BREEDING AND SALE
OF DOGS
(WELFARE) ACT 1999
1. Any of the Council’s officers or veterinary surgeon or any veterinary practitioner who is for the time being duly registered may, if authorised to do so by the Council in writing, enter and inspect at all reasonable times any premises as respect which a licence has been granted and any animals found thereon, or anything therein, for the purpose of ascertaining whether an offence has been/is being committed under the Act.

2. Accommodation provided for bitches and puppies must be in all respects suitable as regards construction, size of quarters, exercising and whelping facilities, temperature, ventilation and cleanliness, with especial regard to the breeds maintained.

3. Natural or artificial lighting of individual kennels must be sufficient to allow the proper working and cleaning of kennels, with no dark areas.

4. Kennels must be of sufficient size for dogs to stand up and turn round comfortably. If a bench is provided for the sleeping area, there must be in addition an area of similar size unbenched.

5. All excreta and soiled material must be removed at least daily from living areas and at least once daily from the exercise area. The floor of the living area must be kept clean and dry.

6. All exercise runs must have an area by the entrance which is paved or surfaced with other suitable material in order to prevent undue fouling of the ground.

7. All animals accommodated at the premises must be provided with bedding material suitable to the breeds kept and must be given adequate exercise. Where sleeping benches are provided these should be of such dimensions as to allow an adult dog to the breed maintained to lie out flat on its side.

8. Facilities must be provided for the collection of all used bedding and other waste material which must be disposed of in a manner approved by the local authority and in a way not likely to cause harm or nuisance.

9. All animals must have access to wholesome drinking water at all times, except in the case of very young puppies.

10. Animals must be adequately supplied with suitable food and visited at suitable intervals.

11. The food preparation area and equipment must be kept clean and vermin-free at all times. Refrigeration facilities must be provided where fresh meat is used.

12. All bulk supplies of food must be kept in vermin-free containers.

13. Every precaution must be taken to eliminate flies throughout the kennel.

14. All heating appliances must be of such construction as to constitute no risk of fire and not to endanger the health and well-being of occupants. All heating and lighting should be installed in accordance with normal good practice and advice on the subject should be obtained from a fire prevention officer.

15. Animals and equipment must not be placed in such a position as to render entry or exit difficult in case of fire.

16. The licensee shall ensure that a responsible person shall at all times be in, or within reasonable distance from the premises for the purpose of giving warning and taking other necessary steps in the event of fire or other emergency. In the case of premises which are locked up outside of normal working hours, the licensee shall appoint a responsible person residing within a reasonable distance of the premises to have custody of the key. The
name and address of such person shall be displayed in legible characters on the front door, or windows, of the premises and be notified to the local fire brigade. An adequate and accessible supply of water and sand and/or an efficient fire extinguisher must always be available on the premises, outside the kennels, and the positions clearly marked.

17. All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread among all animals of infectious or contagious diseases.

18. A register shall be kept of all bitches in the establishment, their ages, dates of heat periods, mating and whelping.


20. Bitches must not give birth until twelve months after their last litter.

21. Bitches must not give birth to more than six litters.

22. Washing and lavatory facilities must be available for staff.

23. The keeper of the licensed breeding establishment may sell the puppies direct to the final keeper or to a licensed pet shop in both cases the puppies must be not less than 8 weeks old (Sale of Dogs Act 1999). If puppies are sold to a licensed pet shop the puppy must be provided with a collar and tag indicating the licensed establishment from which it was born (Sale of Dogs Identification Tag Regulations 1999).

24. Dogs and puppies being transported from the to/from the establishment must be properly supervised and transported in accordance with the Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order 1997.
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01427 676676

Guildhall, Marshall’s Yard, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2NA Tel: 01427 676676 Fax: 01427 675170 DX 27214 Gainsborough

www.west-lindsey.gov.uk