

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/16 REPORT NO.

COMMITTEE :
Licensing Committee
14 October 2015

REPORT OF :
Principal Licensing Officer

LEGISLATION :
Pet Animals Act 1951

| Agenda - Part | Item |
|---|------|
| SUBJECT : Adoption of Revised conditions for Pet Shop Licensing | |
| PREMISES : All | |
| WARD : All | |

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 Local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales issue licences to the proprietors of pet shops and other pet vendors under the provisions of the Pet Animals Act 1951.

1.2 Before granting a licence the local authority must be satisfied that the animals are:

- a. Kept in accommodation that is suitable (with regard to size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness)
- b. Supplied with appropriate food and drink
- c. Adequately protected from disease and fire.

1.3 The local authority may:

- Attach conditions to the licence
- Inspect the premises at all reasonable times
- Refuse a licence if the standards at the premises are unsatisfactory or revoke a licence if the terms of the licence are not being complied with.

1.4 This authority currently has a set of standard conditions which are applied to all pet shop licences. These are complemented by premises specific conditions as appropriate. The standard conditions derive from model conditions compiled by animal welfare professionals, which are reviewed/updated on yearly basis.

2 KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

2.1 The model conditions:

2.2 A copy of the revised model conditions is attached to this report in Appendix 1.

2.3 The revised model conditions have been written in accordance with the working group's recommendations for the basic minimum standards considered necessary to ensure the health, safety and welfare of animals in pet shops.

2.4 The working group advises that "the model conditions should not be considered as a complete manual on animal husbandry". They are intended by the working group as a "living document which will be revised from time to time to take into account new knowledge of animal physiology and behaviour, as well as advances and developments in standards of animal welfare".

2.5 The revised model conditions provide a more comprehensive and detailed assessment of the situation than its predecessor. In particular they provide specific considerations in respect of each species likely to be offered for sale as pets. The conditions also provide guidance alongside some clauses for purpose of providing greater clarification of the expectations placed upon premises management.

2.6 The Revised model conditions comprise 10 sections as follows:

- Schedule A – General conditions
- Schedule B – Dogs
- Schedule C – Cats
- Schedule D – Rabbits and guinea pigs
- Schedule E – Other small mammals
- Schedule F – Ferrets
- Schedule G – Birds
- Schedule H – Reptiles and amphibians
- Schedule I – Fish
- Appended further information and useful contacts.

2.7 Subject matter covered by the conditions includes:

- Licence display
- Accommodation
- Exercise facilities
- Register of animals
- Stocking numbers and densities
- Health disease and acclimatisation
- Food and drink
- Food Storage
- Observation
- Excreta and soiled bedding disposal
- Transportation
- Transportation Containers
- Sale of livestock
- Dangerous wild animals
- Pet care advice
- Staff training and knowledge
- Fire and other emergency precautions
- Additional conditions

3 ANIMAL WELFARE ACT 2006

3.1 Providing some context to the pet shops licensing regime under the Pet Animals Act 1951 is the more recent Animal Welfare Act 2006. Under the 2006 Act, those responsible for animals, including pet vendors, have a responsibility towards the welfare of the animal in their care. It is an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to a protected animal, whether by act or omission. Vendors also have a legal 'duty of care' towards the animals in their care. Vendors must therefore take such steps as are reasonable in all the circumstances to meet the welfare needs of the animals, to the extent required by good practice. The Acts define 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 behaviour patterns
- Any need to be housed with, or apart from, other animals
- Its need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease.

3.2 During premises inspections prior to the issue of a licence it is important that these five needs are addressed. The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has produced various codes of practice under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, which outline in more detail certain species' needs.

3.3 The Animal Welfare Act 2006 also increased the minimum age at which a person can buy an animal from 12 to 16 and prohibited giving animals as prizes to unaccompanied children below this age.

4 INTRODUCTION OF THE MODEL CONDITIONS

4.1 It is proposed that, if adopted, the revised model conditions be applied as the new standard conditions attached to all new pet shop licences issued from 1 November 2015 and to all renewals from 1 January 2015. Pet shop licences are due for renewal annually on 31 December.

4.2 Currently there are 21 licensed pet shops operating within the borough. All licensed operators will be provided with copies of the new standard conditions in advance of their next renewal date. They will be advised that the content represents best management practice and asked to review and upgrade their practice, where necessary, with a view to full compliance by that date. Supporting advice and information will be provided to operators to help with compliance where necessary.

5 CONSULTATION

5.1 All pet shops licence holders have been briefed by a licensing officer during the routine annual licensing inspections in January 2015 in anticipation of the revised conditions being adopted. As such, most of the pet shops in the borough are currently compliant with the revised conditions and thus will not have to make any significant adjustment to their normal operating practices

6 RECOMMENDATION

6.1 That the Council's amended Licensing conditions written in accordance with the 'Model Conditions for Pet Vending Licensing 2013' published by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health attached to this report, be adopted to form this authority's standard conditions attached to pet shop licences issued under the Pet Animals Act 1951, with effect from 1 January 2016.

Background Papers :
None other than any identified within the report.

Contact Officer :
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PET SHOP LICENCE CONDITIONS

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Schedule A- General Conditions

1.0 The Pet Shop Licence

1.1 A copy of the licence should be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position at all times.

1.2 The maximum number and types of animals permitted to be kept on the premises to which the licence refers are set out in the licence and shall not be exceeded unless authorisation has been approved by the licensing authority on a case by case basis.

1.3 A copy of the current public liability insurance certificate must be suitably displayed in a prominent position viewable by the public at all times.

1.4 The licensee must inform the Council of any change in circumstances relevant to the Licence conditions.

1.5 The Local Authority Licensing Team contact details must be displayed in a prominent position viewable by the public at all times.

2.0 Accommodation

2.1 Animals shall at all times be kept in accommodation and environment that is suitable to their species with respect to situation, size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness and not exposed to draughts. All accommodation must be kept in good repair.

2.2 Animals shall not be kept or displayed for sale outside the premises during unsuitable weather unless they have adequate protection appropriate to their species.

2.3 Housing must be constructed of non-porous materials or be appropriately treated to ensure that it can be easily cleaned.

2.4 No animals shall be displayed for sale in a window, cage, hutch, box or other receptacle in such a position that it can be interfered with by other animals or interfered with unnecessarily by unauthorised persons.

2.5 All livestock for sale must be readily accessible and easy to inspect, with cages sited so that the floor of the cage is readily visible.

2.6 All accommodation must be cleaned daily or as often as it is necessary for the species to maintain good hygiene standards.

2.7 Where animals are kept in cages, hutches, boxes or other receptacles, which are placed on top of other cages, hutches, boxes or other receptacles, effective means should be provided for preventing water, food or other droppings falling onto or contaminating the animals' food or other surroundings which are underneath.

2.8 All accessories provided in the accommodation must be suitable for the species.

2.9 Exhibition animals kept in the shop should be provided with suitable accommodation and any animals not for sale should have a clear notice stating that.

2.10 Animals must be safely confined at all times and not allowed to wander freely within the premises. Adequate precautions must be taken to prevent the escape of animals from the premises.

2.11 Animals must not be displayed within close proximity as to cause distress to themselves or other animals (e.g. cats/kittens must not be housed near to rodents or birds).

2.12 Animals must not be kept or displayed in a shop window whether for sale or not.

2.13 Windows or doors must not be left open if they cause any animal to suffer from draughts, fluctuating or extremes of temperature.

2.14 Windows or doors must not be left open if this causes the temperature in the shop to fall below the temperature required for any animal kept in conditions suitable for its species the pet shop.

2.15 No animal is to be exposed to strong light or heat or to be deprived of adequate warmth not suitable for its species.

2.16 No lights are to be left on in the pet shop at night, apart from small night-lights necessary for some species to feed for more than 12 hours in each 24.

2.17 All tropical fish, amphibians and reptiles must be kept in an environment with a suitably controlled temperature that is species specific. A thermometer must be displayed in a clearly visible position at all times in every cage or tank containing such animals.

2.18 All animals must have sleeping areas that are kept clean, warm and dry.

2.19 Areas reserved for puppies/dogs must be provided with a sleeping area of a size specified in Schedule B (1.1,1.2 and 1.3).

2.20 The establishment must, at all times, be laid out and operated in accordance with an approved plan to be attached to the licence. Any proposals to alter or change the layout must be submitted to and approved by the licensing officer of the council before carrying out the work.

2.21 Where wood has been used in the construction, it must be smooth and treated to render it impervious. Wood should not be used in exposed construction of walls, floors, partitions, doorframes or doors in the animal enclosures. There must be no projections liable to cause injury.

3.0 Exercise Facilities

3.1 Once dogs have had their full course of vaccinations they must be walked for a minimum of 10 minutes twice a day.

3.2 Suitable and sufficient exercise facilities must be available. Exercise areas must not be used as bedding areas. (See Schedule B (1.1,1.2 and 1.3))

4.0 Register of Animals

4.1 A livestock purchase register must be maintained for all livestock except fish, detailing the name, address and telephone number of the seller/breeder, the date of sale and a brief description of the animal purchased.

4.2 Proof of age for puppies and kittens must be supplied to an inspector on request.

4.3 A livestock sales register must be kept for all customer purchases of livestock except fish, detailing the name, address and telephone number of the purchaser, the date of sale and a brief description of the animal sold to include breed, sex, age and colour.

4.4 Both registers must be kept on the premises and shall be available for inspection by authorised officers from the Council at all reasonable times.

NB: The purpose of the register is to ascertain the source of livestock and for emergency contact of purchaser.

5.0 Stocking Numbers and Densities

5.1 The maximum number of animals to be stocked on the premises will be governed by the accommodation available, as stated in the stocking density list detailed in appendices 1 to 4 attached to these licence conditions.

6.0 Health, Disease and Acclimatisation

6.1 All stock for sale must be in good health and free from obvious parasitic infestation as far as can be reasonably determined without veterinary inspection.

6.2 Any sick or injured animals must be isolated immediately and receive appropriate care and treatment without delay.

6.3 If any animal is kept isolated a log must be kept outlining symptoms, treatment and isolation periods.

6.4 Veterinary attention must be started within 12 hours of the onset of symptoms.

6.5 Inexperienced staff must not treat sick animals unless under appropriately experienced supervision.

6.6 Facilities must be provided to isolate sick animals – isolation facilities must meet all licence conditions

6.7 All animals must receive appropriate inoculations where required for the species as advised by the veterinary surgeon within 7 days of entering the premises for sale. Veterinary advice must be sought whenever necessary.

6.8 No animal shall be offered for sale unless it has received its first inoculation where required for the species as advised by the veterinary surgeon.

6.9 Where animals remain unsold vaccination courses must be completed whilst in the pet shops possession.

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

6.11 Certain species animals must be allowed a suitable acclimatisation period before sale.

- Seven days for canines and felines**
- Five days for all other domestic mammals**
- Five days for avian & reptilian Species**
- 3 Days for fish and invertebrates (wild caught only)**

6.12 All necessary 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.

6.13 Individual litters of puppies and kittens must be kept separate from other litters.

6.14 All necessary precautions must be taken to prevent harbourage or the introduction to the premises of rodents, insects or other pests (excluding livestock for sale or for feeding). Any infestation must be adequately and promptly treated.

7.0 Food and Drink

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

7.2 A permanent supply of fresh, clean water must be available at all times.

7.3 A suitable and sufficient number of receptacles must be provided and cleaned at regular intervals and be constructed and positioned to minimise faecal contamination and spillage.

7.4 Puppies and kittens up to the age of 6 months must be fed at least 3 times a day at regular intervals, every day and must have a permanent supply of clean water.

7.5 If complete food is being fed to puppies and kitten, this should be done according to manufacturers or veterinary recommendations.

7.6 No live vertebrate animals are to be fed to reptiles.

8.0 Food Storage

8.1 All food, excluding live foods intended for feeding to livestock on the premises, must be stored in impervious closed containers. Meat and perishable foods must be kept in a fridge or freezer.

8.2 The containers and equipment used for feeding must be kept in a clean and sound condition.

9.0 Observation

9.1 All livestock must be attended to at regular intervals, at least once daily, appropriate to the species and unusual/outstanding observations recorded.

9.2 All puppies and kittens up to the age of 6 months must be visited and attended to at least once every two hours and a log sheet must be kept detailing these inspections.

10.0 Excreta and Soiled Bedding Storage and Disposal

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

10.2 Excreta and soiled bedding must be removed from the premises on a regular basis at least weekly and disposed of to the satisfaction of the Local Authority in accordance with current regulations and good waste management practice.

11.0 Transportation

11.1 When receiving stock, the licensee must make every effort to ensure that it is transported in a suitable manner. Any livestock received or consigned shall be transported according to the regulations laid down in current legislation such as the EU Welfare in Transport Regulation EC Number 1/2005 and Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order 2006.

12.0 Transportation Containers

12.1 Livestock must be transported or handed to purchasers in suitable containers for the species. An adequate supply of containers must be kept in stock at all times.

13.0 Sale of Livestock

13.1 No mammals (see 13.2) shall be displayed or sold unweaned or, if weaned, at an age which it should not have been weaned. In the case of non-mammals, livestock must be capable of feeding itself.

13.2 Puppies and kittens must not be kept on the premises unless fully weaned and at a minimum of 10 weeks of age.

13.3 No animals shall be directly imported to a pet shop, except by licensees who have satisfied the Council as to their ability to quarantine or handle consignments of animals under suitable conditions.

13.4 Puppies and kittens must not be breed on the premises.

14.0 Dangerous Wild Animals

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

14.2 The Local Authority should be notified in the event that the pet shop wishes to offer for sale, for the first time, any animal on the Schedule to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976. Consideration should be given to comply with any special requirement specified in the Act for the safe accommodation or care of the animal.

14.3 Licensees selling animals on the Schedule to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 should inspect the purchaser's licence to keep such an animal and inform the issuing authority of the details of the purchase before the animal is sold.

14.4 No dogs shall be kept on the premises that fall within The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 - Section 1.

14.5 Parentage of all dogs must be demonstrable where parentage is in question.

15.0 Pet Care Advice

15.1 Purchasers must be given proper advice in the form of pet care leaflets or other similar written instructions on the care of the animal and, where necessary, on the maintenance and use of any accessories. Purchasers must also be given advice on the complexity of keeping any particular species.

15.2 Appropriate reference materials must always be available for use by staff.

Guidance: It is required that all purchasers are given advice on the complexity of keeping a particular species. This is so the customer may make an informed decision on whether a particular species is suitable for their level of experience, lifestyle etc. A reliable means of doing this is by using the EMODE leaflet which may be found by visiting <http://emergentdisease.org/assets/documents/emode-brochure-screen.pdf>

16.0 Staff Training and Livestock Knowledge

16.1 No animals should be stocked or sold unless the staff (or at least one member of the staff) is familiar with the care and welfare of the animal stocked and has a recognised qualification or suitable experience.

16.2 In respect of new licence applications, at least one member of staff working at the licensed premises must hold or shall be currently studying to obtain the City and Guilds Pet Shop Pet Store Management Certificate or some other appropriate recognised qualification.

16.3 The licensee must formulate a written training policy for all permanent staff and will be required to demonstrate that systematic training is carried out.

16.4 No child under 16 years of age should be left in charge of animals in the absence of the licensee.

16.5 No animal shall be sold to any person under the age of 16 years old.

17.0 Fire and Other Emergency Precautions

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

17.2 Entrances and exits must be clear of obstructions at all times and accommodation be designed to allow for rapid and safe removal of the animals in an emergency.

17.3 Mains interlinked smoke detectors and fire-fighting equipment must be provided, maintained, regularly serviced and sited as advised by the Local Fire Protection/Prevention Officer and in consultation with the Local Authority.

17.4 The licensee or a designated key holder, must be at all times within reasonable distance of the premises (i.e. no more than 20 minutes travelling time) and available to visit the premises in case of emergency. A list of key holders must be lodged with the local Police and with the Council.

17.5 When the premises are closed a highly visible notice must be displayed at the front of the shop "In case of an emergency dial 999". In addition, the telephone number of the local Police station and emergency key holder must also be displayed.

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

17.7 All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe condition.

18.0 Additional Conditions

18.1 In the interests of animal welfare, under no circumstances shall the licensed premises, at any time, be used to hold Pet Animal Auctions.

18.2 The sale or keeping of poultry is only permissible with prior consent from the Local Authority.

18.3 The sale or keeping of birds of prey is prohibited.

18.4 The sale or keeping of all primates is prohibited.

Schedule B – Dogs

The minimum kennel size must be:

- 1.1 For a batch of small breed puppies – max 6 pups – 1.5m² for sleeping, plus 2m² for exercise
- 1.2 For a batch of medium breed puppies – max 4 pups – 2m² for sleeping, plus 2m² for exercise
- 1.3 For a batch of large breed puppies – max 2 pups – 2m² for sleeping, plus 2m² 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 are not a defence if the welfare of the animals are in question.

Guidance

The kennel area should be large enough to allow separate sleeping and activity areas. The kennel should allow each puppy to be able to walk, turn around and wag its tail without touching the sides of the kennel. The puppies should have sufficient room to play, stand on their hind limbs and to lie down without touching another individual. The kennel size required will increase in relation to the size and number of puppies housed at any one time. The length and the width should be sufficient to allow all the puppies to lie outstretched without their noses or tails touching the walls or other individuals. In certain circumstances it is permissible to have separate exercise areas to sleeping areas but in such cases puppies must be given access to the exercise area at least four times a day. Any separate exercise area should be fully cleaned and disinfected between its use by different batches of puppies.

- 1.4 Suitable and sufficient exercise facilities must be available and accessible where appropriate.
- 1.5 Extreme temperatures must be avoided. Puppies are relatively sensitive to high/low temperatures. Temperatures shall not go below 12°C or exceed 26°C
- 1.6 General bedding must include an adequate amount of absorbent material.
- 1.7 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.
- 1.8 A specific lying place must be provided lined with soft material,
- 1.9 Puppies must be fed at least four times daily, at appropriate intervals.

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

Guidance

“Suitable intervals” for puppies to be visited are frequent, as they require to be socialised. It is recommended that this should be a minimum of 4 times per day with 20 minutes of interaction per batch.

1.11 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. Mixing must only occur if puppies have received their first inoculation.

1.12 There must be environmental enrichment in all kennels. Toys should only be given under supervision and should be easily cleaned or replaced between batches.

Schedule C – Cats

- 1. The minimum pen floor area for a batch of up to 4 kittens, up to 12 weeks of age, must be 1 m², with a minimum height of 0.6m (for example, 0.6m 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.**

Guidance

Kittens require adequate space to play together and to have space for a litter tray and bed. Varying heights to enable climbing should each also be provided. There should be adequate space for feeding, drinking, sleeping and litter tray to be kept separate.

- 2. Extreme temperatures must be avoided.**

Temperatures should not normally go below 15⁰C or exceed 26⁰C.

Disposable or washable bedding must be provided and kept clean.

The sleeping area must be kept away from the litter tray and food.

- 3. 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 and cleaned as appropriate. The disinfectant should be anti-viral and used in accordance with manufacturers' instructions, as some disinfectants are toxic to cats.**
- 4. Kittens must be fed at least four times daily, at appropriate intervals.**
- 5. Batches must not be mixed and if several batches are kept in one area then the pen must have solid sides.**
- 6. There must be environmental enrichment in all cages such as toys, climbing frames and platforms.**
- 7. Toys must be cleaned or replaced between batches**

Schedule D – Rabbits

- 1. Rabbits must be correctly sexed and housed in same sex groups.**
- 2. 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, larger breeds or adult rabbits the size of the pens should be adjusted pro-rata accordingly.**
- 3. There must be environmental enrichment in all enclosures. A hiding place must be provided.**
- 4. Extreme temperatures must be avoided.**
- 5. The ambient temperature shall not go lower than 12°C or exceed 20°C.**
- 6. Rabbits must be provided with a suitable substrate and bedding material in sufficient amounts.**
- 7. Visibly soiled substrate and bedding must be removed daily. The pen should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before introducing a new animal.**
- 8. The disinfectant must be effective against both viral, bacterial and parasitic infection and safe for use on rabbits.**
- 9. If batches are mixed you must ensure all animals are free from obvious parasitic infection.**
- 10. 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.**
- 11. Feed dishes should be suitable to ensure feed does not get contaminated by urine or faeces.**
- 12. Animals must be provided with an appropriate diet and any new feeds must be introduced slowly.**

Schedule E – Other small mammals

1. All small mammals must be correctly sexed and housed in single sex groups unless a solitary species (or sold as a breeding pair),
2. Animals must at all times be kept in suitably sized accommodation.
3. Animals must be provided with a suitable substrate in sufficient amounts.
4. Animals must be provided with a suitable bedding material in sufficient amounts.
5. Animals must be provided with places to hide. Accessories and enrichment should be provided, suitable to the species.
6. Suitable food and drink receptacles must be provided and positioned to avoid faecal contamination.
7. All rodents must be fed a suitable diet, ad lib and have free access to hay where required.
8. All rodents must be fully weaned on admission.
9. Minimum accommodation requirements for small rodents

Area in square metres

| No. of Animals | 1-4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Minimum Cage Height (m) | Minimum Cage Depth (m) |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Mice, Hamsters, Gerbils | 0.068 | 0.079 | 0.09 | 0.100 | 0.113 | 0.124 | 0.135 | 0.30 | 0.25 |
| Rats | 0.135 | 0.157 | 0.18 | 0.202 | 0.225 | 0.247 | 0.27 | 0.30 | 0.28 |
| Guinea Pigs, Degus | 0.225 | 0.263 | 0.3 | 0.338 | 0.375 | 0.413 | 0.45 | 0.30 | 0.30 |
| Chinchillas | 0.25 | 0.375 | 0.5 | 0.625 | 0.75 | 0.875 | 1.0 | 0.45 | 0.45 |
| Chipmunk | 0.25 | 0.375 | 0.5 | 0.625 | 0.75 | 0.875 | 1.0 | 0.90 | 0.45 |

Schedule F – Ferrets

- 1. Ferrets must be at least eight weeks old.**
- 2. Ferrets must be housed with batch companions.**
- 3. Ferrets must be housed in groups or pairs of either sex. Adult hobs (males) require individual accommodation.**
- 4. Batches of ferrets must not be mixed.**
- 5. The minimum pen floor area for a litter of up to 4 ferrets, up to 12 weeks of age, must be 1 m², 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. Sleeping quarters must be draught free and dark.**
- 7. Ferrets must have suitable bedding.**
- 8. Extreme temperatures must be avoided. Temperatures shall not go below 12°C or exceed 26°C.**
- 9. Ferret kibble must be provided at appropriate intervals.**
- 10. 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. 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.**
- 2. Cages must include appropriate environmental enrichment.**
- 3. Perches must be positioned so that birds do not defecate on each other and must be of appropriate size and shape for each species**
- 4. Ambient temperature must be appropriate for the species. Extremes of temperatures must be avoided.**
- 5. There must be adequate drinkers/feeders adequate for the number of birds and these must be cleaned regularly. Bowls etc. must be positioned so that birds do not defecate in food/water**
- 6. Cages must be constructed from materials suitable to the type and size of birds. Materials must be safe to birds and in good repair.**
- 7. Windproof nest boxes must be provided in all outside housing and inside where appropriate.**
- 8. Flooring must be drop-through or easily washed/hosed.**

9. Stocking Densities for birds in cages:

| Type | Length of Bird (cm) | Floor Area (m ²) housing up to 4 birds | Linear cms per additional bird on either cage length or depth ^{*3} |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Budgerigar | | 0.15 | 5 |
| Canary | | 0.15 | 5 |
| Cockatiel | | 0.48 | 7.5 |
| Finches | Less than 12.5 | 0.113 | 5 |
| | 12.5 – 17.5 | 0.15 | 5 |
| | more than 17.5 | 0.225 | 7.5 |
| Parakeets and Lovebirds ^{*1} | less than 25 | 0.42 | 7.5 |
| | 25-30*1 | 0.48 | 7.5 |
| | more than 30*1 | 0.675 | 7.5 |
| Parrots | less than 30 | 0.225 | 10 |
| | 30 – 35*2 | 0.4050 | 15 |
| | more than 35*2 | 0.4725 | 20 |
| Chickens | | 1.6 | |
| Bantams | | 1.6 | |
| Quail | | 16 | |

- *1. It is recommended that, wherever possible, these species are displayed for sale in aviaries or flights rather than cages per se.
- *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 ie, a 20cm increase could refer to 20cm width, 20cm length or say 10cm width combined with 10cm length.

10. Stocking densities for birds in Aviaries and Flights

| Type | Length of Bird (cm) | Number of Birds per 'Standard' Aviary (1.8 x 0.9 x 1.8 m) |
|--|---------------------|---|
| Budgerigar | | 18 |
| Canary | | 18 |
| Cockatiel | | 8 |
| Finches | Less than 12.5 | 24 |
| | 12.5 – 17.5 | 18 |
| | more than 17.5 | 12 |
| Parakeets and Lovebirds * ¹ | less than 25 | 10 |
| | 25-35 | 6 |
| | more than 35 | 4 |
| Parrots | less than 30 | 10 |
| | 30 – 35 | 6 |
| | more than 35 | 4 |
| Chickens | | 4 (min height 0.9m) |
| Bantams | | 6 (min height 0.9m) |
| Quail | | 8 (min height 0.9m) |

Schedule H – Reptiles and Amphibians

1. Stocking and density must be appropriate to the species.

Guidance

Most reptiles and amphibians are not social and may, therefore, be kept individually.

Communal enclosures should not be stocked as to appear overcrowded, common sense should be observed. Mixing of species, although possible, should be undertaken with caution. Some species may require or seek seclusion or privacy either sporadically or permanently and provision for this should be made.

Snakes: may be housed individually or in small groups, of the same species. Snakes known to be cannibalistic, e.g. king snakes (*Lampropeltis* sp), should be housed individually.

Lizards: only species of similar size and from similar habitat and geographical areas should be kept communally. Lizards known to be cannibalistic, e.g. *Gambelia* sp, should be housed individually. Generally adult male lizards in breeding condition should not be housed together and groups of lizards housed communally should be regularly observed for signs of aggression.

Tortoises and Terrapins: only terrapins of similar size and habit and from the similar geographical area should be kept communally. Tortoises of different species should be housed individually. Also, adult males in breeding condition should be housed individually.

Frogs and Toads: only species of similar size, and from similar habitats and geographical areas, should be kept communally. Mixing of taxa (e.g. frog & toad) is not generally recommended. Cannibalistic species, such as horned frogs (*Ceratophrys* sp.) and African bull frogs (*Pyxicephalus* sp.) should be housed individually.

Newts and Salamanders: only species of similar size and from similar geographical areas should be kept together. Generally mixed taxa [e.g. lizards and tortoises] are not recommended, although paludaria which combine fish with small reptiles and/ or amphibians of appropriate species are acceptable.

2. The enclosure size must be appropriate to the species and adjusted according to its size.

Guidance

Snakes: the length of the enclosure should be no less than two-thirds the overall length of the snake,.

Lizards: the length of the enclosure should be three times the full length of the lizard, or larger.

Tortoises and Terrapins: the length of the enclosure should be a minimum of 90cms, or four times the length of the animal, or larger. For aquatic species [turtles, terrapins] the enclosure should allow the animal to swim adequately, i.e. have water depth at least 4 times that of the animal, although some terrapins

(e.g. *Cuora* sp., *Terrapene* sp. and *Glyptemys* sp.) do not require such deep water. Terrapins must also have an adequate land basking area.

Frogs and Toads: the length of the enclosure should be minimum 30cm x 30 cm x 30cm, or at least three times the length of the animal, or larger. For sedentary species, such as horned frogs (*Ceratophrys* sp.) and African bull frogs (*Pyxicephalus* sp.) the enclosure can be smaller. Fully aquatic species should be able to swim adequately, i.e. water depth should be at least 4 times the depth of the animal.

Newts and Salamanders: the length of the enclosure should be minimum 30cm x 30 cm x 30cm, or at least three times the full length of the amphibian, or larger. Aquatic species should be able to swim adequately, i.e. water depth should be at least 4 times the depth of the animal.

Height and Width: of the enclosure should be appropriate to the species, with arboreal species requiring more height than terrestrial species.

3. Temperature, humidity, lighting and ventilation must be appropriate to the species.
4. Animals shall have areas of shade so that they can escape from the light if desired.
5. Substrate appropriate to the species must be present and must be appropriate to the species concerned.
6. Enrichment must be provided appropriate to the species. Décor shall be appropriate to the species and shall not be harmful, e.g. sharp rocks, toxic or injurious plants. Décor must be secure and not able to fall and cause injury.
7. Enclosures must be furnished in such a fashion as to allow inhabitants to exhibit natural behaviour, e.g. climb or hide where appropriate.
8. Food and water must be provided in the appropriate manner for the species.
9. Handling must be kept to a minimum at all times.
10. All staff shall receive training on how to handle animals and animals which may be aggressive should only be handled by competent staff. Staff and customers must wash hands after handling specimens, and any equipment used should also be disinfected.
11. Customers handling animals prior to purchase must be supervised and offered facilities to wash their hands afterwards.

Schedule I – Fish

1. 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.

2. 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

Nitrate max 100mg/l

pH min 8.1

Dissolved Oxygen min 4.0 mg/l

3. 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.

4. Holding systems must be cleaned and checked regularly.

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