**Part C – Dogs**

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| **Condition** | **Guidance** | **Condition met YES / NO** | **Officers Notes** |
| **4.0 Staffing** |  There must be adequate staffing to feed and socialise puppies every 4-5 hours and a minimum of 4 times over a 16-hour period. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs must not be left for long periods without being assessed. Dogs must be checked:   * Every 4 hours during the working day   At least once during the overnight period and outside of normal working hours |  |  |
| **Required Higher Standard for Staffing** |  There must be adequate staffing to undertake more regular checks than required by the minimum standard. |  |  |
| **5.0 Suitable Environment** |  Businesses must prevent the risk of injury, illness and escape. |  |  |
| **Home environment for businesses selling dogs** |  The inside and outside of the buildings must be maintained in good repair. Outer paths, gardens, exercise areas and general surroundings must be kept in a good, clean presentable condition. |  |  |
|  |  There must not be any sharp edges, projections, rough edges or other hazards which present risk of injury to a dog. If timber is used it must be of good quality, well-kept and any damaged areas sealed or over-clad. Exposed wood must be smooth, treated and properly maintained to render it waterproof. All structural exterior wood such as fence posts must be properly treated against wood rot. Only non-toxic products may be used. |  |  |
|  |  Standing water from cleaning or urine is not acceptable. Drainage must be permanently unblocked, with liquids able to run off into drains immediately. |  |  |
|  |  Any drain covers in areas where dogs have access must be secure and designed and located to prevent toes or claws from being caught. |  |  |
|  |  All interior surfaces to which dogs have access must be cleaned regularly and maintained in good order and repair. Wherever possible, interior surfaces must be smooth, waterproof and able to be cleaned. Floors must be non-hazardous for dogs to walk on, in particular to avoid slipping. |  |  |
|  |  Doors and windows to the outside must be:  ● Escape proof  ● Securable  ● Strong enough to resist impact and scratching, and to prevent injury |  |  |
|  |  External doors and gates must be lockable. Those involved in the care of the dogs must have easy access to keys or key codes in case of emergency. |  |  |
|  |  There must be at least 2 secure physical barriers (for example, doors or gates) between a dog and any entrance or exit to the property to the outer curtilage to avoid escape. |  |  |
|  |  All outdoor fencing must be strong and rigid. It must be of sufficient height and kept in good repair. It must prevent an animal escaping over, through or digging under the structure. Where dogs have access to mesh, the diameter of the wire must not be less than 2 millimetres (British Standard 14 gauge welded mesh). Square mesh size must not exceed 50 millimetres by 50 millimetres and for chain link it must not exceed 75 millimetres by 50 millimetres. Gaps or apertures must be small enough to prevent a dog’s head passing through, or entrapment of any limb or body parts. |  |  |
|  |  Any electrical sockets and appliances in the dog designated rooms and where the dogs have access to must be secure and protected against damage. |  |  |
| **Kennel environment for businesses selling dogs** |  Unit doors must open inwards to protect the health and safety of attending staff. Where this is not feasible there must be a documented procedure in place to demonstrate the safety of staff. |  |  |
|  |  Door openings must be constructed so that the passage of water and waste is not impeded or allowed to gather due to inaccessibility. |  |  |
|  |  Access doors must not be propped open. |  |  |
|  |  For kennels where there are facing dog units accessed by an indoor corridor, the corridor must be at least 1.2 metres wide. If this is not feasible, demonstrable measures must be in place to protect the safety of staff, such as routes taken to remove dogs from kennel units and where dogs are placed within the facility. |  |  |
|  |  Kennels and runs must open onto secure corridors or other secure areas so that dogs are not able to escape from the premises. These corridors and areas must not be used as an exercise area. |  |  |
|  |  Each unit must have a minimum headroom height of 2 metres and be designed to allow staff to access dogs and clean all parts of the unit safely. Where this is not feasible there must be a documented procedure in place to demonstrate the safety of staff. |  |  |
|  |  Where new kennels are built, they must be built in compliance with good building practice, on a concrete base with a damp proof membrane. |  |  |
| **Environmental conditions for dogs (including enclosure sizes)** |  Dogs must be monitored to check if they are too hot or too cold. If an individual dog is showing signs of heat or cold intolerance, steps must be taken to ensure the welfare of the dog. |  |  |
|  |  A dog must be able to remove itself from a direct source of heat. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs (particularly puppies) may be adversely affected by the sound of other barking dogs. Dogs under one year of age must be located in the quietest part of the facility. |  |  |
|  |  The kennel area must be large enough to allow for separate sleeping and activity areas. The kennel must allow each dog to be able to walk, turn around and wag its tail without touching the sides of the kennel. The dogs must 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 dogs housed at any one time. The length and width must be sufficient to allow all the dogs to lie outstretched without their noses or tails touching the walls or other individuals. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs must have free access to the activity area at all times. In certain circumstances, it is permissible to have separate activity areas to sleeping areas but in such cases dogs must be given access to the activity area at regular intervals, at least 4 times a day. Any separate activity area must be fully cleaned and disinfected between use by different groups of dogs. |  |  |
|  |  Where adult dogs are kept, an outdoor exercise area must be available for toileting and exercise. It must be secure and escape proof to allow off lead activity. |  |  |
|  |  Puppies must be housed in litter groups but have the ability to move away from litter mates. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs kept in a domestic premises must have free access in at least one room, providing the size of this room meets the minimum enclosure sizes for dogs. |  |  |
|  |  Bitches with litters must be provided with double the space allowance. As puppies grow the space available to them must be increased accordingly. |  |  |
| **Minimum kennel sizes for dogs** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Dog weight (kg) | Minimum kennel area (m²) | Additional area per additional dog (m²) | | <5 | 4.0 | 0.5 | | Over 5-10 | 4.0 | 1.0 | | Over 10-15 | 4.0 | 1.5 | | Over 15-20 | 4.0 | 2.0 | | Over 20-30 | 8.0 | 4.0 | | Over 30 | These sizes must be scaled up accordingly and must be proportionate | These sizes must be scaled up accordingly and must be proportionate | |  |  |
| **Bedding and substrate for dogs** |  Beds and bedding must be provided and be suitable to allow dogs to be comfortable. A dog bed must be:  ● Of a durable construction  ● Situated away from draughts  ● Be a suitable size for the breed of dogs kept  ● Large enough for each dog to be able to lie flat on its side |  |  |
|  |  Bedding must be kept clean, dry and parasite free. It must be cleaned and disinfected between new dogs. |  |  |
|  |  Bedding must be capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected, or disposable, and all bedding material in use must be clean, non-irritant and dry. Any bedding must be soft and absorbent. |  |  |
|  |  There must be some part of the sleeping area maintained at a minimum temperature relevant to the breed and type of dog. For most this is likely to be between 15℃ and 26℃. Certain breeds may need extra consideration (for example, huskies). |  |  |
| **Cleaning dogs and kennels** |  Each occupied kennel must be cleaned daily at a minimum. |  |  |
|  |  Occupied kennels, including outside runs, must be inspected and cleaned daily, following the documented cleaning and disinfection procedure. |  |  |
|  |  Kennels must be disinfected at least once a week and when there is an occupancy change. |  |  |
|  |  Where a pest problem is identified, a pest control programme must be implemented. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs must be removed from the area whilst it is being cleaned. |  |  |
|  |  All dogs kept must benefit from adequate routine grooming and other health regimes as needed (for example, cleaning of eyes or keeping long fur from matting). |  |  |
| **Toileting dogs** |  Dogs must have regular opportunities during the day for toileting, taking into account individual needs. |  |  |
|  |  The toileting area must be separate from the bedding area, and puppy pads or similar material must be provided with the quantity determined by the number of puppies. |  |  |
|  |  Faeces must be removed from the kennel units as often as necessary and in any case a minimum of twice a day. |  |  |
|  |  For kennelled dogs, there must be direct and continuous access to a run for toileting or the dog must be taken out of the kennel unit to toilet for example during exercise. |  |  |
|  |  In a home environment dogs will have access to a secure outside area for toileting. |  |  |
| **Transporting and handling dogs** |  All animals must be transported according to the regulations laid down in current legislation. |  |  |
|  |  The licence holder must demonstrate that a suitable vehicle is available to transport the dogs. It does not have to be owned by the licence holder. |  |  |
|  |  During transport, dogs must be suitably restrained to prevent injury using a dog crate, transport harness or dog guard. Dog crates need to be of adequate size to ensure that the dog can stand, lie down and turn around freely. Crates must be designed to provide good ventilation and firmly secured. |  |  |
|  |  Vehicles must be cleaned and disinfected after each collection or delivery of any new dogs. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs must not be left in vehicles for unreasonable periods and must never be left unattended in a car or other vehicle where the temperature may pose a risk to the animal. Consideration must be given to whether it is necessary to transport animals when the temperature poses a risk. |  |  |
|  |  Sufficient breaks must be offered for water, food where appropriate and the chance to go to the toilet. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs must be transported to vet facilities in an appropriate manner for their condition ensuring that transport does not cause further suffering. Veterinary advice on the condition of the animal and suitability for transport should be sought before transport. |  |  |
| **Required Higher Standards for Providing a Suitable Environment for Dogs** |  The floor area must be at least 1.5 times larger than the minimum required.   Dogs must be provided with a design and layout that provides them with choice. Separate areas for different activities should be provided. This can be achieved by, for example, inclusion of raised platforms. |  |  |
| **Optional Higher Standards for Providing a Suitable Environment for Dogs** |  Ventilation must be a managed, fixed or portable air system to ensure appropriate temperatures are maintained in all weather. This can be an air conditioning unit or use of removable fans. |  |  |
| **6.0 Suitable diet for dogs** |  Adult dogs must be fed at least once daily and in accordance with the individual dog’s needs. Dogs must be fed a complete diet appropriate to their age, breed, activity level and stage in the breeding cycle. You must:   * Keep a record of the type, quantity, frequency of food each dog receives must be kept * Seek veterinary advice if there are concerns about an individual dog’s diet * Ensure adult dogs must have their own feeding dish * Feed puppies at least 4 times daily at appropriate intervals. The diet must be appropriate for puppies * Empty and clean food bowls following feeding so that food, particularly wet food, is not left out until the next feeding time * Provide fridges for food storage * Store food away from risk of vermin in cool and dry places |  |  |
|  |  Fresh clean drinking water must be provided daily in a clean container and changed or refreshed as often as necessary. |  |  |
|  |  There must be multiple water bowls provided to ensure all dogs have ready access to water. Veterinary advice must be sought if abnormal drinking patterns are observed. |  |  |
| **Monitoring a dogs’ diet** |  Weekly records of weight and body condition score (BCS) must be kept to ensure the health of puppies and adult dogs and to allow any issues to be tracked. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs must not remain inappetent (without appetite) for longer than 24 hours without seeking veterinary advice. If there are specific concerns veterinary advice must be sought earlier. |  |  |
|  |  The general condition of the dogs must be observed and dogs displaying significant weight loss or gain must be evaluated by a vet and treated as necessary. |  |  |
| **Required Higher Standards for Dogs’ Transportation** |  There must be a travel plan that sets out how animals are managed for long journeys over 4 hours. |  |  |
| **7.0 Monitoring dogs’ behaviour and training** |  Each adult dog must have a documented daily exercise regime including lead exercise and free running. |  |  |
|  |  Puppies must be habituated to events likely to be encountered. This must include the sights and sounds in households. Introduction to novel sights and sounds must be gradual so that puppies do not show a fearful response such as startling or withdrawal. |  |  |
|  |  Puppies must also be introduced to a variety of people including adults of both sexes, children of different ages, and people wearing a variety of clothing styles. |  |  |
|  |  Beneficial and positive contact can include grooming, exercise, play, petting and training as appropriate for the individual. |  |  |
| **Enrichment for dogs** |  A documented programme must be available setting out enrichment both inside and outside including grooming, socialisation and play. |  |  |
|  |  All dogs must receive appropriate toys or feeding enrichment (or both) unless veterinary advice suggests otherwise. |  |  |
|  |  All items of enrichment must be checked daily to ensure they remain safe and must not be left with dogs when staff are not on the premises. |  |  |
|  |  Potential competition between dogs must be avoided. |  |  |
| **Exercise for dogs** |  Opportunities to exercise must involve at least one walk per day or access to a secure open space away from the kennel unit. Consideration must be given to life stage, physical and mental health and breed when planning daily exercise. |  |  |
|  |  No more than 6 dogs per person can be walked at one time. Dogs must be familiarised with each other beforehand. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs which cannot be exercised must be provided with alternative forms of mental stimulation. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs must be monitored whilst in outdoor exercise areas. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs must be prevented from having unsupervised access to ponds, pools, wells and any other garden feature that might pose a threat. |  |  |
|  |  Puppies cannot be walked so will require at least 4 opportunities to engage in play and human interaction during the day. |  |  |
| **Dog behaviour** |  The behaviour of individual dogs must be monitored daily. All staff must be able to identify dogs that are anxious or fearful about contact. If a dog shows signs of being nervous, stressed or fearful, steps must be taken to address this. |  |  |
|  |  A daily socialisation and habituation programme must be documented and implemented. |  |  |
| **8.0 Handling and interactions with dogs** |  Dogs must always be handled humanely and appropriately to suit the requirements of the individual dog and to minimise fear, stress, pain and distress. Dogs must never be punished so that they become frightened or display agitated behaviour. |  |  |
|  |  Those involved in the care of dogs must have the competence to handle dogs correctly. They must also have the ability to recognise and act upon undesirable behaviours. |  |  |
|  |  A protocol must be in place for dealing with difficult dogs, to include members of staff appropriately trained in dog handling and the use of appropriate equipment. |  |  |
|  |  A suitable range of muzzles of varying sizes and a suitable dog catching device must be kept on site. |  |  |
|  |  Dogs must be protected from over handling by staff or the public as they require time to rest. Handling of dogs by customers must only take place with potential owners as an element of a socialisation programme. |  |  |
| **Puppies - handling and interaction** |  Weaned puppies must be housed with littermates. |  |  |
|  |  Ideally, single dogs must not be left alone in a kennel, but where they are, special attention must be paid to specific human interaction and additional enrichment. When they are mixed they must be of similar age, temperament and there must be good supervision of mixing. |  |  |
|  |  Puppies from separate litters must be responsibly paired or grouped with the correct monitoring in place, including consideration as to whether separation overnight is appropriate. |  |  |
|  |  A plan must be in place to provide for additional enrichment and socialisation for any puppies that are held for longer than one month. |  |  |
| **Required Higher Standards for Handling and Interaction with Dogs** |  The last interaction session must take place within one hour before the end of the working day. |  |  |
| **9.0 Protecting Dogs from Pain, Suffering, Injury and Disease** |  |  |  |
| **New dogs** |  In a domestic environment, there must be the capacity for all newly introduced dogs to be kept away from any litters of puppies or places where the litters go. |  |  |
| **Preventing disease in dogs** |  Litters of puppies must not be mixed until they have been on the premises for 7 days or have shown no sign of infectious disease for 7 days. |  |  |
| **Excreta from dogs** |  Excreta must be stored away from areas where animals or food is kept. |  |  |
| **Preventative treatment for dogs** |  Dogs must have current vaccinations (when appropriate for their age) against:  ● Canine parvovirus  ● Canine distemper  ● Canine adenovirus   * Infectious canine hepatitis   ● Leptospirosis  ● Other relevant diseases |  |  |
|  |  Routine and documented treatment must be in place for internal and external parasites (adult dogs and puppies must be wormed and given flea and tick treatment as appropriate). |  |  |
|  |  Vaccines used must be licensed by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate for use in the UK. |  |  |
|  |  Homoeopathic vaccination is not acceptable. |  |  |
|  |  If there is evidence of external parasites (fleas, ticks, lice) the dog must be treated with a product authorised by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate. Treatment must be discussed with the vet before administration. |  |  |
| **Euthanasia for dogs** |  Dogs must only be euthanised by a vet. |  |  |
| **Checking dogs** |  Premises must have procedures in place for providing for overnight care and during premises closures. |  |  |
| **Optional Higher Standards for Vet Input for Dogs** |  There must be a routine monthly visit to check health and welfare by the veterinary practice and the veterinary record held. |  |  |
| **Optional Higher Standards for Checking Dogs** |  A person that is competent in providing for the welfare of the animals must be on the premises at all times. |  |  |

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| **Higher standards (Required)** | Standards Met Yes/No |
| There must be adequate staffing to undertake more regular checks than required by the minimum standard. |  |
| The floor area must be at least 1.5 times larger than the minimum required. |  |
| Dogs must be provided with a design and layout that provides them with choice. Separate areas for different activities should be provided. This can be achieved by, for example, inclusion of raised platforms. |  |
| There must be a travel plan that sets out how animals are managed for long journeys over 4 hours. |  |
| The last interaction session must take place within one hour before the end of the working day. |  |
| **Higher Standards (Optional)** 50% required | Standards met Yes/No |
| Ventilation must be a managed, fixed or portable air system to ensure appropriate temperatures are maintained in all weather. This can be an air conditioning unit or use of removable fans. |  |
| There must be a routine monthly visit to check health and welfare by the veterinary practice and the veterinary record held. |  |
| A person that is competent in providing for the welfare of the animals must be on the premises at all times. |  |