






Exeter
City Council

Animal Welfare Act 2006
Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963
Pet Animals Act 1951 and Pet Animals Act 1951 (Amendment)
Act 1983
Riding Establishments Act 1964 and 1970
Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 and 1991
Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999
Zoo Licensing Act 1981

Animal Licensing Policy

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Section 1 – Purpose

- 1.1. Exeter City Council (the Council) has statutory responsibilities for the licensing of a number of activities relating to the welfare of animals under a number of different Acts of Parliament. This legislation is aimed at protecting animals and makes it an offence for any person to possess, own or keep animals in order to carry out certain businesses, or have possession of certain animals within Exeter, without first being licensed by the Council.

Section 2 – Scope of Policy

- 2.1 This policy sets out the general principles that the Council will follow in relation to the enforcement of animal welfare legislation. The Policy describes the types of animal licensing matters that are likely to occur and how the Council will deal with them.
- 2.2 This Policy and the conditions included represent guidance on details of the service provided and the general principles that the Council follows in relation to the enforcement of animal licensing legislation and the discretionary functions it undertakes.
- 2.3 Animal licensing related matters included within the scope of this policy are the licensing regulation and enforcement of licence conditions in respect of:
 - Animal boarding establishment licences
 - Horse riding establishment licences
 - Pet shop licences
 - Dangerous wild animal licences
 - Dog breeding establishment licences
 - Zoo licences
- 2.4 The above licences are regulated by the Council under the following Acts:
 - Animal Welfare Act 2006
 - Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963
 - Pet Animals Act 1951 and Pet Animals Act 1951 (Amendment) Act 1983
 - Riding Establishments Act 1964 and 1970
 - Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
 - Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 and 1991
 - Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999
 - Zoo Licensing Act 1981
- 2.5 These Acts are referred to in this policy as the “primary licensing Acts.” It should also be noted that the Performing of Animals (Regulation) Act 1925 is the responsibility of the Leicestershire County Council who maintain a register of animals involved in performances. Queries about animal performances should therefore be directed to them.

Section 3 – Animal Welfare Act

- 3.1 The Animal Welfare Act 2006 (“the Act”) consolidated and updated a range of previous legislation to promote the welfare of animals. This Act is the primary piece of legislation controlling animal welfare in England and Wales and established set welfare standards that must be maintained by all people who are responsible for an animal. The Act also places responsibilities on to numerous enforcement agencies, including this Council.
- 3.2 The Act introduces a ‘duty of care’ on any person that is responsible for an animal to ensure that the needs of that animal are met. A person does not have to be the owner of the animal for the ‘duty of care’ to apply.
- 3.3 The Act creates an offence of failing to provide for the needs of an animal in a persons care and increases the penalties for animal abuse allowing the courts to disqualify a person from being in charge of animals. Any person disqualified under the Act will also be disqualified from holding a licence under any of the primary licensing Acts.
- 3.4 The Act permits the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to pass regulations that may repeal or amend any of the primary licensing Acts or create new forms of licences. DEFRA have not presently decided to pass any further regulations but this policy shall be reviewed and updated as soon as possible should DEFRA do so.
- 3.5 Section 9 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 creates five overarching principles of animal welfare. The Act refers to these as the ‘five needs’ of all animals. It is the duty of any person responsible for an animal to ensure that each of these five needs are met.
- 3.6 The ‘five needs’ are:
- The need for a suitable environment;
 - The need for a suitable diet;
 - The need to be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns;
 - Any need to be housed with, or apart from, other animals; and
 - The need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease.

Section 4 – Aims of the Policy

- 4.1. This Policy will ensure that the Council carries out its animal licensing responsibilities in a fair, equitable and consistent manner.
- 4.2 It will help ensure that the public, councillors and those engaged in animal licensing activities understand what the law requires and how the Council will approach its enforcement duties.

Section 5 – Enforcement of the Policy

- 5.1 The Council will seek to ensure compliance with the legislation and will carry out its duty in an appropriate manner according to the following principles
- seek to achieve compliance in a fair, consistent, proportional, transparent and targeted manner;
 - seek to assist businesses and others in meeting their legal obligations through education and advice, and aim to be clear, open and helpful in its approach to enforcement;
 - focus on prevention rather than cure;
 - seek to target enforcement resources at areas of highest risk, including non-compliant businesses and individuals;
 - take firm action against those who knowingly contravene the law or act irresponsibly;
 - where appropriate work jointly with other regulatory or enforcement agencies to solve problems. Such bodies include the Police, RSPCA and Trading Standards.
- 5.2 Enforcement will be carried out in a firm and fair way. There are four principles that support this:
- a) **Proportionality:** this means relating enforcement activity to risk. When the law requires that risks should be controlled so far as is reasonably practicable the cost of the remedy as well as the degree of risk will be taken into account. In some cases there are specific requirements in the law to take account of the cost of the remedy.
 - b) **Consistency:** this does not mean uniformity of approach but rather that a similar approach is taken in similar circumstances to achieve similar ends. Officers will take account of many variables including; the scale of impact, the attitude and actions of management and the history of previous incidents or breaches. Decisions on enforcement action are a matter of professional judgment. Arrangements to deliver consistency are in place including supervised quality monitoring visits, agreed protocols between the district councils throughout Devon and arrangements for auditing of activity by officers from other authorities in Devon.
 - c) **Transparency:** this is important to maintain public confidence in the Council's ability to regulate. It means helping those regulated, and others, to understand what is expected of them and what they should expect from the Council. It also means making it clear why the Council intends to, or has taken, enforcement action. The Council will clearly distinguish between legal requirements and advice or guidance about what is desirable but not compulsory. A person having a legal duty will be advised of the rights of officers and the level of service that can be expected. All information and advice issued will be in plain language and the Council will provide information in a format that is available to the recipient.
 - d) **Targeted:** this means making sure that inspections or actions are directed primarily to those activities which give rise to the most serious risks or where hazards are least well controlled. Routine inspections of businesses are prioritised according to an

assessment of the risk they pose. The Council's policies provide a framework for assessing priority in non-planned areas of activity such as setting response times to complaints.

Section 6 – What the Council will do?

- 6.1 The primary licensing Acts set out individual application requirements and standards that the Council must be satisfied of before it can grant a licence. Each of those primary Licensing Acts permits the Council to impose conditions on each licence it grants.
- 6.2 The purpose of requiring a licence is primarily to ensure the welfare of the animals. When considering applications and in undertaking enforcement duties the Council will have regard to its own Animal Licensing Objectives set out in this Policy.
- 6.3 The Council will inspect premises in accordance with legislative requirements, veterinary advice and any statutory codes of practice before issuing or renewing a licence.
- 6.4 Where appropriate, inspections will be carried out with a qualified vet. Each licence has conditions attached to it and should be renewed in accordance with legislative requirements. Where inspections identify areas of concern which cannot be addressed by the licence conditions, officers will consider the use of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 and / or liaise with other organisations such as the RSPCA.
- 6.5 The Council will investigate reports and intelligence relating to unlicensed establishments and/or breaches of conditions, respond to any issues, and when necessary take enforcement action. All enforcement action will be taken in accordance with the Office of the Assistant Director Environment's Enforcement Policy.

Section 7 – Policy Application

- 7.1 When carrying out its functions under the primary licensing Acts the Council will seek to promote the following objectives:
 - Animal Welfare (the five needs)
 - Public safety
 - Integration with other relevant strategies and legal requirements
 - Positive relations with licence holders and proportionate regulation
- 7.2 In addition to the danger to the welfare of animals by unlicensed or irresponsible animal owners there is also a danger that may arise to members of the public. For instance the effect of diseases affecting animals, or harmful bacteria stemming from poor hygiene could spread and affect other members of the public and their animals. Additionally licence holders that permit members of the public onto their premises have a duty to ensure that they do not put them at risk of illness or injury. Public safety will therefore be a paramount consideration by the Council at all times.
- 7.3 There are a number of different areas that may affect or be affected by licence holders or potential licence holders under the primary licensing Acts and where necessary these will

be considered by the Council in carrying out its functions under the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

- 7.4 In addition to being licensed to carry out certain activities a licence holder and their premises may need to comply with other legislation such as planning and building regulations. Where the appropriate permissions or consents are not in place, or where they are being breached, the Council may take enforcement action which could lead the closure of such premises. The subsequent effect on the welfare of the animal(s) could be damaging.
- 7.5 Therefore, the Council will not grant a licence where the appropriate planning permissions or building control consents are not in place or may revoke a licence where such legislation, regulation or conditions are breached.
- 7.6 Under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, local authorities must have regard to the likely effect of the exercise of their functions on, and do all that they can to prevent, crime and disorder in their area. The Council may therefore consider the implication of an application or existing licence in the context of local crime and disorder in the area.
- 7.7 This Policy should be read in conjunction with, and without prejudice to, other existing National and European Union legislation, such as the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010.
- 7.8 Each licence type has its own application process and requirements that the Council need to take into consideration before granting a licence. Details on how to apply for a licence are contained in the relevant appendices attached to this policy.
- 7.9 Each of the primary licensing Acts states clearly the criteria which the Council must be satisfied of before any licence is granted. Where the relevant licensing officer is not satisfied that the relevant legal requirements are met, or where an Environmental Health Officer of the Council or Veterinary Surgeon has raised concerns that the legal requirements or standards are not met or unlikely to be met, the applicant for the licence will be notified.
- 7.10 The applicant will have the opportunity to address these matters in the hope of satisfying the relevant criteria.
- 7.11 If the relevant Licensing Officer feels that the application should be refused they will submit a report to a Licensing Sub Committee to determine the matter.
- 7.12 Each of the primary licensing Acts allows the Council to attach conditions to the licences it grants.
- 7.13 Within the relevant appendix for each licence type are standard or model conditions which will ordinarily be imposed on that licence type. These conditions are based on the relevant national standards devised by various bodies such as the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health. However these conditions may be varied by the Council to suit the individual merits of an application.

Section 8 – Animal Boarding Establishments

- 8.1 Anyone boarding cats or dogs for financial gain must be licensed by the Council under the provisions of the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963. Officers inspect these premises to ensure compliance with licence conditions and, in particular, that the animals are in satisfactory accommodation and are properly cared for.
- 8.2 Establishments where the boarding of animals is being carried on as a business are subject to the 1963 Act, which requires such premises to be licensed by the local authority. For the purpose of this Act the keeping of such establishments is defined as the carrying on at any premises, including a private dwelling, of a business of providing accommodation for other people's cats and dogs. Boarding dogs at another person's home may require a licence, if payment is received and this occurs regularly, as do day care facilities, whether in a person's home or purpose built unit.
- 8.3 DEFRA has stated that the home boarding of cats should be discouraged and the Council supports that view.
- 8.4 The licence is granted at the discretion of the local authority which may take into account the suitability of the accommodation and whether the animals are well fed, exercised and protected from disease and fire. It is an annual licence which expires on 31 December each year, regardless of when it is issued.
- 8.5 An application for a licence must be made to the Council on its application form. The application form is available from the Council's website.
- 8.6 At the time of making the application the applicant must pay to the Council the application fee. The Council will then arrange an inspection with a vet. The purpose of the Council instructing the vet is to avoid any conflict of interest that may arise between the vet and the applicant.
- 8.7 An Environmental Health Officer and Licensing Officer of the Council may also visit the premises, either together, separately or with the Vet to assess the arrangements in place, the suitability of the premises and the individual licence holder.
- 8.8 Before granting a licence the Council must be satisfied:
- That the animals will be kept in suitable accommodation at all times. Suitable accommodation takes into account the construction and size of the accommodation, the number of animals to be housed in it, facilities for exercising the animals, cleanliness and temperature, lighting and ventilation provisions.
 - That suitable food, drink and bedding materials will be provided and that the animals are exercised and visited regularly.
 - That all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent and control the spread of disease among the animals and that isolation facilities are in place.
 - That adequate protection is provided to the animals in the case of fire and other emergencies.
 - That a register is kept. The register should contain a description of all animals received, their arrival and departure date and the name and address of the owner. The register should be available to be inspected at any time by a local authority officer, veterinary surgeon or practitioner.

- 8.9 If the Council are satisfied that the requirements of the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 are met, and there are no other concerns about the welfare of animals or the objectives of this policy being undermined, the licence will be granted.
- 8.10 The Council may attach any condition to the licence that it feels are necessary and expedient for securing the objectives above.
- 8.11 Officers of the Council may inspect the licensed premises at all reasonable times. If the Council have any concerns about the welfare of the animals kept under this licence it may request that a vet conducts a further visit to ascertain if the measures in place are acceptable which would be chargeable to the licence holder.
- 8.12 If a licence holder is not complying with their licence conditions the Council may take appropriate enforcement action. This may be to advise them that they no longer meet the licensing requirements and must cease the licensable activity or to prosecute them. The Council has the power to prosecute under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 and the Animal Welfare Act 2006.
- 8.13 The Council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health “Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Dog Boarding Establishments 2016”. The model conditions are split into a number of schedules including conditions relating to environment, diet, behaviour, company, and health & welfare. These conditions will be applied to each dog boarding licence issued. Applicants will also be referred to Annex C of the model conditions “Emergency Evacuation Plan”, and Officers will refer to Annex D “Kennel Unit/ Run Sizes” when assessing new licence applications.
- 8.14 The Council has also adopted the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health “Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Cat Boarding Establishments 2013”. The model conditions are split into a number of schedules including conditions relating to environment, diet, behaviour, company, and health & welfare. These conditions will be applied to each cat boarding licence issued. Applicants will also be referred to Annex B of the model conditions “Emergency Evacuation Plan”.

Section 9 – Riding Establishments

- 9.1 The Council licenses all riding schools under the provisions of the Riding Establishments Act 1964 and 1970 in order to ensure the suitability of the person in charge to undertake such a business.
- 9.2 The Act defines the keeping of a riding establishment as:
- The carrying on of a business of keeping horses for either the purpose of their being let out on hire for riding and/or the purpose of their being used in providing, in return for payment, instruction in riding.*
- 9.3 The licence is granted at the discretion of the local authority which may take into account the suitability of the accommodation and whether the animals are well fed, exercised and protected from disease and fire. It is an annual licence which expires on 31 December each year, regardless of when it is issued.
- 9.4 An application for a licence must be made to the Council on its application form. The application form is available from the Council's website.
- 9.5 At the time of making the application the applicant must pay to the Council the application fee. The Council will then arrange an inspection with a vet. The purpose of the Council instructing the vet is to avoid any conflict of interest that may arise between the vet and the applicant.
- 9.6 An Environmental Health Officer and Licensing Officer of the Council may also visit the premises, either together, separately or with the Vet to assess the arrangements in place, the suitability of the premises and the individual licence holder.
- 9.7 Additionally the Council will ensure that all employees and workers at the premises are adequately trained in all appropriate aspects of animal welfare. Suitably qualified vets are appointed to inspect all animals used in the business to ensure that the horses are fit and healthy and suitable for use and are adequately cared for.
- 9.8 The vet will also ensure that the tack, riding equipment and stalls used for the stabling of animals is fit for purpose, safe and the stalls for horses are a suitable size.
- 9.9 In determining whether to grant a licence for a riding establishment, the Council shall consider compliance with the following matters along with the model conditions:
- a) whether that person appears to them to be suitable and qualified, either by experience in the management of horses or by being the holder of an approved certificate or by employing in the management of the riding establishment a person so qualified to be the holder of such a licence; and
 - b) the need for securing:
 - i. that paramount consideration will be given to the condition of the horses and that they will be maintained in good health, and in all respects physically fit and that, in the case of a horse kept for the purpose of its being let out on hire for riding or a horse kept for the purpose of its being used in providing instruction in riding, the horse will be suitable for the purpose for which it is kept;
 - ii. that the feet of all animals are properly trimmed and that, if shod, their shoes are properly fitted and in good condition;

- iii. that there will be available at all times, accommodation for horses suitable as respects construction, size, number of occupants, lighting, ventilation, drainage and cleanliness and that these requirements be complied with not only in the case of new buildings but also in the case of buildings converted for use as stabling.
- iv. that in the case of horses maintained at grass there will be available for them at all times during which they are so maintained adequate pasture and shelter and water and that supplementary feeds will be provided as and when required;
- v. that horses will be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and (except in the case of horses maintained at grass, so long as they are so maintained) bedding material, and will be adequately exercised, groomed and rested and visited at suitable intervals;
- vi. that all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent and control the spread among horses of infectious or contagious disease and that veterinary first-aid equipment and medicines shall be provided and maintained in the premises;
- vii. that appropriate steps will be taken for the protection and extrication of horses in case of fire and, in particular, that the name, address and telephone number of the licence holder or some other responsible person will be kept displayed in a prominent position in the outside of the premises and that instructions as to action to be taken in the event of fire, with particular regard to the extrication of horses, will be kept displayed in a prominent position on the outside of the premises;
- viii. that adequate accommodation will be provided for forage, bedding, stable equipment and saddlery.

- 9.10 With the exception of those detailed below, any riding establishment that does not sufficiently meet the Council's licensing conditions will not be granted a licence.
- 9.11 Where the Licensing Authority is not satisfied that the establishment complies with the relevant legislation and conditions at a riding establishment, it may refuse the licence application.
- 9.12 The applicant will be informed in writing of the reasons for the refusal and of their right to appeal the decision to the Magistrates Court. Any decision to refuse a licence will be evidence-based and fully documented.
- 9.13 The Licensing Authority may use a Temporary Licence where it is satisfied that it would not be justified in issuing a full licence. A Temporary Licence lasts for 3 months from the date at which they are granted. The 3 month period can be extended to 6 months but cannot be used for more than 6 months in any one year.
- 9.14 Officers of the Council may inspect the licensed premises at all reasonable times. If the Council have any concerns about the welfare of the animals kept under this licence it may request that a vet conducts a further visit to ascertain if the measures in place are acceptable which would be chargeable to the licence holder.
- 9.15 If a licence holder is not complying with their licence conditions the Council may take appropriate enforcement action. This may be to advise them that they no longer meet the licensing requirements and must cease the licensable activity or to prosecute them. The Council has the power to prosecute under the Pet Animals Act 1951 (as amended) and the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

Section 10 – Dog Breeding Establishments

- 10.1 These activities are controlled by the Breeding and Sales of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999, which amended and extended the provisions of the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973.
- 10.2 A person keeps a breeding establishment for dogs if, at any premises, he or she carries on the business of breeding dogs for sale, whether or not the breeding is done by him or her.
- 10.3 Any person who keeps an establishment for the breeding of dogs commits an offence if they do so without the requisite licence from the Council.
- 10.4 The Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 (as amended), in conjunction with the Breeding of Dogs Act 1991 (as amended) and the Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999 (as amended), governs the activities of dog breeders.
- 10.5 A person will not be treated as running a breeding establishment if they sell the offspring of any bitch kept by them at their premises, provided that the number of litters sold by them does not, when taken with any other litter produced by a bitch kept by that person, a relative of that person or at the same premises, exceed more than three in any one year.
- 10.6 Breeding records must be kept to ensure that these requirements are adhered to. Puppies that are produced at licensed breeding establishments can only be sold at those premises or a licensed pet shop.
- 10.7 Presently only the breeding of dogs requires a licence and not any other animal. However the breeding of any animal for sale may result in the breeder falling within the definition of a pet shop.
- 10.8 An application for a Dog Breeding Establishment licence must be made to the Council on its application form. The application form is available from the Council's website.
- 10.9 At the time of making the application the applicant must pay to the Council the application fee. The Council will then arrange an inspection with a vet. The purpose of the Council instructing the vet is to avoid any conflict of interest that may arise between the vet and the applicant.
- 10.10 An Environmental Health Officer and Licensing Officer of the Council may also visit the premises, either together, separately or with the Vet to assess the arrangements in place, the suitability of the premises and the individual licence holder.
- 10.11 Before granting a licence the Council must be satisfied:
 - a) that dogs 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;
 - b) that the dogs will be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and bedding material, adequately exercised and visited at suitable intervals;
 - c) that all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent and control the spread among dogs of infectious or contagious diseases;
 - d) that appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the dogs in the case of fire or other emergency;

- e) that all appropriate steps will be taken to ensure that dogs will be provided with suitable food, drink and bedding material and adequately exercised when being transported to or from the breeding establishment.
- f) that bitches are not mated if they are less than one year old
- g) that bitches do not give birth to more than six litters each.
- h) that bitches do not give birth to puppies before the end of the period of 12 months beginning with the day on which they last gave birth to puppies
- i) that accurate records are kept at the premises and made available for inspection for any authorised officer of the local authority to examine. The particular records to be kept are listed in the Breeding of Dogs (Licensing Records) Regulations 1999 (section 1(4)).

10.12 Any licence granted will expire on December 31 of the year in which it is granted.

10.13 Officers of the Council may inspect the licensed premises at all reasonable times. If the Council have any concerns about the welfare of the animals kept under this licence it may request that a vet conducts a further visit to ascertain if the measures in place are acceptable which would be chargeable to the licence holder.

10.14 If a licence holder is not complying with their licence conditions the Council may take appropriate enforcement action. This may be to advise them that they no longer meet the licensing requirements and must cease the licensable activity or to prosecute them. The Council has the power to prosecute under the Breeding and Sales of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999 and the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

10.15 The Council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health "Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Dog Breeding Establishments". The model conditions are split into a number of schedules including conditions relating to accommodation, management Etc. These conditions will be applied to each dog breeding licence issued.

Section 11 - Dangerous Wild Animals

- 11.1 Anyone who keeps an animal scheduled as a dangerous wild animal must be licensed under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976.
- 11.2 The Dangerous Wild Animals Act (DWA) of 1976 aims to ensure that where private individuals keep dangerous wild animals they do so in circumstances which create no risk to the public and, to a lesser extent, safeguard the welfare of the animals.
- 11.2 When applications for a licence are received, the Council seeks the appropriate advice of veterinary and/or other professionals to ensure that any special needs of the animal are fulfilled and the applicant is a suitable person to hold such a licence. The Council must also be satisfied that it would not be contrary to public interest on the grounds of safety or nuisance
- 11.3 Special needs in this context mean the suitability of accommodation, heating, lighting and appropriate foodstuffs for the species identified in the application.
- 11.4 An application for a Dangerous Wild Animal licence must be made to the Council on its application form. The application form is available from the Councils website.
- 11.5 At the time of making the application the applicant must pay to the Council the application fee. The Council will then arrange an inspection with a vet. The purpose of the Council instructing the vet is to avoid any conflict of interest that may arise between the vet and the applicant.
- 11.6 An Environmental Health Officer and Licensing Officer of the Council may also visit the premises, either together, separately or with the Vet to assess the arrangements in place, the suitability of the premises and the individual licence holder.
- 11.7 Before granting a licence the Council must be satisfied:
- that the animal will be kept only by a person or persons named on the licence;
 - that restrictions will be adhered to on the movement of the animal from the premises as specified on the licence; and
 - that the licence holder has a current insurance policy which insures both licence holders and others against any liability caused by the animal.
 - It is not contrary to the public interest on the grounds of safety, nuisance or otherwise to grant the licence;
 - The applicant for the licence is a suitable person to hold a licence under The Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (as amended);
 - Any animal concerned will at all times of its being kept only under the authority of the licence—
 - be held in accommodation which secures that the animal will not escape, which is suitable as regards construction, size, temperature, lighting, ventilation, drainage and cleanliness and which is suitable for the number of animals proposed to be held in the accommodation, and
 - be supplied with adequate and suitable food, drink and bedding material and be visited at suitable intervals;
 - Appropriate steps will at all such times be taken for the protection of any animal concerned in case of fire or other emergency;
 - All reasonable precautions will be taken at all such times to prevent and control the spread of infectious diseases;

- While any animal concerned is at the premises where it will normally be held, its accommodation is such that it can take adequate exercise.

11.8 The licensing procedure does not apply to animals kept in:

- A zoo within the meaning of the Zoo Licensing Act 1981;
- A circus;
- Pet shops; and
- Places which are designated establishments under the Animal (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986.

11.9 A person is held to be the keeper of the animal if they have it in their possession. The assumption of possession continues even if the animal escapes or it is being transported. This removes the need for carriers or veterinary surgeons to be licensed.

11.10 Any licence granted will expire on December 31 of the year in which it is granted.

11.11 Officers of the Council may inspect the licensed premises at all reasonable times. If the Council have any concerns about the welfare of the animals kept under this licence it may request that a vet conducts a further visit to ascertain if the measures in place are acceptable which would be chargeable to the licence holder.

11.12 If a licence holder is not complying with their licence conditions the Council may take appropriate enforcement action. This may be to advise them that they no longer meet the licensing requirements and must cease the licensable activity or to prosecute them. The Council has the power to prosecute under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (as amended) and the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

Section 12 – Pet Shops

- 12.1 Under the Pet Animals Act 1951 (as amended), a licence is required where any person keeps animals at a premises for the purpose of being sold as pets. A licence is required even if the premises are not open to members of the public.
- 12.2 The Pet Animals Act 1951 (as amended) forbids the sale of animals as pets in any part of a street or public place or at a stall or barrow in a market.
- 12.3 The Pet Animals Act 1951 (as amended) exempts persons who sell the offspring of animal they own as a pet from requiring a licence as well as those who breed from a pedigree animal kept by them. However these exemptions are strict and with certain conditions. The onus is on any person who believes they are exempt from holding a licence to check this with the Licensing Team
- 12.4 An application for a Pet Shop licence must be made to the Council on its application form. The application form is available from the Councils website.
- 12.5 At the time of making the application the applicant must pay to the Council the application fee. The Council will then arrange an inspection with a vet. The purpose of the Council instructing the vet is to avoid any conflict of interest that may arise between the vet and the applicant.
- 12.6 An Environmental Health Officer and Licensing Officer of the Council may also visit the premises, either together, separately or with the Vet to assess the arrangements in place, the suitability of the premises and the individual licence holder.
- 12.7 Before granting a licence the Council must be satisfied:
- That the animals are kept in accommodation that is suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness;
 - That animals are adequately supplied with appropriate food and drink and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals;
 - That animals, being mammals, will not be sold at too early an age;
 - That all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent the spread among animals of infectious diseases;
 - That appropriate steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.
 - If the Council are satisfied that the requirements of the Pet Animals Act 1951 (as amended) are met, and there are no other concerns about the welfare of animals or the objectives of this policy being undermined, the licence will be granted.
 - The Council may attach any condition to the licence that it feels necessary and expedient for securing the objectives above.
- 12.8 Any licence granted will expire on December 31 of the year in which it is granted.
- 12.9 Officers of the Council may inspect the licensed premises at all reasonable times. If the Council have any concerns about the welfare of the animals kept under this licence it may request that a vet conducts a further visit to ascertain if the measures in place are acceptable which would be chargeable to the licence holder.
- 12.10 If a licence holder is not complying with their licence conditions the Council may take appropriate enforcement action. This may be to advise them that they no longer meet the licensing requirements and must cease the licensable activity or to prosecute them. The

Council has the power to prosecute under the Pet Animals Act 1951 (as amended) and the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

- 12.11 The Council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health “Model Conditions for Pet vending Licensing 2013”. The model conditions are split into a number of schedules including a general conditions schedule applicable to all Pet Shop licences (Schedule A), and also specific schedules for different types of animals. The remaining schedules (B to I), will be applied to the licence on a case by case basis depending on the types of animals kept.

Section 13 – Fees and Charges

- 13.1 The Assistant Director Environment will arrange for the setting of Animal Welfare Licensing fees through the Council and will annually review the fee structure.

Section 14 - General

- 14.1 This policy will be the subject of periodic monitoring and review and will be applied in a manner which is consistent with the Council's equalities and diversity policies. The statement must also be reviewed from "time to time" and any amended parts re-consulted upon. The revised statement must be then re-published.
- 14.2 Before publishing this policy the Council consulted widely upon this statement before finalising and publishing.
- 14.3 The consultation included:
- The Chief Officer of Police;
 - Those current licensed by the Council
 - Those who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on animal licensing businesses in the authority's area;
 - Devon County Council Trading Standards;
 - Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
 - Environmental Health
 - Veterinary Surgeons
- 14.4 The full list of comments made and the consideration by the Council of those comments will then be published with the final version of the policy which needs to be approved at a meeting of the Full Council.
- 14.5 Any comments relating to this policy statement please should be submitted to the Licensing Authority via e-mail or letter to the following contact:

Environmental Health and Licensing Manager, Licensing Team, Civic Centre Paris Street
Exeter EX1 1RQ E-mail: licensing.team@exeter.gov.uk

Appendix A – Standard Conditions for Animal Boarding Establishment Licence

- A.1 A copy of the licence must be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position in the boarding establishment.
- A.2 The Council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health “Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Dog Boarding Establishments 2016”. The model conditions are split into a number of schedules including conditions relating to environment, diet, behaviour, company, and health & welfare. These conditions will be applied to each dog boarding licence issued. Applicants will also be referred to Annex C of the model conditions “Emergency Evacuation Plan”, and Officers will refer to Annex D “Kennel Unit/ Run Sizes” when assessing new licence applications.

A free copy of the model conditions can be downloaded via the link below:

<http://www.cieh.org/policy/dog-guidance-2016.html>

The Council has also adopted the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health “Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Cat Boarding Establishments 2013”. The model conditions are split into a number of schedules including conditions relating to environment, diet, behaviour, company, and health & welfare. These conditions will be applied to each cat boarding licence issued. Applicants will also be referred to Annex B of the model conditions “Emergency Evacuation Plan”.

A free copy of the model conditions can be downloaded via the link below:

<http://www.cieh.org/policy/model-licence-conditions-and-guidance-for-cat-boarding-establishments.html>

Conditions for Home Boarding

A.24 Number of Dogs Permitted

- 1.1 The maximum number of dogs to be boarded at any one time is **XX**. Numbers to be agreed by Veterinary Surgeon on inspection.
- 1.2 All dogs boarded must be from the same household. No mixed families of dogs are permitted.

A.25 General Conditions

- 1.3 Any dog-boarding activities should be in accordance with appropriate planning consents for the property.
- 1.4 Each dog shall wear a visible tag bearing the name, address and telephone number of the Licensee for the duration of the stay.
- 1.5 Dogs and equipment shall not be placed or kept in such a position to cause obstruction in case of fire or other emergency.
- 1.6 Any vehicles used by the establishment for the transportation of dogs must be regularly serviced and kept clean. During transportation, dogs should be carried in cages of adequate size. All vehicles must be secure.
- 1.7 Measures must be taken to keep the establishment free of rodents, insects and other pests.

A.26 Accommodation

- 1.8 Dogs will at all times be kept in accommodation that is adequate in size. Where dogs are kept in cages within the house these must be of sufficient size for the dog to lie down, stand up and turn around comfortably, and allow the dog to defecate away from the sleeping area. These size guidelines are adequate for short periods only and should not be regarded as suitable for permanent accommodation. Such cages should be used principally for sleeping quarters and animals should not be confined to them for long periods of the day.
- 1.9 Accommodation provided for dogs must be to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority with particular regard to construction, size, fixtures and fittings, temperature, ventilation and cleanliness.
- 1.10 All excreta and soiled material shall be removed as often as necessary and at least daily from all living and exercise areas. Waste materials must be disposed of as per current regulations to the satisfaction of Head of Environmental Health
- 1.11 The accommodation and ancillary establishment shall be maintained so as to prevent odour or nuisance to occupiers and users of adjacent premises.
- 1.12 Suitable bedding equipment must be provided which allows the dogs to be comfortable and which is capable of being easily and adequately cleaned and sanitised. Such equipment must be sited out of draughts. All bedding must be maintained in a clean, parasite-free and dry condition.

- 1.13 Suitable cleansing between boarding must be achieved, a protocol for which must be drawn up and approved at the time of inspection by the Veterinary Surgeon.
- 1.14 All areas in which the dogs run freely must have a suitable and adequate fence to secure the site from possible escape and to prevent unauthorised access. Doors, gates and fencing must not have any projections liable to cause injury to dogs

A.27 Food and Water Supplies

- 1.15 All animals shall have an adequate supply of wholesome drinking water available at all times.
- 1.16 All animals shall be adequately supplied with suitable food.
- 1.17 Eating and drinking vessels must be cleaned or disposed of after each feed and re-usable vessels must be capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected.

A.28 Exercise

- 1.18 All dogs must be given adequate exercise and walked at least daily or as agreed by the dog owner.
- 1.19 Where exercise is provided off the premises all dogs must remain strictly on leads.
- 1.20 Where exercise is provided off the premises, arrangements must be made to immediately clean up any faeces deposited by the dogs and to dispose of any matter appropriately.
- 1.21 It is recommended that muzzles of varying sizes are made available.

A.29 Disease Control and Vaccination

- 1.22 Proof must be provided that dogs boarded have current vaccinations against Canine Distemper, Infectious Canine Hepatitis (Canine adenovirus), Leptospirosis (*L.canicola* and *L.Icterohaemorrhagiae*) and Canine Parvovirus and other relevant diseases. The course of vaccination must have been completed at least four weeks before the first date of boarding or in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. A record that this proof has been supplied must be kept on site throughout the period that the dog is boarded.
- 1.23 Advice from a Veterinary Surgeon must be sought in case of signs of disease, injury or illness. Where a dog is sick or injured, any instructions for its treatment, which have been given by a Veterinary Surgeon, must be strictly followed. No fees arising from the consultation with the Veterinary Surgeon will be borne by Exeter City Council.
- 1.24 Evidence of recent broad spectrum de-worming, flea and tick control, must be provided for dogs being cared for.
- 1.25 Dogs showing signs of disease or illness shall be isolated from any other dogs until veterinary advice is obtained.
- 1.26 Any medication prescribed by a Veterinary Surgeon must be stored appropriately and administered according to their instructions.

- 1.27 A well stocked first aid kit suitable for use on dogs must be available and accessible on site.

A.30 Register

- 1.28 A register must be kept of all dogs boarded at the premises and the information kept must include the following:
- Date of arrival.
 - Name of dog, and any other identification mark such as microchip number, tattoo or tag.
 - Description, breed, age and gender of dog.
 - Name, address and telephone number of owner or keeper.
 - Name, address and telephone number of contact person whilst cared for.
 - Name, address and telephone number of dog's Veterinary Surgeon.
 - Anticipated and actual date of arrival and departure.
 - Health, welfare and nutrition requirements.
 - Vaccination and worming details.
 - Date of last season if a bitch.
- 1.29 The register and associated records must be kept available for a minimum of **24** months and be kept in such a manner as to enable an authorised officer to easily access such information.

A.31 Supervision

- 1.30 A fit and proper/responsible person aged 18 or over shall at all times be present or within reasonable distance from the premises to give advice, exercise, supervision and deal with emergencies whenever dogs are being cared for at the premises. Proper care shall be afforded to the dogs in order to protect their health, safety and welfare.
- 1.31 Anyone supervising the care of the animals must have knowledge in animal welfare, cleanliness and hygiene, feeding and food preparation, disease control, health and safety, emergency procedures and the recognition and treatment of sick animals.

A.32 Fire Precautions

- 1.32 All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe condition. There must be a residual current circuit breaker system fitted.
- 1.33 Heating appliances must not be sited in a location or manner where they may present a risk of fire, or risk to dogs. Dogs must not have direct access to open flame heating devices.
- 1.34 The licensee shall ensure that a responsible person shall at all times be in, or within a reasonable distance from, the premises for the purpose of giving warning and

taking other necessary steps in the event of fire or other emergency. An adequate and accessible supply of water and sand/or an efficient fire extinguisher must always be available on the premises and the positions clearly marked.

- 1.35 Precautions must be taken to prevent any accumulation which may present a risk of fire.

A.33 Liability Insurance

- 1.36 Provide adequate and suitable public liability insurance (and where appropriate Employees Liability Insurance). A copy of the current certificate must be displayed.

A.34 Licence Display

- 1.37 A copy of the licence and its conditions must be suitably displayed to the customers in a prominent position.

A.35 Powers of Entry

- 12.1 The authorised officer of the Licensing Authority can, at any reasonable time, have a right of entry onto the premises for the purpose of carrying into effect any of the relevant statutory provisions. To enable these provisions to be carried out, the appointed officer may take any other person authorised by the Council that may be considered necessary.

Appendix B – Standard Conditions for Riding Establishment Licence

- B.1 A horse found on inspection of the premises by an authorised officer to be in need of veterinary attention shall not be returned to work until the holder of the licence has obtained at his own expense and has lodged with the Exeter City Council a veterinary certificate that the horse is fit for work.
- B.2 Before any horse or pony additional to those named in the attached schedule 'A' is taken into work at the establishment you shall lodge with Exeter City Council a veterinary declaration that the animal was found to be sound and suitable for use. It shall be on the form attached.
- B.3 No horse will be let out on hire for riding or used for providing instruction for riding without supervision by a responsible person of the age of 16 years or over unless (in the case of horse let out for hire for riding) the holder of the licence is satisfied that the hirer of the horse is competent to ride without supervision.
- B.4 The carrying on of the business of a riding establishment shall at no time be left in the charge of any person under the age of 16 years.
- B.5 The licence holder shall hold a current insurance policy which insures him against any liability for any injury sustained by those who hire a horse from him for riding and those who use a horse in the course of receiving from him, in return for payment, instruction in riding and arising out of the hire or use of a horse as aforesaid and which also insures such persons in respect of any liability which may be incurred by them in respect of injury to any person caused by or arising out of the hire or use of a horse as aforesaid.
- B.6 A register shall be kept by the licence holder of all horses in his possession aged three and under and usually kept on the premises which shall be available for inspection by an authorised officer at all reasonable times.
- B.7 Horses must be maintained in good health and in all respects physically fit and, in the case of a horse kept for the purpose of its being let out on hire for riding or a horse kept for the purpose of its being used in providing instruction in riding, the horse must be suitable for the purpose for which it is kept.
- B.8 No horse aged three years or under nor any mare heavy with foal nor any mare within three months after foaling may be let out on hire for riding or used, in return for payment, for instruction or in demonstrating riding.
- B.9 Any riding equipment supplied for a horse let out on hire must be free from visible defect which is likely to cause suffering to the horse or accident to the rider.
- B.10 The feet of all animals must be properly trimmed and, if shod, their shoes must be properly fitted and in good condition.
- B.11 In the case of horses maintained at grass there must be available for them at all times during which they are so maintained adequate pasture and shelter and water and supplementary feeds must be provided as and when required.

- B.12 Horses must be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and (except in the case of horses maintained at grass, so long as they are so maintained) bedding material, and must be adequately exercised, groomed and rested and visited at suitable intervals.
- B.13 All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread among horses of infectious or contagious diseases and veterinary first aid equipment and medicines must be provided and maintained on the premises.
- B.14 The construction of the riding establishment must be substantial, adequate to contain the animals, and provide with warmth and shelter in clean and hygienic conditions. There must be convenient and safe access to stalls and boxes. Stalls must be large enough to allow the animal to lie down and get up without risk of injury. Boxes must be large enough to allow the animal to turn round.
- B.15 Yards must provide enough space for every animal kept there.
- B.16 Lighting must be adequate to render the use of artificial light unnecessary in daylight.
- B.17 Ventilation must provide fresh air without draughts.
- B.18 Drainage must be adequate to carry away liquid voided by the horses and keep the standings dry.
- B.19 There must be provision for storage and disposal of manure and spoiled straw.
- B.20 Adequate accommodation must be provided for forage bedding, stable equipment and saddlery.
- B.21 The Licence Holder must ensure that appropriate steps will be taken for the protection and extrication of horses in case of fire and in particular, that the name, address and telephone number of the Licence Holder or some other responsible person are kept displayed in a prominent position at the outside of the premises and that instructions as to action to be taken in the event of fire, with particular regard to the extrication of horses, are kept displayed in a prominent position on the outside of the premises.
- B.22 A register must be kept by the Licence Holder of all horses in his possession aged three years and under and usually kept on the premises which shall be available for inspection by an authorised officer.
- B.23 The Licensee must ensure that:
- a) escorts allocated to a particular ride are competent to supervise that ride;
 - b) the number of riders per escort in a ride do not exceed safe limits and that adequate control is exercised over the mounts at the paces that will be employed;
 - c) a horse allocated to a rider is capable of carrying the rider in safety.

Appendix C – Standard Conditions for Dog Breeding Establishment Licence

C.1 The Council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health “Model Licence Conditions and Guidance for Dog Breeding Establishments”. The model conditions are split into a number of schedules including conditions relating to accommodation, management Etc. These conditions will be applied to each dog breeding licence issued.

C.2 A free copy of the model conditions can be downloaded via the link below:

http://www.cieh.org/CIEH-Model_Licence-Conditions-Guidance-Dog-Breeding-Establishments.html

Appendix D – Standard Conditions for Dangerous Wild Animals Licence

- D.1 These Standard Conditions will apply to all licences unless disapplied or varied by the the Council.
- D.2 The granting of a licence for a Dangerous Wild Animal shall not be deemed to convey any approval or consent which may be required under any enactment by law, order or regulation other than the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (as amended).
- D.3 While any animals are being kept under the authority of this licence;
- (i) the animal shall be kept by no person other than the person specified in the licence,
 - (ii) the animal shall normally be held at such premises as specified in the licence,
 - (iii) the animal shall not be moved from those premises except for veterinary treatment or with the written consent of the Council,
 - (iv) the licence holder shall hold a current insurance policy which insures him/her, and any other person entitled to keep the animal under the authority of this licence, against liability for any damage which may be caused by the animal, the terms of such policy being satisfactory in the opinion of the Council,
 - (v) the public liability insurance required in (iv) above shall provide cover to a minimum of ten million pounds. This figure may be reduced according to the number and species of animals, however, a minimum cover of £10,000,000.00 is required unless stated otherwise on the licence.
- D.4 The species and number of animals of each species which may be kept under the authority of this licence shall be restricted to those specified in the Schedule of Animals attached to the licence.
- D.5 The licence holder shall, at all reasonable times, make available the licence to any person entitled to keep any animal under the authority of the licence.
- D.6 Any change in species, or increase in numbers of a species, will only be permitted if written consent of the Council is first obtained and the Schedule of Animals attached to the licence is amended by the Council.
- D.7 **Special Conditions**

Given the unique nature of these establishments, the Council may impose specific special conditions relating to the individual premises and/or person based on the species and number of each species kept.

These conditions would be imposed in consultation with a specialist veterinary surgeon, or other recognised expert, and attached to the licence as a Schedule of Special Conditions.

Appendix E – Standard Conditions for Pet Shop Licence

Application for a Licence

- E.1 Although not provided for in that Act, it is recommended that applicants consult their local authority prior to submitting an application.

Trade Associations

- E.2 Licensees are recommended to apply for membership of an appropriate trade organisation which might act as a point of reference should any disputes over the licence conditions arise.

Categories of Animals which a Pet Shop may be Licensed to Keep

1. Dogs and Cats (puppies and kittens).
2. Smaller domesticated mammals e.g. rabbits, cavies, gerbils, hamsters, rats, mice.
3. Larger domesticated mammals, e.g. goats, pot bellied pigs.
4. Primates, e.g. marmosets.
5. Other mammals.
6. Parrots, parakeets and macaws.
7. Other birds
8. Reptiles
9. Amphibians
10. Fish
11. Other Species

RSPCA

- E.3 Permission to inspect the licensed premises shall be granted at all reasonable times to a duly authorised officer of the licensing authority and facilities to examine any animal shall be given to any veterinary practitioner (or officer of the RSPCA) who has been called in to carry out such examination by a duly authorised officer.
- E.4 The Council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health “Model Conditions for Pet vending Licensing 2013”. The model conditions are split into a number of schedules including a general conditions schedule applicable to all Pet Shop licences (Schedule A), and also specific schedules for different types of animals. The remaining schedules (B to I), will be applied to the licence on a case by case basis depending on the types of animals kept.
- E.5 A free copy of the model conditions can be downloaded via the link below:

http://www.cieh.org/policy/Model_Conditions_for_Pet_Vending_Licensing_2013.aspx