

NOTICE TO KEEPERS OF ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS



- 1) Under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 no person shall keep a boarding establishment for animals except under a licence granted by the Local Authority.

Licensing of Animal Boarding Establishments

- 2) Under Section 1 of the Act application must be made to the Local Authority for a licence to keep an animal boarding establishment. The Local Authority may grant a licence if the applicant is not disqualified under any of the following Acts –
 - a) This Act
 - b) The Pet Animals Act 1951 and
 - c) Under the Protection of Animals (Amendment) Act 1954 from having the custody of animals

A fee referred to on the application form will be charged where a licence is granted. A licence will expire under normal conditions at the end of the year to which it relates.

The Local Authority's Duty

- 3) In determining whether to grant a licence a local authority must have regard to the need for securing –
 - a) that animals will at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects construction, size of quarters, number of occupants, exercising facilities, temperatures, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness.
 - b) that animals will be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and bedding and material, adequately exercised, and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals.
 - c) 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.
 - d) that appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the animals in case of fire or other emergency.
 - e) 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.

and without prejudice to their right to withhold a licence on other grounds.

The licence will specify conditions to ensure that the above named objects are secured.

The Applicants Right of Appeal against Refusal

- 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 (in Scotland to the Sheriff); 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.

5. Offences and disqualifications

- a) Any person guilty of an offence under any provision of this Act other than the last foregoing section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding [level 2 on the standard scale] or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.
- b) Any person guilty of an offence under the last foregoing section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding [level 2 on the standard scale].
- c) Where a person is convicted of any offence under this Act or of any offence under the Protection of Animals Act 1911 or the Protection of Animals (Scotland) Act 1912 or the Pet Animals Act 1951, the court by which he is convicted may cancel any licence held by him under this Act, and may, whether or not he is the holder of such a licence, disqualify him from keeping a boarding establishment for animals for such period as the court thinks fit.
- d) A court which has ordered the cancellation of a person's licence, or his disqualification, in pursuance of the last foregoing subsection may, if it thinks fit, suspend the operation of the order pending an appeal.

Inspection of Animal Boarding Establishments

- 6) The Local Authority is given power under the act to authorise any of its officers or veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner to inspect any premises in their area for which a licence has been granted under the Act and which is still in force. Such a person, on production of his authority if so required, has the statutory right to enter the animal boarding premises at all reasonable times for the following purposes –
 - a) To inspect the premises
 - b) To inspect any animals on the premises
 - c) To ascertain whether any offence is being committed on the premises

Definitions

- 7) For the purpose of this Act "Animal" means any dog or cat.

Further Information

- 8) A copy of the Act may be inspected at the office named below or may be purchased from HM Stationery Office. Details of the conditions upon which the Council will normally grant licences and forms of application can be obtained from:

The Licensing Team
North Norfolk District Council
Council Offices
Holt Road
Cromer
Norfolk
NR27 9EN

Telephone: 01263 516189
Fax: 01263 514627