

Wiltshire Council



Where everybody matters

GUIDANCE NOTES

DOG BREEDING ESTABLISHMENTS

Establishments used for the breeding of dogs are controlled by the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973. A breeding establishment means any premises where more than two bitches are kept for the purposes of breeding for sale. No person may keep a breeding establishment without first obtaining a Licence from their Local Authority.

Applications for a Licence must be made to the Local Authority and a Licence may be issued if the applicant is not disqualified under any of the following Acts:

- a. The Breeding of Dogs Act 1973
- b. The Pet Animals Act 1951
- c. The Protection of Animals (Amendment) Act 1954
- d. The Protection of Animals (Cruelty to Dogs) (Scotland) Act 1934
- e. The Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999
- f. The Breeding of Dogs Act 1991

Where a Licence is granted that Licence and any subsequent Licence will expire on the 31st December of the year to which the Licence relates, and must be renewed before that date if the premises are to continue as a dog breeding establishment.

Granting of a Licence

Before being granted a Licence the applicant must be able to demonstrate to the Council's Licensing Inspector:

- That the dogs will at all times be kept in accommodation that is suitable in respect of construction, size of quarters, number of occupants, exercising facilities, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness;
- That the dogs will be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and bedding material, adequately exercised, and so far as is necessary visited at suitable intervals;
- That all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent and control the spread amongst the dogs of infectious or contagious diseases, including the provision of isolation facilities;
- That appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the dogs in case of fire or other emergency, including the provision of suitable and sufficient fire fighting equipment;
- That all appropriate steps will 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.

A Licence may be refused or withheld on other grounds if those grounds are such that conditions are not suitable for the breeding of dogs. Each Licence is subject to standard conditions that are imposed on all dog breeding establishments licensed by the Council. In addition to the standard conditions a Licence may also contain special conditions that are only applicable to each premises.

There is an application fee which must be paid at the time the application is made.

Fees

Initial Licence Fee:	£196.00*
Licence Annual Renewal:	£164.00*
Amendment to existing Licence:	£12.00*

** plus vet fees where necessary*

Contact Details

Wiltshire Council has four main offices where correspondence can be sent. Please use the Office covering the area in which the premises are situated. Contact details are as follows:

Chippenham: **Wiltshire Council, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 1ER**
(This office deals with all applications relating to Chippenham, Calne, Corsham and Wootton Bassett as well as the rest of the old North Wiltshire District Council Area)

Devizes: **Wiltshire Council, Browfort, Bath Road, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 2AT**
(This office deals with all applications relating to Devizes, Pewsey, Marlborough and Tidworth as well as the rest of the old Kennet District Council Area)

Salisbury: **Wiltshire Council, 27/29 Milford Street, Salisbury, SP1 2AP**
(This office deals with all applications relating to Salisbury, Amesbury, Downton, Mere, Hindon and Tishead as well as the rest of the old Salisbury District Council Area)

Trowbridge: **Wiltshire Council, Bradley Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 0RD**
(This office deals with Trowbridge, Bradford-on-Avon, Melksham, Warminster and Westbury as well as the rest of the old West Wiltshire District Council area)

Applications can be sent to any of the above addresses, but it will speed processing if they are sent directly to the office covering the area in which the premises is situated.

Wiltshire Council has one main telephone number: 0300 456 0100.

Your Right of Appeal

Any person aggrieved by a refusal to be granted a Licence, or by any condition to which a Licence is subject, may appeal to the Magistrates Court. The Court may give such directions regarding the Licence or its conditions as it thinks proper.

Offences

The following offences apply to the breeding of dogs.

- Anybody found guilty of keeping a dog breeding establishment without a Licence.
- Anybody found guilty of failing to comply with the conditions of their Licence.
- Anybody found guilty of obstructing or delaying an Inspector, or authorised Veterinary Surgeon or Veterinary Practitioner in the exercising of their powers.

If found guilty under this Act, the defendant's Licence may be cancelled and they may be disqualified from keeping a dog breeding establishment for such length of time as the Court thinks fit.

Further Information & Forms

Copies of the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 and other legislation mentioned can be purchased from Her Majesty's Stationery Office at www.opsi.gov.uk.

A copy of the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 can be viewed at the Council Offices where you may also obtain a copy of the Council's standard Licence conditions, an application form and further help and advice.