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GUIDANCE NOTE No GN.C129

Licence Conditions for Dog Breeding Establishments

1. Bitches should not be mated if less than a year old nor give birth to more than six litters of puppies each. Bitches should not be allowed to give birth to more than one litter per 12-month period.
2. Licensed breeders cannot sell dogs to anyone other than a licensed breeding establishment/ a licensed pet shop.
3. Licensed breeders cannot sell a dog directly to anyone other than to a licensed pet shop knowing it will be sold on to somebody else.
4. Licensed breeders cannot sell a dog who is less than 8 weeks old.
5. Dogs sold to pet shops/breeding establishments must have been bred at licensed breeder's establishment (s) and be wearing ID tags. Under The Sale of Dogs (Identification Tag) Regulations 1999, the ID tag should display:
 - i) date of birth, and
 - ii) ID.number allocated by the original licensed breeding establishment
6. Under The Breeding of Dogs (Licensing Records) Regulations 1999 accurate records must be kept on a predetermined form (see attached), which must be kept on the premises and be made available for inspection. The form of record shall be kept by the licensed dog breeder for each breeding bitch in the establishment.
7. Any licence issued by the Local Authority will indicate the number of dogs to be accommodated at the establishment described in the licence.

8. Accommodation provided for bitches and puppies shall in all respects be suitable as regards construction, size of quarters, exercising and whelping facilities, temperatures, ventilation and cleanliness, with special regard to the breeds maintained.
9. Natural or artificial lighting of individual kennels shall be sufficient to allow the proper working and cleaning of kennels with no dark areas.
10. The kennel shall be of sufficient size for the dog to stand up and turn round comfortably. If a bench is provided for the sleeping area, there shall be in addition an area of similar size unbenched.
11. All excreta and soiled material shall be removed at least twice daily from living areas and at least once daily from the exercise area. The floor of the living areas must be kept clean and dry.
12. All exercise runs shall have an area by the entrance which is paved or surfaced with other suitable materials in order to prevent undue fouling of the ground.
13. All animals accommodated at the premises shall be provided with bedding material suitable to the breeds kept and shall be given adequate exercise. Where sleeping benches are provided, these shall preferably be of such dimensions as to allow an adult dog of the breed maintained to lie out flat on its side.
14. Facilities shall be provided for the disposal of all used bedding and other waste material in a manner approved by the Local Authority and in a way not likely to cause harm or nuisance.
15. All animals shall have access to wholesome drinking water at all times, except in the case of very young puppies.
16. Animals shall be adequately supplied with suitable food and visited at suitable intervals.
17. The food preparation area and equipment must be kept clean and vermin-free at all times. Refrigeration facilities shall be provided where fresh meat is used.
18. All bulk supplies of food shall be kept in vermin-free containers.
19. Every precaution shall be taken to eliminate flies throughout the kennel.
20. All heating appliances shall be of such construction as to constitute no risk of fire, and not to endanger the health and well-being of occupants. If free-standing oil appliances are used, they shall be installed in accordance with normal good practice and advice on the subject shall be obtained where necessary from a Fire Prevention Officer.
21. Animals and equipment shall not be placed in such a position as to render ingress or egress difficult in the case of fire

22. The licensee shall ensure that a responsible person is at all times in, or within reasonable distance from, the premises for the purpose of giving warning and taking other necessary steps in the event of fire or other emergency. In the case of premises which are lock-up, outside of normal working hours, the licensee shall appoint a responsible person residing within a reasonable distance of the premises to have custody of the key, the name and address of such persons to be displayed in legible characters at the premises and to be notified to the local Fire Brigade. Where appropriate, adequate and efficient fire fighting apparatus (e.g. supply of water and sand and/or a fire extinguisher) shall be provided at the premises.
23. All reasonable precautions shall be taken to prevent and control the spread among dogs of infectious or contagious diseases, including the provision of adequate isolation facilities.
24. In the case of dogs transported to or from the breeding establishment, the receptacle in which a bitch and/or puppies is to be carried shall be firmly constructed in a manner which is not likely to cause injury to the animals therein, and shall be maintained in a good state of repair; it shall be suitable in material and dimensions for the animal(s) carried therein; it shall not be overcrowded, and in the case of puppies not more than two shall be carried in any one receptacle, and both puppies shall be of similar sizes; the receptacle shall have securely attached thereto a label or similar form of notice clearly indicating that the receptacle contains live animals, and another label clearly indicating the person to whom the animals are consigned together with that person's address; the receptacle shall bear a sign indicating the person to whom the animals are consigned, together with that person's address; the receptacle shall bear a sign indicating the upright position thereof.
25. It is the duty of the licensee in consigning the animal(s) to inform the recipient previously of the intended time of despatch and also of the expected time of arrival at destination.
26. Washing and lavatory facilities shall be available for staff.
27. The licensee shall permit any officer of the Local Authority, veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner authorised by them, to enter the premises at all reasonable times and inspect them and any animals found thereon or anything found therein.

FORM OF RECORD TO BE KEPT BY LICENSED DOG BREEDER FOR EACH BREEDING BITCH

Name	Date of birth	Address where kept	Breed	Description*	Date of Mating	Details of sire**	Details of litter							Total Number in litter	
							Male				Female				
							Date of birth	Weight	Description*	Sale details ***	Date of birth	Weight	Description	See details ***	

* Enter name (in the case of puppies), colour, identifying features (if any) and registration number (if any).

** Enter name, address where kept, breed, colour and registration number (if any).

*** Enter date of sale, and name, address and status (for example, private/pet shop) or purchaser.