

### Redditch Borough Council

## Draft Standard Conditions - Dog Breeding Licences

### Conditions Relating to Accommodation

#### 1.0 General

- 1.1 Dogs must at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects construction, size of quarters, numbers of occupants, exercising facilities, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness
- 1.2 Dogs kept in domestic premises must have free access to more than one room and every dog must be provided with continual access to a comfortable, dry, draught-free, clean and quiet place to rest.
- 1.3 Dog crates, where used (and whilst not acceptable as permanent housing) must be of sufficient size to allow each dog to be able to sit and stand at full height, step forward, turn around, stretch and lie down in a natural position and wag its tail without touching the sides of the crate and to lie down without touching another individual.

#### 2.0 Kennel Construction

- 2.1 Where kennels are provided, within converted outbuildings, consideration must be given to cleaning, wildlife access, vermin control, natural lighting and ventilation.
- 2.2 All internal surfaces used in the construction of walls, floors, ceilings, partitions, doors and door frames must be durable, smooth and impervious, easily cleaned and disinfected. Kennels must be free from hazards and there must be no projections or rough edges liable to cause injury.
- 2.3 Sleeping areas of kennels must be insulated so as to prevent extremes of temperature.

#### 3.0 Security

- 3.1 The construction must be such that the security of the dog is ensured. Fencing material must be safe and secure.

#### 4.0 Walls and Partitions

- 4.1 Walls with which dogs may come into contact must be of smooth impervious materials, capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected.

#### 5.0 Floors

- 5.1 Flooring must be of a non-slip, urine-resistant material. It must be laid in a way and at a fall that avoids the pooling of liquids. Slatted or wire mesh floors must not be used.

5.2 Floors of all buildings, individual exercise areas and kennels must be of smooth, impervious materials, capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected while providing sufficient grip for the animal to walk or run without sustaining injury.

## **6.0 Ceilings**

6.1 Ceilings must be capable of being cleaned and disinfected.

## **7.0 Doors**

7.1 Kennel doors must be strong enough to resist impact and scratching and must be capable of being effectively secured.

## **8.0 Windows**

8.1 Windows must not pose a security risk and must be escape proof for the protection of the dog as well as the public.

## **9.0 Drainage**

9.1 The establishment must be connected to mains drainage or an approved sewerage disposal system.

## **10.0 Lighting**

10.1 During daylight hours light must be provided to exercise and sleeping areas so that all parts are clearly visible.

10.2 Lighting must be of sufficient standard to enable efficient working both during and after daylight hours.

10.3 Supplementary lighting, adequate to allow inspection, must be provided throughout the establishment.

## **11.0 Ventilation**

11.1 Ventilation must be provided to all interior areas without the creation of excessive, localised draughts in the sleeping area.

## **12.0 Kennel Design (Size, layout and exercise facilities)**

12.1 Kennels must be divided into sleeping and activity areas.

12.2 Kennels must be provided with an adequate size of sleeping area, such that dogs can stand, turn around, stretch and lie down flat in a natural position, with sufficient space for the door to open fully.

12.3 Adequate exercise areas must be provided for all kennels. How much space will depend upon the size of the dog as well as the circumstances of each breeding establishment. Dogs must be able to walk, turn around easily, wag their tails without touching the kennel sides, and lie down without touching another dog.

12.4 Kennels and runs must open onto secure corridors or other secure areas so that dogs are not able to escape from the premises.

- 12.5 Exercise areas must not be used as sleeping areas
- 12.6 Outdoor areas where animals exercise and interact cannot have strict temperature regulation. Dogs must not be restricted to such areas when climatic conditions may cause them distress. They must have constant access to fresh clean water, shade and shelter so they can avoid rain, wind, snow, ice or direct sunlight, etc. In adverse weather conditions, the responsible person must decide whether or not dogs are given free access to their run.
- 12.7 The run must be at least partially roofed to provide the dog with sufficient protection against all weathers.

### **13.0 Number of Dogs Permitted**

- 13.1 The maximum number of dogs to be kept at any one time is as shown on the licence

### **14.0 Temperature in Accommodation**

- 14.1 Heating facilities must be available in the kennel and used according to the requirements of the individual dog.
- 14.2 Devices used for heating and cooling must be safe and free from risk of burning or electrocution.
- 14.3 Manufacturer's instructions must be followed. Open flame appliances must not be used.

### **15.0 Cleanliness**

- 15.1 All kennels, corridors, common areas, kitchens and so on must be kept clean and free from accumulations of dirt and dust so that disease control is maintained.
- 15.2 An agreed standard operating procedure must be followed.
- 15.3 Each occupied kennel must be cleaned daily at a minimum.
- 15.4 All excreta and soiled material must be removed from all areas used by the dogs as necessary.
- 15.5 All sleeping areas and bedding must be kept clean and dry.
- 15.6 Facilities must be provided for the proper reception, storage and disposal of waste.
- 15.7 Measures must be taken to minimise the risks from rodents, insects and other pests within the breeding establishment.
- 15.8 Foul waste water must be disposed of by discharge to the appropriate or an approved drainage system. Those wishing to operate an incinerator must seek advice from the Environment Agency and/or the local authority.

## **16.0 Whelping Facilities**

- 16.1 There must be a separate whelping pen or room for each whelping bitch in which to whelp. There must be direct access to the whelping area for kennel personnel without disturbing the general kennel population. Once separated there must be increased social contact with humans.
- 16.2 Each whelping pen must be constructed of easily cleanable impervious materials. The area must be cleaned regularly and a record kept of cleaning procedures. The whelping pen must have a divider to allow the bitch to access an area where she cannot be reached by the puppies. There must be natural daylight.
- 16.3 There must be a whelping bed raised off the floor and with sides high enough to prevent new born puppies from falling out. The bed must contain sufficient bedding to ensure a soft surface for the bitch and to enable the absorption of mess resulting from whelping. The bed must be constructed of easily cleanable impervious material and must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between litters.
- 16.4 The whelping area must be maintained at an appropriate temperature. The bitch must be able to move away from heat spots.
- 16.5 Bitches must be adequately supervised during whelping and records kept of:
  - time of birth of each puppy
  - puppies' sex, colour and weight
  - placentae passed
  - any other significant events.
- 16.6 Bitches must be allowed a minimum of four periods a day for toileting and exercise away from their puppies.

## **Conditions Relating to Management**

### **17.0 General**

- 17.1 Dogs must be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and bedding material, adequately exercised, and visited at suitable intervals.
- 17.2 A fit and proper person must always be present to exercise supervision and deal with emergencies.

### **18.0 Numbers of staff**

- 18.1 Numbers of staff must be appropriate for the breed/type and number of dogs being bred. Numbers must be sufficient to provide the level of care set out in these model conditions.
- 18.2 Sufficient adequately trained staff must be available every day to carry out all the interactions and procedures with dogs required by these conditions
- 18.3 Dogs must not be left alone for long periods and must be checked at the start and end of every working day and regularly by a member of staff at least every four hours during the day.

## **19.0 Environmental Enrichment and Exercise**

- 19.1 Dogs must be provided with environmental enrichment and the ability to have some control over their environment.
- 19.2 Breeding establishments are the permanent home for some dogs and therefore provision of exercise facilities must be adequate for the long term. Dogs must not be kept permanently confined.
- 19.3 Arrangements must be made for the dogs to be exercised at least twice a day.

## **20.0 Handling and habituation**

- 20.1 Breeding dogs must be handled and examined regularly to identify changes in health, weight and behaviour, also to ensure dogs are habituated to handling by people. This is particularly important for bitches, as fear of people will influence development of puppy behaviour.

## **21.0 Food and Water Supplies**

- 21.1 All dogs must be adequately supplied with suitable food. Clean water must be available at all times and changed at least daily. Dogs must be fed a diet appropriate to their age, breed, activity level and stage in the breeding cycle. Dogs must be fed individually with separate bowls. Food must be stored in vermin-proof containers and fresh food must be refrigerated.
- 21.2 Eating and drinking vessels must be capable of being easily cleansed and disinfected to prevent cross contamination. They must be maintained in a clean condition and cleaned and disinfected or disposed of after each meal.
- 21.3 Dogs must be fed sufficiently well to maintain health.

## **22.0 Weaning Procedures**

- 22.1 Puppies must start the weaning process as soon as they are capable of ingesting food on their own. The food offered must be appropriate for the stage of development of the puppies.
- 22.2 During lactation, the bitch must have sufficient appropriate food to satisfy the demands being made upon her.

## **23.0 Kitchen Facilities**

- 23.1 Facilities, hygienically constructed and maintained, must be provided for the storage and preparation of food for the dogs.
- 23.2 Where fresh and cooked meats are stored, refrigeration facilities must be provided. Food contamination must be avoided.
- 23.4 A sink with hot and cold running water must be available for washing kitchen utensils and eating and drinking vessels.
- 23.5 Containers for storing foods must be provided and must be constructed and maintained to guard against insects and other pests.

23.6 Cross-contamination must be avoided.

#### **24.0 First-Aid Kit for Dogs**

24.1 A fully maintained first-aid kit suitable for use on dogs and puppies must be available and accessible on the premises.

#### **25.0 Isolation Facilities**

25.1 Veterinary advice must be sought for any animal with a potentially infectious disease.

25.2 Facilities for isolation must be available when required. Isolation facilities must be used where the presence of infectious disease is suspected or known.

25.3 Isolation facilities must be in compliance with the other licence conditions but must be physically separate from other dogs.

25.4 Hands must be washed after leaving the isolation facilities before handling other dogs.

25.5 Protective clothing, footwear and equipment, for use only in the isolation facility, must be used to reduce the spread of infection and must not be worn outside the isolation facility.

25.6 Complete disinfection of the isolation facilities and equipment must be carried out once vacated.

### **Conditions Relating to Disease Control, Vaccination and Worming**

#### **26.0 General**

26.1 All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread among dogs of infectious or contagious diseases

26.2 Licence holders must take all reasonable steps to protect the animal from pain, suffering, injury and disease.

26.3 All breeding establishments must be registered with a Veterinary Practice and ensure full details are made available to the Licensing Authority.

### **Conditions Relating to Emergencies / Fire Prevention**

#### **27.0 General**

27.1 There must be Emergency Evacuation and Contingency Plans in place which meets approval with the local authority, and in consultation with the local authority.

### **Conditions Relating to Transport**

#### **28.0 General**

28.1 Dogs and puppies being transported to and from breeding establishments must be

properly supervised to ensure compliance with the obligations under the 1973 Act.

- 28.2 All appropriate steps must be taken to ensure that the dogs will be provided with suitable food, drink and bedding material and adequately exercised when being transported to or from the breeding establishment.
- 28.3 Bitches must not be transported in the last stages of pregnancy, ideally not from 54 days after mating, unless to a veterinary surgeon for treatment.
- 28.4 Bitches must not be transported for 48 hours after whelping unless it is to see a veterinary surgeon for treatment.
- 28.5 Whenever dogs are transported they must be fit and healthy for the intended journey. Injured and/ or diseased dogs must not be transported (except for minor illness or injury, as determined by trained and competent staff) unless they are being taken to a veterinary surgery.
- 28.6 Puppies must not be transported before eight weeks of age without their dam unless a veterinary surgeon agrees otherwise for health and/or welfare reasons, or in an emergency.

### **Conditions Relating to Health and Welfare of the Breeding Stock and Litters**

#### **29.0 Mating**

- 29.1 Bitches must not be mated if they are less than one year old.

#### **30.0 Maximum Number of Litters**

- 30.1 Bitches must not give birth to more than six litters of puppies each in their lifetime

#### **31.0 Twelve Months Between Litters**

- 31.1 Bitches must not give birth to puppies before the end of the period of twelve months beginning with the day on which they last gave birth to puppies.

#### **32.0 Social Contact for Dogs and Socialisation of Puppies - Adult Dogs**

- 32.1 Social contact is very important, and all dogs used for breeding must be kept in an environment that allows adequate social contact with both other dogs and people.

#### **33.0 Social Contact for Dogs and Socialisation of Puppies - Puppies**

- 33.1 Puppies must be handled regularly from shortly after birth for short periods (e.g. gently picking up and examining) to habituate them to human contact and to examine them for any sign of disease and to ensure they are feeding properly.
- 33.2 From 3 weeks old puppies must be habituated to events likely to be encountered in a domestic environment.
- 33.3 To learn social skills with other dogs, puppies must be maintained as a litter or with puppies of a similar age and size.

### **34.0 Record Keeping**

- 34.1 Accurate records in a form prescribed by regulations as shown below must be kept at the premises and made available for inspection there by any officer of the local authority or any veterinary surgeon, authorised by the local authority to inspect the premises.
- 34.2 The Breeding of Dogs (Licensing Records) Regulations 1999 (SI 1999 No 3192) prescribe the form of records to be kept by licensed breeding establishments. These records must be accurate and kept on the premises and made available to local authority inspectors or any veterinary surgeon authorised by the local authority.
- 34.3 A record must be kept by every licensed dog breeder for each breeding bitch providing the name of the bitch, date of birth, address where she is kept, breed, description, date of mating and details of sire. Licensed dog breeders must also keep a record of any litters, including the sex of the puppies, date of birth, weight, description and total number in the litter. The record must also show the details of sale, namely the date of sale, name and address of who was supplied and the status of the purchaser (ie, private owner or pet shop).