

Appendix - Evaluation of consultation responses

Area of Statement	Summary of Comments	Response
Do you agree with the objectives of SKDC's Animal Welfare Licensing Policy?		
If you have answered no or don't know/not sure or would like to suggest an alternative.	Does this cover rehoming and charities too ?	Animal charities or rehoming is not a licensable activity under the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 and therefore not covered by this policy, unless they provide cat or dog boarding as a commercial business.
	I thought this was already in the licensing for exhibition.	The policy covers the statutory guidance for local authorities Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018, with separate specific guidance being applicable for each licensable activity.
	Licensing needs to happen for all breeders in SKDC think they need to visit more than once, Random visits needed as they can just change for appointment visits.	As a licensing authority we can only licence breeders operating as commercial businesses as outlined in the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 and the draft new policy (Introduction (1.2)). Inspections during the life of a licence can be carried out and may be used in cases of complaints or other instances, as outlined in the Policy, section 17.
	I haven't read the definition of licensable activity or the five needs to make an informed agreement or disagreement to the objectives.	No comment to be added.
Do you support the principles of SKDC's Animal Welfare Licensing Policy?		
If you have answered no or don't know/not sure or would like to	I'm not sure however if SKDC has the resources to manage this. Especially given number of domestic animals.	It is a legislative requirement that the activities outlined in the policy are licensed, it does not cover all domestic animals.
	Would just like spot checks done too at random to ensure standards are upheld not just for inspection.	Inspections during the life of a licence can be carried out and may be used in cases of complaints or other instances, as outlined in the Policy, section 17.

suggest an alternative.	<p>Dog on dog attacks to be investigated fully.</p> <p>Same reasons as previously mentioned.</p>	<p>Incidents will be thoroughly investigated if they occur whilst within the control of a licence holder. As a licensing authority we do not have a wider remit to investigate such incidents. The Police should be notified of such instances.</p> <p>No comment to be added.</p>
Do you agree with the factors SKDC will take into account when determining whether a licence should be issued?		
If you have answered no or don't know/not sure or would like to suggest an alternative.	<p>This does not seem robust enough. I would like to see evidence of formal training or qualifications in animal welfare & handling to a national level, perhaps NVQ or similar. Relying on experience or 'a demonstration of confidence' won't cut it where there is a clear chance of mismanagement, abuse, or neglect.</p> <p>Agree in principal but how does someone who has not had a pet before proving their ability. Suggest offer of a course linked to the license.</p> <p>Any business set up to provide living animals or animal tissue for the pursuance of sciences or toxicity testing should provide comprehensive evidence that alternative options such as organ on a chip technologies have been evaluated first. Alternatives to non-animal based techniques HAVE to be evaluated and a sound reasoning why animal-based research is required instead.</p> <p>Recording and storing: SKDC have a habit of applying PLC standards of governance to small business . Record keeping should be reasonable and proportionate to the size of the business. Too much box ticking by inspectors that has nothing to do with animal welfare.</p>	<p>The holding of a qualification or relevant experience is outlined in the animal welfare regulations/legislation, therefore as a licensing authority we cannot implement a harsher licensing regime.</p> <p>There are qualifications that those without experience can take regarding Animal Welfare, if they are applying for a licence without previous experience, it is recommended that a qualification or experience be gained.</p> <p>The legislation outlines the licensable activities for which this policy covers. It does not cover the activities described.</p> <p>The inspecting, record keeping and storing requirements are outlined in the Regulations/legislation.</p>
Overall, to what extent do you agree or disagree with SKDC's draft Animal Welfare Licensing Policy?		
If you have answered no or don't	I would like to know if a small local cat rescue has a licence or will get one, as I believe this rescue should no longer be allowed to rescue/hoard cats.	Animal Rescue is not a licensable activity under the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 and therefore not covered by

<p>know/not sure or would like to suggest an alternative.</p>	<p>Can you please tell me if Grantham ROCK (Rescue of Cats and Kittens) has or needs a license to operate?</p> <p>Shame it doesn't include dog walkers and groomers.</p> <p>What assurances will be made regarding neighbouring residential/businesses premises that maybe impacted by the licensing of a premise for the care, housing of animals? What processes are in place if an individual/s is/are keeping animals requiring a licence and have not applied for or refused a licence?</p> <p>As in the application of any rules or regulations a degree of knowledge, of the said business interpretation and the allowance for individualism in the confines of running a small business, mainly financial should be taken into account.</p> <p>If license refused what are the implications? Right of appeal? Discretion to provide support? eg cover vet bill?? Too many animals currently being off loaded onto shelters. Could implementation of this policy worsen that? Will sk take responsibility ie pay for alternative care in that case? There is no Blue Cross support in Grantham area.</p> <p>Concern over clause 7.3 I do not understand what relevance some of the convictions have to animal welfare. Why should someone with a previous offence (in the categories stated) who has served their sentence be prevented from working in their chosen industry? (unless, of course, the relevant legislation prohibits this). Also 7.5 appears to be</p>	<p>this policy, unless they provide cat boarding as a commercial business.</p> <p>We keep a register of all licenced premises on our website however, Animal Rescue facilities are not a licensable activity under the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 and therefore not covered by this policy, unless they provide cat boarding as a commercial business.</p> <p>Dog walkers and groomers are not a licensable activity under the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018</p> <p>This would be a planning or Environmental Protection matter, the Animal Welfare Policy is only in relation to the licensing of activities – how the animals are cared for, the conditions the animals are kept in etc.</p> <p>There is the allowance for individualism within the business by licence holders, as long as they meet the requirements outlined in the Regulations.</p> <p>If a licence is revoked, we would support the licence holder to rehouse the animals, returning them to their owner or at another kennels/cattery or rehomed. There is generally no discretion to cover vet bills or pay for alternative care. The Animal Welfare Regulations/Zoo Act relate to commercial activities. Refusal of a licence and appeal rights are detailed in section 13 of the policy.</p> <p>In undertaking its licensing function, the Licensing Authority is also bound by legislation in addition to that outlined in the Animal Welfare Policy promoting wider obligations to prevent crime and disorder and safeguard both children and vulnerable adults as outlined in the</p>
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<p>very widely drafted. What relevance, for example, would an allegation of any criminal offence (e.g. possible breach of a PSPO) be to the suitability to operate a pet shop?</p> <p>What are the punishments for failure to adhere to the policies?</p> <p>Why don't they answer the phone . Why the total lack of communication, acknowledgment of receipt of documents, replies to emails. Why so inefficient.</p> <p>It seems unfair if the council informs the licensee that they need to renew 3mths in advance (12 weeks) that it is unreasonable to expect the licensee to submit their renewal at least 10 weeks in advance of the renewal date, that is only 2 weeks after the council has informed them. Considering there is no guidance at to the changes of defra guidance offered in a format that is easily comparable to the previous versions that also makes it difficult and open to interpretation and misunderstanding.</p> <p>Paperwork is really only a small part of animal welfare. Too much time is spent on looking at the right paperwork and as long as this is correct that is all that matters. Officers should take time to inspect and watch how staff interact and handle care for and feed animals as much if not more than what the paperwork says. written instructions don't necessarily mean that is how the staff work and conduct themselves. Commonsense should also be put in place, if a kennel has 1x exercise area how on earth can they exercise 20 different dogs for 1/2 hr each per day when that would take 10hrs non-stop.</p> <p>There needs to be a better way to manage those that are illegally trading from animal welfare that is a licensable activity and are not. There are a lot in grantham. There also needs to be more inspections to local business through their licence term as a lot a breaking basic rules and standards without the council knowing and hiding evidence (a lot is on their social media thinking the council won't check) This is leading to</p>	<p>Policy introduction. Each case is considered on its own merits, which is why the policy outlines the norm.</p> <p>Failure to adhere to the Policy means that the legislation detailed within it has not been adhered to and Enforcement action, as outline in the section 20 of the Policy, will be commenced.</p> <p>To contact the Licensing Team please call 01476 406080 and either a customer advisor or the Licensing Team will assist, or you can contact us via email at licensing@southkesteven.gov.uk.</p> <p>The statutory guidance for local authorities sets the timescales for licensing authorities to advise each licence holder in writing that they're licence is due to expire and the timescale for sending in the renewal application.</p> <p>The inspecting, record keeping and storing requirements are outlined in the Regulations/legislation. Interaction with the animals as well as procedures/viability of them are also factors taken into account during inspections and visits.</p> <p>We keep a register of all licenced premises on our website, if businesses are trading without a licence, please do let us know. We can be contacted at Licensing@southkesteven.gov.uk or 01476 406080. Inspections during the life of a licence are carried out and</p>
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	<p>the good business being singled out for the correct work they are doing and causing friction and frustration in the community that others have been getting away with it for a long time.</p> <p>I feel it could be policed much better as there are very very few of us with licenses but lots of adverts for dogs for sale!</p>	<p>may be used in cases of complaints or other instances, as outlined in the Policy, section 17.</p> <p>If businesses trading without a licence, please do let us know. We can be contacted at Licensing@southkesteven.gov.uk or 01476 406080</p>
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