DOG BREEDING LICENCE - GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Accommodation provided for bitches and puppies must be in all respects suitable as regards construction, size of quarters, exercising and whelping facilities, temperature, ventilation and cleanliness, with special regard to the breeds maintained.

2. Natural or artificial lighting of individual kennels must be sufficient to allow the proper working and cleaning of kennels, with no dark areas.

3. Kennels must be of sufficient size for dogs to stand up and turn round comfortably. If a bench is provided for the sleeping area, there must be in addition an area of similar size unbenched.

4. All excreta and soiled material must 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.

5. All exercise runs must be paved or surfaced with suitable materials in order to prevent undue fouling of the ground, except where bitches are allowed out into pastureland for exercise purposes.

6. All animals accommodated at the premises must be provided with bedding and other waste material suitable to the breeds kept and must be given adequate exercise. Where sleeping benches are provided these should be of such dimensions as to allow an adult dog of the breed maintained to lie out flat on its side.

7. Facilities must be provided for the collection of all used bedding and other waste material, which must be disposed of in a manner, approved by the Local Authority, and in a way not likely to cause harm or nuisance.

8. All animals must have access to wholesome drinking water at all times, except in the case of very young puppies.

9. Animals must be adequately supplied with suitable food and visited at suitable intervals.

10. The food preparation area and equipment must be kept clean and vermin-free at all times. Refrigeration facilities must be provided where fresh meat is used.

11. All bulk supplies of food must be kept in vermin-free containers.

12. Every precaution must be taken to eliminate flies throughout the kennel.

13. All heating appliances must be of such construction as to constitute no risk of fire, and not to endanger the health and well being of occupants. In addition, if freestanding oil appliances are used, they must be installed in an area inaccessible to dogs. All heating and lighting should be installed in accordance with normal good practice and advice on the subject should be obtained from a Fire Prevention Officer (see condition 15 for contact details).

14. Animals and equipment must not be placed in such a position as to render entry or exit difficult in case of fire.

15. The licensee shall ensure that a responsible person shall at all times be in, or within reasonable distances from the premises for the purpose of giving warning and taking other necessary steps in the event of fire or other emergency. Your Fire Risk Assessment should identify the appropriate steps required to be taken, for example: provision of smoke detectors, audible fire alarm, etc. For advice please contact the Staffordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service, Western Service Delivery Group, Cannock Fire Station: - 01785 898514 or email: WSDG.firesafety@staffordshirefire.gov.uk.
In the case of premises that are locked 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 person shall be displayed in legible characters on the front door, or windows, of the premises and be notified to the local fire brigade.

An adequate and accessible supply of water and sand and/or sufficient and efficient fire extinguisher(s) must also always be available on the premises, outside the kennels, and their positions clearly marked.

16. A register shall be kept in the form prescribed in the Breeding of Dogs (Licensing Records) Regulations 1999 for each breeding bitch at the licensed premises.

17. Washing and lavatory facilities must be available for operators/staff.

18. **ANIMAL WELFARE ACT 2006**

Those responsible for animals have a responsibility towards the welfare of the animals in their care. Under this Act it is an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to an animal, whether by act or omission. There is an imposed legal 'duty of care' towards the animal. Reasonable steps must be taken in all circumstances to meet the welfare needs of the animal, to the extent required by good practice.

19. The Act defines an animal’s needs as including:

- Its need for a suitable environment*.
- Its need for a suitable diet.
- Its need to be able to exhibit normal behavior patterns.
- Its need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury or disease.
- Any need to be housed with, or apart from, other animals.

*Consider the issue of 'Prey or Predator'. Is (can) the animal be stressed by its proximity to one or the other? If so, then the animal should be moved to an environment where it is free from stress.

End