

**TITLE: Adoption of Model Licence Conditions Relating to Animal Welfare Premises**

**TO/ON: Licensing Committee – 16 March 2006**

**BY: CAROLE TODD**

**LEAD MEMBER: COUNCILLOR J DRIVER**

**STATUS:**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1. To obtain approval for the adoption of model licensing conditions for animal welfare in respect of pet shops, animal boarding establishments (dogs and cats), home boarding (dogs & cats) and dog breeding establishments.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Council approve the model licence conditions for each of the types of animal welfare premises identified.

**3. REPORT AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS AND TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

- 3.1. This report is intended to outline the reasons for the proposed implementation of model licence conditions for animal welfare in licencable premises.
- 3.2. With the exception of the model conditions relating to home boarding, all other licence conditions have been in practical use for a number of years. The purpose of this report is to formalise what is being implemented in practice.
- 3.3. The authority have a number of premises that require licensing under various pieces of animal welfare legislation. The licensing periods are currently every 12 months. The proposed introduction of the Animal Welfare Bill could extend the period of licensing, current proposals suggest 18 months.
- 3.4. The formal adoption of the model conditions gives the authority an enforceable standard with which to ensure consistency in enforcement with other authorities. Model conditions produced by National working groups have been

used throughout the country for a number of years in the licensing of animal welfare premises.

- 3.5. All of the proposed model conditions have been subject to consultation at National level with all relevant stakeholders and are promoted by those stakeholders.
- 3.6. In the last 2 years local animal boarding establishments have been consulted on the proposed adoption of the model licence conditions, most recently in October 2005.
- 3.7. The authority does not have any licensed breeding establishments or home boarding establishments (those where dogs or cats are boarded at a persons home). Therefore no local consultation has taken place on these standards conditions although consultation with stakeholders at a national level by national representatives has taken place.

#### **4. CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES**

##### **4.1. FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1.1. The adoption of these model conditions has no financial implications for the council

##### **4.2. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT AND POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS**

- 4.2.1. This report raises member awareness of the issues surrounding the licensing of animal welfare licensing.

##### **4.3. HUMAN RESOURCES**

- 4.3.1. The adoption of these model conditions does not raise any human resource issues

#### **5. ANY OTHER RELEVANT CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- 5.1. The adoption of the model conditions provides a standard which ensures equality of enforcement for all businesses.

#### **6. RISK**

- 6.1. The authority may be acting “ultra vires” if it took formal action in connection with a animal welfare premises as we have no formally adopted standard on which to base an action.

#### **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THE REPORT**

- 7.1. The authority does not have a legally enforceable standard relating to animal welfare premises.

**8. EQUALITIES ISSUES ARISING FROM THE REPORT**

None

**9. WARDS AFFECTED**

All

**10. CONSULTATIONS**

Locally – all licensed animal boarding establishments and Pet Shops.

Nationally – Kennel Club, Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, British Small Animal Veterinary Association, Association of District Councils, Feline Advisory Bureau and the Pet Trade & Industry Association.

**11. Background documents:**

**Model Licence Conditions for:**

Dog Breeding Domestic and Non Domestic  
Pet Shops  
Animal Boarding Establishments – dogs and cats  
Home Boarding – dogs and cats  
Standard Register for animal boarding  
Standard register for pet shops

**For further information on the details of this report, please contact:**

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