Animal Establishment Mandatory Conditions

Pet Shop Establishments

Gateshead Council
Foreword

Mandatory Conditions Applicable to Licenses for Pet Shops

General

These standard conditions apply to all licences unless removed or varied by the Regulatory Committee.

The granting of a licence for a Pet Shop shall not be deemed to convey any approval or consent which may be required under any enactment by law, regulation or order other than the Pet Animals Act 1951.

The business owner has an obligation to ensure their business complies with all relevant current legislation and acts accordingly.

The principal legislation dealing with riding establishments is the Pet Animals Act 1951 which addresses the areas to be covered by the licence in relation to animal welfare and management. It is essential that you are familiar with the licence conditions.

It is advisable to have insurance for public liability, third party liability, liability for death/loss of an animal in their care and veterinary fees.
Appendix C  Pet Shop Licence Conditions  (Granted under The Pet Animals Act 1951)

Schedule A – General conditions

1.0 Licence Display

1.1 The licence or a copy of the licence must be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position.

2.0 Accommodation

2.1 Animals must at all times be kept in accommodation designed to prevent escape and an environment suitable to their species and with respect to behavioural needs, situation, size, temperature, ventilation and cleanliness and not exposed to draughts. All accommodation must be kept in good repair.

2.2 Ventilation must be provided to all interior areas without the creation of excessive, localized draughts. Ventilation is important as an aid to disease control and aims to decrease smell accumulation and prevent excessive humidity of the atmosphere.

2.3 If animals are displayed outdoors, they must have protection appropriate to their species.

2.4 In order to control the spread of disease, and to prevent injury, housing must be constructed of non-porous materials or be appropriately treated. Junctions between all sections need to be fully cleanable.

2.5 Animals must be kept in housing which minimises stress from other animals or the public. Signage should be in place to deter public interference.

2.6 All animals for sale must be readily accessible and easy to inspect by staff.

2.7 Accommodation must be cleaned as often as necessary to maintain good hygiene standards.

2.8 Where accommodation is on a tiered system, water, food or droppings must not be allowed to enter the lower housing.

2.9 All accessories provided for environmental enrichment in the accommodation must be appropriate for the species.

3.0 Exercise Facilities

3.1 Suitable and sufficient facilities must be available where appropriate.

4.0 Register of Animals
4.1 A purchase register must be maintained for all animals (listing a minimum of date purchased, supplier name and address, telephone number of supplier, registration number of transport vehicle, species, number purchased and description of animal and any invoice number).

4.2 A sales register must be maintained for:
4.2.1 Dogs
4.2.2 Cats
4.2.3 Psittacines
4.2.4 Primates
4.2.5 Species covered by Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
4.2.6 Species covered by UK CITES Regulations
4.2.7 Species contained in the Schedule to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976

4.3 Animals under veterinary treatment must be identifiable.

4.4 The name and address shall be recorded in the sales register of any person buying a primate, species covered by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, animal covered under the UK CITES Regulations or Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1981, and produced on demand to an authorised officer of Gateshead Council. All members of staff shall seek credible proof of name and address from any person buying one of the above. Such credible evidence of name shall include a photograph of the person and shall be one of the following -
- a current signed passport,
- a residence permit issued by the Home Office to EU Nationals, or current UK photocard driving licence.
Credible evidence of address shall be at least two of the following -
- Recent (within 3 months of the current date) original utility bill or mortgage statement (not printed from the internet).
- Council tax bill (valid for current year)
- Current UK photo card driving licence (if not used as proof of name) or current full UK driving licence (old version)
- Bank or building society passbook or statement (within 3 months of the current date) containing current address
- Current local council rent card or tenancy agreement

5.0 Stocking Numbers and Densities

5.1 No animals other than those specified in the license may be stocked.

5.2 Where appropriate, all animals must be housed in social groups of suitable size.

6.0 Health Disease and Acclimatisation

6.1 All animals for sale must be in good health.

6.2 Any sick or injured animal must receive appropriate care and treatment without delay. These must only be treated by appropriately competent staff or veterinary surgeons.
6.3 Provision must be made for the isolation of sick/injured/infectious animals and those that might reasonably expected to be carrying serious infectious diseases.

6.4 Any animal with an abnormality which would materially affect its quality of life, must not be offered for sale. When in doubt, veterinary advice should be sought.

6.5 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.

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

7.0 Food and Drink

7.1 Animals must be supplied with adequate amounts of food and drink, appropriate to their needs at suitable intervals. All food must be suitable for the species concerned.

7.2 Food and drink receptacles must be constructed and positioned to minimise faecal and urine contamination and spillage. Receptacles must be cleaned out at regular intervals.

8.0 Food Storage

8.1 All food, excluding live foods intended for feeding to animals 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 and sound condition.

9.0 Observation

9.1 All animals must be attended to at regular intervals, except where defined in the schedule, at least once daily, and appropriate to the individual animal.

10.0 Disposal of Waste

10.1 All excreta and soiled bedding for disposal must be kept in a hygienic manner and stored in impervious containers with close fitting lids, away from direct sunlight.

11.0 Transportation to the Premises

11.1 When receiving animals, the licensee must make reasonable effort to ensure that it is transported in a suitable manner.
11.2 Any animals received or consigned shall be transported according to the regulations laid down in current legislation.

11.3 Animals must be transported or handed to purchasers in suitable containers.

12.0 Sale of Animals

12.1 No mammal shall be sold un-weaned, or, if weaned, at an age at which it should not have been weaned.

12.2 In the case of non-mammals, they must be capable of feeding themselves.

12.3 No animal shall be sold to any person under the age of 16 years, unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Primates shall not be sold to any person under the age of 18 years. All members of staff shall seek credible proof of age evidence from anyone who appears to be under the age of 16, or 18 years if seeking to purchase a primate. Such credible proof of age evidence shall include a photograph of the person and shall be one of the following -

- a current signed passport,
- current UK photocard driving licence, or
- proof of age card carrying a “PASS” logo.

12.4 Appropriate certificates must be held for any animals (or derivative) on the premises that are subject to legislation restricting their sale, trade or display (e.g. Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, UK CITES Regulations etc.). These documents must be available for inspection on demand.

12.5 The sale of any animal that is subject to legislation restricting their sale display (e.g. Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, UK CITES Regulations etc.) must be accompanied by the original documentation. A copy must be kept in the sales register and be available for inspection on demand

13.0 Dangerous Wild Animals as defined by the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976

13.1 When dangerous wild animals are kept, the cages must be of a secure construction appropriate to the species and locked.

13.2 The local authority must be notified in the event that the pet shop wishes to offer for sale, any animal on the Schedule to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act.

13.3 No sale of a Dangerous Wild Animal may be made without the purchaser’s Dangerous Wild Animal Licence having been inspected and a photocopy taken and kept in the sales register and be made available on demand. The licensee must inform the licensing authority of the sale and details of the purchase.

14.0 Pet care advice, staff training and knowledge
14.1 New applicants must have a qualification or be registered with a recognized body such as City & Guilds. They must have suitably progressed in 12 months and have completed the qualification within 2 years.

14.2 The licensee must ensure that the purchaser is informed of the correct care of the animal, covering feeding, housing, handling, husbandry, accessories and veterinary care.

14.3 Appropriate reference materials on the care of each species must always be available for use by staff.

14.4 For the sale of primates, a copy of the DEFRA Code of Practice for the Welfare of Privately Kept Non-Human Primates must be issued, and the purchaser must sign the sales register to acknowledge receipt.

14.5 Staff members must be able to provide suitable advice to purchasers and answer questions as required by them to ensure the animal's welfare in its new home.

14.6 The licensee must be able to demonstrate that appropriate training of staff is carried out and that staff are competent in pet shop management and animal handling.

15.0 Emergency Precautions

15.1 Suitable emergency precautions and written procedures must exist and be made known to all staff, including arrangements for evacuation of animals.

15.2 Entrances and exits must be clear of obstructions at all times.

15.3 License holders must comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

15.4 The licensee, or a designated key holder, must at all times be within reasonable travelling distance of the premises and available to attend in case of emergency.

15.5 A list of key holders must be logged with the local police and local authority.

15.6 In the interests of animal welfare, the following notice must be displayed prominently at the front of the premises: “In case of an emergency dial 999”.

15.7 When pet shops are sited within other premises, the licensee or key holders must have access at all times to the premises containing the animals.

15.8 All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe way.

15.9 There must be an effective contingency plan for essential heating, ventilation and aeration/filtration systems, as appropriate.
Schedule B – Dogs

1.0 Puppies must be weaned before leaving the mother.

2.0 The minimum kennel size must be:
   - a. For a batch of small breed puppies – max 6 pups – 1.5\( \text{m}^2 \) for sleeping, plus 2\( \text{m}^2 \) for exercise.
   - b. For a batch of medium breeding puppies – max 4 pups – 2\( \text{m}^2 \) for sleeping plus 2\( \text{m}^2 \) for exercise
   - c. For a batch of large breed puppies – max 2 pups – 2\( \text{m}^2 \) for sleeping plus 2\( \text{m}^2 \) for exercise

These are minimum requirements, for larger batches the size of the pens should be adjusted pro-rata accordingly. Ideally the puppies should have free access to the exercise area at all times. Any covered pens should have a minimum height of 1.8m or removable covers to allow adequate access by staff for cleaning. These are minimum standards and meeting the correct size of pens alone is not a defence if the welfare of the animals is in question.

3.0 Suitable and sufficient exercise facilities must be available where appropriate.

4.0 Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

5.0 General bedding must include an adequate amount of absorbent material.

6.0 Any soiled material must be removed at least four times a day or as required to ensure the puppy does not have to lie in a soiled area.

7.0 A specific lying place must be provided lined with soft material

8.0 Puppies must be fed at least four times daily at appropriate intervals.

9.0 Puppies must have frequent, quality contact time with staff.

10.0 Batches of puppies must not be mixed until they have been on the premises for seven days or have shown no sign of infectious disease for seven days.

11.0 Ideally single puppies must not be left alone in a kennel, but where they are, special attention should be paid to specific human interaction. When they are mixed they should be of similar size, age and temperament and there should be good supervision of mixing.

12.0 There must be environmental enrichment in all kennels.
Schedule C – Cats

1.0 Kittens must be weaned before leaving the mother.

2.0 The minimum pen floor area for a batch of up to 4 kittens, up to 12 weeks of age, must be 1m² with a minimum height of 0.6m (for example, 0.6 x 1 x 1). No dimension must be less than 0.6m. Any shelving or platforms must be in addition to the minimum floor area. Each additional kitten must have 0.25m² additional floor space.

3.0 Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

4.0 Disposable or washable bedding must be provided and kept clean.

5.0 A litter tray and appropriate litter must be available at all times and cleaned and disinfected at least once daily with an appropriate disinfectant which is safe for use with cats.

6.0 Kittens must be fed at least four times daily, at appropriate intervals.

7.0 Batches must not be mixed and if several batches are kept in one area then the pen must have solid sides.

8.0 Kittens must have frequent, quality contact time with staff.

9.0 There must be environmental enrichment in all cages such as toys, climbing frames and platforms.
Schedule D – Rabbits

1.0 Rabbits must be correctly sexed and housed in same sex groups.

2.0 The minimum enclosure size must be:
   - 0.4m² for up to 4 standard juvenile rabbits and a height of 0.4m.
   - 0.5m² for up to 2 giant breed juvenile rabbits and a height of 0.5m.

These are minimum requirements, for larger batches the size of the pens should be adjusted pro-rata accordingly.

3.0 There must be environmental enrichment in all enclosures. A hiding place must be provided.

4.0 Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

5.0 Rabbits must be provided with a suitable substrate and bedding material in sufficient amounts.

6.0 Visibly soiled substrate and bedding must be removed daily. The pen should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before introducing a new animal.

7.0 If batches are mixed you must ensure all animals are free from parasitic infection.

8.0 Rabbits must have a constant supply of fresh hay and water, and be offered an appropriate amount of dry food for the breed and age. Feed dishes should be suitable to ensure feed does not get contaminated by urine or faeces.

9.0 Animals must be provided with an appropriate diet and any new feeds must be introduced slowly.
Schedule E – Other Small Mammals

1.0 All small mammals must be correctly sexed and housed in single sex groups unless a solitary species (or sold as a breeding pair).

2.0 Animals must at all times be kept in suitably sized accommodation (see table).

3.0 Animals must be provided with a suitable substrate in sufficient amounts.

4.0 Animals must be provided with a suitable bedding material in sufficient amounts.

5.0 Animals must be provided with places to hide. Accessories and enrichment should be provided suitable to the species.

6.0 Suitable food and drink receptacles must be provided and positioned to avoid faecal contamination.

7.0 All rodents must be fed a suitable diet, ad lib and have free access to hay where required.

8.0 All rodents must be fully weaned on admission.

Minimum accommodation requirements – small rodents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of animals</th>
<th>1-4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>Minimum cage height (metres)</th>
<th>Minimum Cage Depth (metres)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mice, Hamsters, Gerbils</td>
<td>0.068</td>
<td>0.079</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>0.100</td>
<td>0.113</td>
<td>0.124</td>
<td>0.135</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rats</td>
<td>0.135</td>
<td>0.157</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.202</td>
<td>0.225</td>
<td>0.247</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea Pigs, Degus</td>
<td>0.225</td>
<td>0.263</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.338</td>
<td>0.375</td>
<td>0.413</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinchillas</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.375</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.625</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.875</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chipmunks</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.375</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.625</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.875</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.90</td>
<td>0.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schedule F – Ferrets

1.0 Ferrets must be at least 8 weeks old.

2.0 Ferrets must be housed with batch companions.

3.0 Ferrets must be housed in groups of pairs of either sex. Adult hobs (males) require individual accommodation.

4.0 Batches of ferrets must not be mixed.

5.0 The minimum pen floor area for a litter of up to 4 ferrets, up to 12 weeks of age, must be 1m² with a minimum height of 0.6m. No dimension must be less than 0.6m. Any shelving or platforms must be in addition to the minimum floor area. Each additional ferret must have 0.25m² additional floor space.

6.0 Sleeping quarters must be draught free and dark.

7.0 Ferrets must have suitable bedding.

8.0 Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

9.0 Ferret kibble must be provided at appropriate intervals.

10.0 Water must be supplied in both a heavy based bowl and a water bottle attached to the side of the enclosure.
Schedule G – Birds

1.0 There must be adequate perching space for all birds at the same time. Outdoor aviaries must include sufficient sheltered and non-sheltered space. Cage size must be adequate to allow birds to open their wings fully in all directions. Cages must include appropriate enrichment.

2.0 Perches must be positioned so that birds do not defecate on each other and must be of appropriate size and shape for each species.

3.0 Ambient temperatures must be appropriate for the species. Extremes of temperatures must be avoided.

4.0 There must be adequate drinkers/feeders commensurate with the number of birds and these must be cleaned regularly. Bowls etc. must be positioned so that birds do not defecate in food/water.

5.0 Cages must be constructed from materials suitable to the type and size of birds. Materials must be safe to birds and in good repair.

6.0 Windproof nest boxes must be provided on all outside housing and inside where appropriate.

7.0 Flooring must be drop-through or easily washed/hosed.
### Stocking Densities for Birds in Cages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Length of bird (cm)</th>
<th>Floor area (m²) housing up to 4 birds</th>
<th>Linear cms per additional bird on either cage length or depth *³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budgerigar</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canary</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cockatiel</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finches</td>
<td>Less than 12.5</td>
<td>0.113</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.5-17.5</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More than 17.5</td>
<td>0.225</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parakeets &amp; Lovebirds</td>
<td>Less than 25</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25-30 **¹</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More than 30 **¹</td>
<td>0.675</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parrots</td>
<td>Less than 30</td>
<td>0.225</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30-35 **²</td>
<td>0.4050</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More than 35 **²</td>
<td>0.4725</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickens</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bantams</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quail</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*¹ It is recommended that, wherever possible, these species are displayed for sale in aviaries or flights rather than cages.

*² It is recommended that, wherever possible, these species are displayed for sale in aviaries or flights if more than two birds are housed together.

*³ The extra linear centimetre per additional bird, is intended to refer to an increase in either width or length or a combination of the two, i.e., a 20cm increase could refer to 20cm width, 20cm length or say 10cm width combined with 10cm length.

### Stocking Densities for Birds in Aviaries and Flights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Length of bird (cm)</th>
<th>Number of birds per ‘Standard’ aviary (1.8 x 0.9 x 1.8m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budgerigar</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canary</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cockatiel</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finches</td>
<td>Less than 12.5</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.5-17.5</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More than 17.5</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parakeets &amp; Lovebirds</td>
<td>Less than 25</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25-30</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More than 30</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parrots</td>
<td>Less than 30</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30-35</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More than 35</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickens</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 (min height 0.9m)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bantams</td>
<td></td>
<td>6 (min height 0.9m)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quail</td>
<td></td>
<td>8 (min height 0.9m)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schedule H – Reptiles and Amphibians

1.0 Stocking and density must be appropriate to the species.

2.0 The enclosure size must be appropriate to the species.

3.0 Temperature, humidity and ventilation must be appropriate to the species.

4.0 Lighting must be appropriate to the species.

5.0 Substrate appropriate to the species must be present.

6.0 Enrichment must be provided appropriate to the species.

7.0 Food and water must be provided on the appropriate manner for the species.

8.0 Hygiene, enclosures must be cleaned appropriately.

9.0 Handling must be kept to a minimum at all times.
Schedule I – Fish

1.0: Water quality is a key determinant of fish welfare. To assess it, levels of ammonia and nitrite must be checked first. Only if such measurements exceed the recommended standards below, or there is an unexplained problem, is there any need to proceed further.

Minimum water standards must be:

**Cold Water Species**
- Free Ammonia: max 0.02mg/l
- Nitrite: max 0.2mg/l
- Dissolved Oxygen: min 6mg/l
- Nitrate: max 50mg/l above ambient tap water

**Tropical Freshwater Species**
- Free Ammonia: max 0.02mg/l
- Nitrite: max 0.2mg/l
- Dissolved Oxygen: min 6mg/l
- Nitrate: max 50mg/l above ambient tap water

**Tropical Marine Species**
- Free Ammonia: max 0.01mg/l
- Nitrite: max 0.125mg/l
- Dissolved Oxygen: min 4.0mg/l
- Nitrate: max 100mg/l
- pH: min 8.1

2.0 Water quality must be checked regularly and records kept of all tests. Centralised systems must be tested weekly. 10% of individually filtered tanks or vat must be tested weekly. On aquaria or vats in which visual inspection indicates unusual behaviour or deaths, water quality inspections should be undertaken.

3.0 Holding systems must be cleaned and checked regularly.

4.0 No aquatic organisms should be exposed to excessive heat or light, or lack of adequate warmth.