health and safety in your business.

For some work activities there may be extra things you need to do to make sure you are complying with the law. Further guidance on specific topics, such as managing asbestos, preventing ill health from animal contact etc, and model risk assessments are available online at [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk) .

The “Health and Safety made simple” leaflet can be downloaded by following this link:  
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg449.pdf>