

LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
24 MARCH 2011

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE CONDITIONS
(Chief Officer: Environment and Public Protection)

1 PURPOSE OF DECISION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider adoption of the Model Licence Conditions for Boarding Establishments as published by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) in 1995. The current conditions have never been reviewed in light of this guidance.
- 1.2 If agreed it is proposed that existing licence holders are consulted to seek their views on the model licence conditions so that a report can be brought to a future Committee meeting.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee approves a consultation exercise with all existing licence holders in respect of the potential adoption of the new model licence conditions.**

3 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 3.1 The legal implications are identified within the report.

Borough Treasurer

- 3.2 There are no significant financial implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 3.3 There are no implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 3.4 There are no strategic risk management implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Animal boarding establishments are licensed on an annual basis following an inspection by a Licensing Officer. A licence is granted subject to conditions being attached that relate to conditions to protect the welfare of the animals being cared for

as well as the number and type of animals that can be boarded. The current conditions issued by the Council can be found at Annex A.

- 4.2 Under section 3 of the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963, a local authority can attach licence conditions to ensure:
- i) that animals will at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects construction, size of quarters, number of occupants, exercising facilities, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness;
 - ii) that animals will be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and bedding material, adequately exercised, and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals;
 - iii) that all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent and control the spread among animals of infectious or contagious diseases, including the provision of adequate isolation facilities;
 - iv) that appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the animals in case of fire or other emergency;
 - v) that a register be kept containing a description of any animals received into the establishment, date of arrival and departure, and the name and address of the owner, such register to be available for inspection at all times by an officer of the local authority, veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner authorised under section 2(1) of this Act.
- 4.3 The contents of the CIEH Model Licence Conditions are widely accepted as representing the minimum standards to be applied in order to ensure appropriate standards of health, safety and welfare in such establishments. The Model Licence Conditions for Dog Boarding Establishments can be found at Annex B, and for Cat Boarding Establishments at Annex C.
- 4.4 If agreed this consultation would not involve those persons licensed to board dogs in their own home. The Council has already adopted the model conditions in respect of home boarders of dogs.

Background Papers

Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Cat Boarding Establishments

Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Dog Boarding Establishments

Contacts for further information

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ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

SCHEDULE OF CONDITIONS

- 1 The number of animals accommodated at the establishment at any one time shall not exceed ** dogs/cats.
- 2 Accommodation provided for animals must, in all respects, be suitable as regards construction, size of quarters, exercising facilities, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness.
- 3 All dogs and cats accommodated at the premises must be provided with suitable bedding materials and must be given adequate exercise.
- 4 Suitable food and drink must be provided for all animals.
- 5 Whilst animals are boarded at the establishment, there must always be someone resident at the premises, and all animals must be visited at suitable intervals.
- 6 All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread among animals of infectious or contagious diseases, including the provision of adequate isolation facilities.
- 7 All heating appliances must be of such construction as to constitute no risk of fire.
- 8 Appropriate steps must be taken for the protection of animals in case of fire or other emergency.
- 9 All bulk supplies of food must be kept in rodent-proof containers.
- 10 A register must be kept containing a description of any animal received into the establishment, date of arrival and departure, and the name and address of the owner, such register to be available for inspection at all times by an officer of the Bracknell Forest Borough Council, veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner authorised under Section 2(1) of the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963.
- 11 The licensee shall permit any officer of the Bracknell Forest Borough Council veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner authorised by them, to enter the premises at all reasonable times and inspect them and anything found therein.
- 12 For the purpose of determining what is suitable or reasonable in the context of these conditions, the licensee shall have regard to any written advice or guidance as may be issued by the Bracknell Forest Borough Council from time to time.