

## Breeding

### Pre-inspection information

#### Notes:

- Staff to dogs ratio for established businesses will be around 1:20 (adult dogs)
- In a kennel environment – Any wood used must be smooth and treated and properly maintained to render it impervious
- In a home environment – the home must be well maintained and in good repair, doors to outside must be escape proof. All outdoor fencing must be strong and rigid
- Isolation facilities must be available
- The complete sales route from birth to sale must be clear, and the inspector must be shown how and where puppies are bred, born, reared and kept until sale.
- Copies of paperwork given to buyers (puppy packs) needs to be available
- The licence holder must ensure that no bitch—
  - (a) is mated if aged less than 12 months;
  - (b) gives birth to more than one litter of puppies in a 12 month period;
  - (c) gives birth to more than six litters of puppies in total;
  - (d) is mated if she has had two litters delivered by caesarean section.
- No puppy under 8 weeks of age may be sold or permanently separated from its biological mother
- Any advertisement for the sale of a dog must—
  - (a) include the number of the licence holder's licence,
  - (b) specify the local authority that issued the licence,
  - (c) include a recognisable photograph of the dog being advertised, and
  - (d) display the age of the dog being advertised.
- Each puppy must be microchipped and registered to the licence holder before it is sold.
- The licence holder must make arrangements for rehoming of dogs no longer required for breeding
- There must be a designated key holder available in case of emergencies, details of this person need to be lodged with the Licencing authority
- For a non-home based facility emergency contact name / number must be displayed on the outside of the premises.
- The licence holder must register with a veterinarian

#### Procedures/policies needed:

- A written staff training policy (to include induction, annual appraisal, planned continued professional development, use of online courses and literature, should no staff be employed this should demonstrate the license holders own knowledge development. This must also cover dog welfare, dog handling, dog behaviour, cleanliness and hygiene, feeding and food prep, disease control, recognising and treating sick animals)
- Unit doors (kennels)/Internal doors (homes) should open inwards, any not require a documented procedure to demonstrate staff safety

- A safety procedure if head height is less than 2m or if corridor of facing units is less than 1.2m wide
- A cleaning and disinfecting procedure
- A procedure covering isolation
- A procedure covering transportation
- A procedure covering feeding ( to record of the type, quantity, frequency of food for each dog)
- A procedure for the diet of pregnant bitches
- A procedure for weaning puppies
- A procedure covering the prevention of, and control of the spread of, disease
- A procedure covering the death or escape of an animal
- A procedure covering the care of animals following suspension/revocation of the licence or during and following an emergency (emergency plan)
- A fire risk assessment and documented fire procedure is required
- A daily health and behaviour record for each dog
- A veterinary treatment record must be available (to include internal and external parasites)
- A written health care plan must be in place agreed with a veterinarian (to include vaccination, internal and external parasite control, weight monitoring and body condition scores)
- An enrichment programme to be documented, to include grooming, socialisation, play and appropriate toys and feeding enrichment
- A weekly record of weight and Body Condition Scoring (BCS) for each puppy
- A policy must be in place for monitoring the introduction of new dogs to other dogs in either domestic or kennel environments, to avoid stress to either new or resident animals
- There must be a documented policy in place for dealing with extremes of temperature and weather conditions (both hot and cold).
- Suitable paperwork needs to be given to buyers (puppy packs)
- A procedure for socialisation and habituation of puppies
- A procedure for dealing with dogs showing abnormal behaviour
- A record of all euthanasia is to be kept

#### **Records:**

- Weekly records of weight and Body Condition Scoring (BCS) for each puppy
- A record of sale to include date of sale, puppy information (DOB, breed, colour, vax details, internal/external parasite treatment details), microchip number and database registered on, purchasers name/address/contact number and any other relevant information
- 6.7 Breeding bitches must be adequately supervised during whelping and the licence holder must keep a record of:
  - (a) the date and time of birth of each puppy,
  - (b) each puppy's sex, colour and weight,
  - (c) placentae passed,
  - (d) the number of puppies in the litter, and
  - (e) any other significant events.
- 6.8 The licence holder must keep a record of each puppy sale including:
  - (a) the microchip number of the puppy,
  - (b) the date of the sale, and

- (c) the age of the puppy on that date.
- 6.9 The licence holder must keep a record of the following in relation to each breeding dog:
  - (a) its name,
  - (b) its sex,
  - (c) its microchip and database details
  - (d) its date of birth,
  - (e) the postal address where it normally resides,
  - (f) its breed or type,
  - (g) its description,
  - (h) date or dates of any matings, whether or not successful,
  - (i) details of its biological mother and biological father,
  - (j) details of any veterinary treatment it has received, and
  - (k) the date and cause of its death (where applicable).
- 6.10 The licence holder must keep a record of the following in relation to each breeding bitch:
  - (a) the number of matings,
  - (b) its age at the time of each mating,
  - (c) the number of its litters,
  - (d) the date or dates on which it has given birth, and
  - (e) the number of caesarean sections it has had, if any.

### Star ratings:

As part of the new regulations each premises will receive a star rating following their formal inspection. In order to achieve the best star rating possible each premises will need to have covered all of the standard conditions and have all consents, policies and procedures in place.

In order to meet the highest possible rating for both the high and low risk categories in the rating matrix certain extra conditions will need to be met. The higher standards are classified in to two types: **required** and **optional** and are outlined below. **Higher standards that appear in blue text are required**, whereas **those that appear in red text are optional**. To qualify as meeting the higher standards, the business needs to achieve all of the required higher standards as well as a minimum of 50% of the optional higher

### Required

- Staffing levels will be 1 full-time equivalent attendant per 10 adult dogs kept.
- All individual dogs must be inspected at least once at an appropriate interval during the out of hours period (e.g. 1800-0800).
- Dogs must be provided with a design and layout that provides them with choice beyond minimum enrichment requirements. This can be achieved by, for example, inclusion of raised platforms or more than one room.
- Dogs must be fed twice a day with a feeding plan for each dog balancing feeding with food enrichment such as use of scatter feeders. Inspector must see the enrichment tools and plan for each dog.

- A minimum of a weeks supply of the puppies' current diet must be included when they go to their new home.
- There must a clear plan setting out two walks per dog each working day for a minimum of 20 minutes each or two sessions of access to a secure open area. There must be an alternative form of enrichment planned for dogs which cannot be exercised for veterinary reasons
- The breeder will ensure all breeding stock or puppies are recorded in the UK with a registration organisation which must make available record of parent or lineage including coefficient of inbreeding and record of health screening test results.
- All bitches must be at least 18 months old before they are used for mating.
- A bitch must not be mated if she is 8 years of age or older.
- A bitch must not give birth to more than four litters of puppies in total.
- A bitch must not be bred from if they have had one caesarean.
- Licence holders must test all breeding stock for hereditary disease using the accepted and scientifically validated health screening schemes relevant to their breed or type, and must carefully evaluate any test results as well as follow any breeding advice issued under each scheme, prior to breeding. No mating must take place if the test results indicate that it would be inadvisable in the sense that it is likely to produce health or welfare problems in the offspring and/or it is inadvisable in the context of a relevant breeding strategy.
- Surgery to correct exaggerated conformation must be reported to the appropriate organisation.
- The puppy must be checked by a veterinarian before sale with proof of such held and available to the puppy buyer.
- A puppy contract must be used, which must include undertakings and warranties around health, vaccinations and socialisation carried out by the seller prior to sale, and also make clear the responsibilities of the buyer relative to the dog. This must then give both parties confidence that a transaction has taken place in good faith.

#### Optional

- A competent person must be on site at all times.
- Where there are staff employed at least one must have an OFQUAL regulated Level 3 qualification in a relevant subject and must be present during the working day.
- A suitably qualified behaviour expert must be appointed in relation to the licensable activity and active engagement recorded.
- Ventilation must be a managed, fixed or portable, air system to ensure appropriate temperatures are maintained in all weathers. This can be an air conditioning unit or use of removable fans.
- A noise management plan must be in place e.g. physical barriers, sound absorbing materials, positive reinforcement training to keep barking down, kennel design to prevent noise generation with demonstration of effectiveness.
- The breeder must give all details of the sire to the buyer including date of birth, microchip number, registration body if applicable and details of any inherited diseases to which the father's breed is prone and any screening tests or surgery to amend confirmation the father received.

- The breeder must give all details of the bitch to the buyer including date of birth, microchip number, registration body if applicable and details of any inherited diseases to which the bitch's breed is prone and any screening tests or surgery to amend conformation that the bitch received.
- The licence holder must ensure that the microchipping database is amended with the puppy buyer's details.
- No bitch will be intentionally mated when the Coefficient of Inbreeding of the puppies would exceed the breed average or 12.5% if no breed average exists as measured from a minimum five generation pedigree.

Scoring Matrix		Welfare Standards		
		Minor Failings (existing business that are failing to meet minimum standards)	Minimum Standards (as laid down in the schedules and guidance)	Higher Standards (as laid down in the guidance)
Risk	Low Risk	<b>1 Star</b> 1yr licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period	<b>3 Star</b> 2yr licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 24 month period	<b>5 Star</b> 3yr licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 36 month period
	Higher Risk	<b>1 Star</b> 1yr licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period	<b>2 Star</b> 1yr licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period	<b>4 Star</b> 2yr licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 24 month period