

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

IMPLEMENTATION OF A LICENCE FOR HOME BOARDING OF DOGS

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the conditions for the Home Boarding of dogs following the consultation. The original conditions can be found attached to this report at Appendix A.
- 1.2 To agree the amended conditions for the Home Boarding of Dogs Licence and refer to this Committee for approval. The amended conditions can be found attached to this report at Appendix B.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 requires that any business which provides accommodation for other peoples dogs to be inspected and licensed. This also includes incidents where dogs are looked after in private homes for payment.
- 2.2 The exception to this is where dogs are held overnight as a result of the main business, e.g. a veterinary surgery or where disease control has been implemented.
- 2.3 Currently the council licences 36 purpose built premises for the boarding of cats and dogs, however the council has no provision for the licensing of home boarding of dogs.
- 2.4 It is intended to adopt the conditions based on the model conditions set by LACORS (Local Authority Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services). These conditions have been adapted to meet local needs. A copy of these conditions are attached at Appendix A to this report.

- 2.5 In order to licence such activities, the accompanying conditions need to be set. This will ensure the welfare and safety of the animals concerned, the carers, their families and the general public.
- 2.6 The licence will run from 1 January to 31 December annually. Each establishment will receive at least one inspection during the application period and further inspections will be made during the following 12 months if necessary. Thereafter, visits will be made to ensure compliance as required.
- 2.7 It is proposed that the licence fee will be set at £80.00 for the year.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Option 1 – To approve the licensing of Home Boarding of Dogs, the proposed fee and draft conditions.
- 3.2 Option 2 – To approve the licensing of Home Boarding of Dogs, while amending the draft conditions.
- 3.3 Option 3 – To Reject the licensing of Home Boarding of Dogs.

ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Option 1 – The Home Boarding of Dogs conditions have been amended following the comments received during consultation.
- 4.2 Option 2 – The Licensing Committee has the opportunity to consider the licence and amended conditions following the consultation process and make any changes they deem fit before they are approved by Full Council.
- 4.3 Option 3 – To reject the licence and amended conditions will allow persons to operate an unlawful activity, thereby putting the public and the welfare of the dogs at stake.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

- 5.1 There will be financial implications, although these are expected to be minimal.
- 5.2 There are no staffing, property or IT implications.

6. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)**

6.1 There are no other implications expected.

7. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION**

7.1 We have carried out consultation and the draft conditions are born out of that consultation.

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 That the regulations under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963, relating to The Home Boarding of Dogs, be adopted;

8.2 That the model conditions set by LACORS and adapted after consultation be adopted. The adapted draft conditions are attached at Appendix B of this report.

8.2 That the fee for a Home Boarding Licence be set at £80.00.

SERVICE DIRECTOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Church Square House
SCUNTHORPE
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6XQ

Author: Linda Marshall
Date: 29 April 2009

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: -
Compliance and Enforcement Documentation.