

Licence Conditions for Pet Shops

Pet Animals Act 1951



Oldham
Council

1 Licence Display

- 1.1 The licence, or a copy of the licence, must be displayed to the public.
- 1.2 All shops must only sell species of animals for which they are licensed.
- 1.3 The shop shall nominate a veterinary surgeon to provide 24 hours veterinary cover for the premises and any animals likely to be held thereon. Details of the surgery, method of contact and emergency protocols should be agreed with the veterinary surgeon and displayed in the shop. Furthermore all staff, including part time staff, should be trained and authorised to contact the veterinary surgeon if any doubt arises as to an animal's health. The keeping of exotic animals may, in view of the specialist nature of this group of animals, be subject to annual inspection by a specialist veterinary surgeon, which will be rechargeable to the premises.

2 Accommodation

- 2.1 Animals must at all times be kept in accommodation suitable with respect to construction, size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness. (See attached schedules for stocking densities).
- 2.2 Animals must not be exposed to draughts and must be kept in an environment suitable to the species. Animals shall not be displayed for sale outside the premises during unsuitable weather. Animals shall not be displayed in windows without the Local Authority's written authorisation.
- 2.3 Housing must be constructed of non-porous materials or be appropriately treated and maintained in good repair to ensure the safety and security of the animals.
- 2.4 Animals must not be kept in housing in such a way that they can be interfered with by other animals or the public.
- 2.5 All livestock, for sale, must be readily accessible and easy to inspect.
- 2.6 Accommodation must be cleaned as often as necessary to maintain good hygiene standards, consistent with the rate of stock turnover. This should be at a minimum of:
 - once daily for all mammalian and bird species
 - as frequently as required in order to ensure suitable water quality in the case of aquatic species
 - consistent with good husbandry for reptilian, amphibious or invertebrate species.
 - Where animals are bred on the premises and are nursing dependant young, less frequent intervals will be acceptable as agreed with the Inspector
- 2.7 Where accommodation is on a tiered system, water, food or other droppings must not be allowed to enter the lower housings.
- 2.8 All accessories provided in the accommodation must be safe, suitable for the species and well maintained.
- 2.9 Where cats/kittens and dogs/puppies are to be sold, all aspects of the licence conditions concerning accommodation/construction and vaccination set by this Local Authority under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 must be met.

3 Exercise Facilities

- 3.1 Facilities must be available where appropriate.

4 Register of Animals

- 4.1 A comprehensive livestock purchase register must be maintained for **all** livestock. A sales register must be maintained for:
- (a) birds
 - (b) species contained in the Schedule to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (as modified), for which a separate licence is required
 - (c) cats/kittens
 - (d) dogs/puppies
 - (e) reptiles

(This can be cross-referenced to an invoice file. The purpose of the register is to ascertain the source of livestock and for emergency contact of purchaser. The name, address and telephone number must be recorded)

5 Stocking Numbers and Densities

- 5.1 The maximum numbers of animals to be stocked on the premises will be governed by the accommodation available, as defined by the stocking density lists detailed on the licence / in the schedules and shall not be exceeded.
- 5.2 The maximum numbers and species of animals which may be kept on the premises are displayed on the licence and must not be exceeded.
- 5.3 Exhibition animals kept in the shop should be considered as requiring proper accommodation and any animals not for sale (whether under treatment or being exhibited) should have a note stating the fact.

6 Health, Disease and Acclimatisation

- 6.1 Heating facilities must be available in the unit and used according to the requirements of the individual cat.
- 6.2 There must be some part of the sleeping area where the cat is able to enjoy a temperature of at least 10°C (50°F).
- 6.3 In isolation units, there should be a means of maintaining the temperature at a level suitable for the conditions of the cat and dependent on veterinary advice.
- 6.4 A minimum/maximum thermometer must be placed in an appropriate place within each block / group of units.
- 6.5 All animals must be allowed a suitable acclimatisation period before sale. This will include a quarantine period in respect of newly arrived stock, as appropriate to the species, before they are mixed with individuals or groups already in residence.
- 6.6 The facility to isolate sick animals must be provided. All sick animals to be removed immediately from sale and isolated. Isolation and Quarantine facilities must be carefully controlled in terms of staffing and design to prevent the spread of disease to animals,

staff or the general public and must be sufficiently separated from the main stock area to prevent the spread of airborne infections in species where this is seen to be a possibility. Staff in charge of caring for quarantined animals must be properly trained and be able to demonstrate competency in their responsibilities. This provision must be in force at all times animals are in residence in the quarantine facility, or under treatment for any reason. Suitably trained staff must always be available to care for such animals especially at weekends and holiday periods.

6.7 All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent the outbreak and spread of disease. No animal which is suffering from, or could reasonably be suspected of having come into contact with any other animal suffering from, any infectious or contagious disease, or which is infested with parasites, shall be brought into or kept on the premises unless effectively isolated.

6.8 All necessary precautions must be taken to prevent the introduction to the premises, and harbourage, of rodents, insects and other pests.

(‘Rodent’ and ‘insect’ excludes livestock for sale or for feeding).

6.9 All animals stocked must have received appropriate vaccinations / inoculations for the species and not be sold for a suitable period following vaccination, which must be no shorter than 2 weeks. Appropriate vaccination includes both primary and secondary vaccinations for puppies and kittens.

7 Food and Drink

7.1 Animals must be supplied with adequate amounts of food and drink at suitable intervals; appropriate to their specific needs as a species, including any supplementary feedstuffs as necessary.

7.2 All food must be suitable for the species concerned.

7.3 Food and drink receptacles must be constructed and positioned to minimise faecal contamination.

7.4 A sufficient number of receptacles must be provided and cleaned at regular intervals.

8 Food Storage

8.1 All food, excluding live foods, intended for feeding to livestock on the premises, must be stored in impervious closed containers.

8.2 The containers and equipment used for feeding must be kept in a clean condition.

9 Observation

9.1 All livestock must be attended to at regular intervals, appropriate to the species.

(In no circumstances will this be less than daily).

10 Excreta and Soiled Bedding

- 10.1 All excreta and soiled bedding must be stored in impervious containers with close-fitting lids.
- 10.2 Excreta and soiled bedding should be removed from the premises on a regular basis, at least weekly, and disposed of to the satisfaction of the Local Authority.
- 10.3 All containers must be kept in a clean condition.

11 Transportation

- 11.1 When receiving stock, a licensee must make every effort to ensure that it is transported in a suitable manner.
- 11.2 Any livestock received or consigned shall be transported according to the regulations laid down by the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, or other relevant legislation or recommendations.
- 11.3 No animals shall be directly imported except by licensees who have satisfied the Local Authority as to their ability to quarantine or handle consignments of animals under suitable conditions.

(For air transportation, the IATA guidelines must be followed. For rail transportation, the Railtrack guidelines must be followed)

12 Transportation Containers

- 12.1 Livestock must be transported or handed to purchasers in suitable containers.

13 Sale of Livestock

- 13.1 All stock offered for sale must be in good health, as far as can be reasonably determined without veterinary inspection.
- 13.2 No mammal shall be offered for sale unweaned or, if weaned, at an age at which it should not have been weaned.
- 13.3 In the case of non-mammals, they must be capable of feeding themselves.

14 Dangerous Wild Animals

- 14.1 When dangerous wild animals are kept, the cages must be of a secure construction appropriate to the species. A fine wire mesh, glass or plastic safety barrier must be incorporated into the cage system.
- 14.2 Licensees selling animals listed on the Schedule to the *Dangerous Wild Animals Act* **must** inspect the purchaser's licence to keep such an animal and inform the issuing authority of the details of the purchase. A record of this must be kept.

15 Pet Care Advice

- 15.1 Pet Trade and Industry Association Pet Care leaflets or other similar written instructions must be made available to customers at the time of purchase.
- 15.2 Purchasers must be given proper advice on the care of the animal, and where necessary, on the maintenance and use of any accessories.
- 15.3 The PTIA Pet Store Manual or other appropriate reference books must always be available for use by staff.

16 Staff Training and Livestock Knowledge

- 16.1 No animal should be stocked or sold unless the staff (or a member of the staff) is familiar with the care and welfare of that animal.
- 16.2 In respect of new applications, at least one member of staff working at the licensed premises must hold the City and Guilds Pet Store Management Certificate, or some other appropriate qualification, or must be in the course of training to take the examination within 2 years of the licence application.
- 16.3 The licensee must formulate a written training policy for all permanent staff, and will be required to demonstrate that systematic training is carried out.

17 Fire and Other Emergency Precautions

- 17.1 Suitable emergency precautions and written procedures shall exist and be made known to all staff, including arrangements for evacuation of livestock.
- 17.2 Entrances and exits must be clear of obstructions at all times.
- 17.3 Animals and stock shall not be placed or kept in or outside the shop so as to obstruct entrance to or exit from the shop in the case of fire or other emergency.
- 17.4 Fire extinguishers must be provided and sited as approved by the local Fire Protection/Prevention Officer.
- 17.5 The fire-fighting equipment must remain accessible and be maintained in good working order.
- 17.6 The licensee, or a designated keyholder, must at all times be within reasonable distance of the premises and available to visit the premises in case of emergency.
- 17.7 A list of keyholders must be lodged with the local police and fire brigade.
- 17.8 An emergency telephone number must be displayed at the front of the shop: this may be either the keyholder's number or the emergency telephone number 999.
- 17.9 When pet shops are sited within other premises, the licensee or keyholders must have access at all times to the premises containing the livestock.

18 Sale of Livestock

- 18.1 No animal should be sold to any person under the age of 16 years unless that person is accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

19 Application for a Licence

- 19.1 Although not provided for in the Act, it is recommended that applicants consult the Local Authority prior to submitting an application.

20 Trade Associations

- 20.1 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.

21 Boarding of Animals

- 21.1 No pet shop should be used for the purpose of boarding any species of animal for which they are not licensed to sell.

22 Other Legislation

- 22.1 All other legislation must be complied with such as:

- (a) *The Health and Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974*
- (b) *The Electricity at Work Regulation*
- (c) *The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002*
- (d) *The Environmental Protection Act 1990*
- (e) *The Controlled Waste Regulations 1992*

This list is not exhaustive.

Schedule 1 Stocking Densities – Caged Birds

	Length (cm)	Floor Area (Sq.cm) single	Each Additional		Length (cm)	Floor Area (Sq.cm) single	Each Additional
Parrots, Parakeets, Budgerigars, etc.							
African Grey:		1250	625	Parakeet (incl. Conure, Kakariki, Rosella)	Up to 25 25-35 over 35	1000 1000 1400	200 250 450
Amazon	Up to 35 35-40 Over 40	1000 1250 2000	500 625 750	Parrot (incl. Caique, Pronus) Senegal Meyers	Up to 30 30-35 Over 35	800 1250 1500	275 625 750
Budgerigar		650	200				
Cockatiel		1000	250	Parrotlet		400	200
Cockatoo	Up to 35 35-40 Over 40	1250 2000 2750	625 1000 1350	Hanging Parrot Lories and Lorikeets	Up to 22.5 22.5-30 Over 30	450 800 1250 2000	250 250 375 500
Lovebird		750	200				
Macaw	Up to 40 40-60 Over 60	1250 2250 3750	625 1000 1200				
Seed eaters							
Canary		650	250	Quail	Up to 15 15-20 Over 20	450 650 1000	250 375 500
Cardinal		1000	250				
Dove and Pigeon	Up to 22.5 Over 22.5	450 1250	250 625	Weaver	Up to 15 Over 15	650 1000	150 200
Finch (incl. Mannikin)	Up to 12.5	650	100				
Silverbill	12.5-17.5	750	150				
Sparrow Waxbill	Over 17.5	1000	200	Whydah (male with full tail)	Up to 40 Over 40	1000 2000	200 275
Grossbeak		1000	200	Female & male in non-breeding plumage as Weaver.			
Softbills							
Barber	Up to 20 Over 20	1250 1450	275 450	Starling (incl. Small mynahs)	Up to 20 Over 20	1000 1500	250 375
Bulbil		1000	250	Tanager, Sugar bird		1000	250
Fruitsucker, Fairy Bluebird, Oriole		1250	250				
Jay, Jay-thrush	Up to 25	1500	250	Thrush (incl. Shama)		1000	375
(Laughing thrush)	25-35	2000	500	Toucan		3750	1000
Magpie	Over 35	4000	1000	Toucanette, Aracari		2000	625
Mynah hill		1500	250	Tlouraco		2000	625
Pekin Robin, Mesia		1000	200	Zosterops		750	100

NB: All birds should be housed in accommodation, which allows the full spreading of wings.

Schedule 2 Stocking Densities – Small Mammals

Species	Minimum Floor Area *		Minimum Cage Height (cm)	Species	Minimum Floor Area *		Minimum Cage Height (cm)
	Single	Each Additional			Single	Each Additional	
Mice	200	50	20	Guinea Pigs	700	175	20
Hamsters	300	75	20	Rabbits	2000	500	50
Gerbils	300	75	20	Kittens	2000	500	50
Rats	500	125	20	Puppies	10000	2500	50

* Minimum floor areas apply to young stock. For adult stock offered for sale the dimensions should be doubled. For advice on the age of the stock, you are advised to contact the veterinary surgeon.

NB: The range of behavioural opportunities, for many of the animals listed in the above Schedule will be increased by enriching the environment with such accessories as shredded paper, pieces of wood, toilet rolls, lengths of piping etc.

The installation of shelving in rabbit cages is particularly beneficial as they like to spend a lot of time, off the cage floor.

Schedule 3 Stocking Densities – Ornamental Fish

It is virtually impossible to determine the quantity of fish to be kept in a tank purely on weight/volume or numbers of fish/volume. The variation in system design, husbandry techniques and types of fish involved would render any such method too simple to be useful or too complicated to be practical. The maintenance of water quality standards is essential and is a simple but effective way to determine stocking densities.

“Bare tank” setups for indoor ornamental fish will not be acceptable for licensing purposes as these contravene the provisions of *Section 9 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006*.

Water Quality Criteria (1mg/litre – 1ppm)						
Cold Water						
* Dissolved Oxygen	-min	6mg/litre	Nitrite	-max	0.2mg/litre	
* Free Ammonia	-max	0.02mg/litre	Nitrate	-max	50mg/litre above ambient tapwater	
Tropical Fish						
* Dissolved Oxygen	-min	6mg/litre	Nitrite	-max	0.2mg/litre	
* Free Ammonia	-max	0.02mg/litre	Nitrate	-max	50mg/litre above ambient tapwater	
Tropical Marine Species						
* Dissolved Oxygen	-min	5.5mg/litre	Nitrite	-max	0.125mg/litre	
* Free Ammonia	-max	0.01mg/litre	Nitrate	-max	40mg/litre. This is an absolute figure; it does not relate to ambient tapwater	
* ph (tropical marine)	Min	8.1				

*These parameters should be checked first. Only if a problem exists with these tests is it necessary to check nitrite and nitrate levels.

Schedule 4 Stocking Densities – Other Species

Accommodation must be provided appropriate to size, age and type of species