

HOUNSLOW BOROUGH COUNCIL

PET SHOP LICENCE CONDITIONS

ACCOMMODATION

Animals must at all times be kept in accommodation suitable with respect to construction, size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness.

Animals must not be exposed to draughts and must be kept in an environment suitable to the species. If the animals are displayed outdoors, they should have protection appropriate to their species.

Housing must be constructed of non-porous materials or be appropriately treated.

Animals must not be kept in housing in such a way that they can be interfered with by other animals or the public.

All livestock, for sale, must be readily for accessible and easy to inspect.

Accommodation must be cleaned as often as necessary to maintain good hygiene standards, consistent with the rate of stock turnover.

Where accommodation is on a tiered system, water, food or other droppings must not be allowed to enter the lower housing.

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

EXERCISE FACILITIES

Facilities must be available where appropriate.

N.B.

For example, in the case of puppies, if they are kept longer than five days, an exercise pen should be provided.

REGISTER OF ANIMALS

A livestock purchase register must be maintained for all livestock. A sales register must be maintained for:

Puppies

Kittens

Psittacines

Species contained in the schedule to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (as modified).

N.B.

This can be by cross-reference to an invoice file. The purpose of the register is to ascertain the source of the livestock and for the emergency contact of purchaser. The name and telephone number of the purchaser is therefore sufficient.

STOCKING NUMBERS AND DENSITIES

The maximum number of animals to be stocked on the premises will be governed by the accommodation available, as defined by the stocking density list detailed on the schedule included in the licence conditions.

Schedule 1 – Caged Birds

Schedule 2 – Small Mammals

Schedule 3 – Ornamental Fish

Schedule 4 – Other Species

HEALTH, DISEASE AND ACCLIMATISATION

All stock sold must be in good health as far as can be reasonably determined without veterinary inspection.

Any sick or injured animals must receive appropriate care and treatment without delay.

N.B.

This may include euthanasia.

Veterinary advice should be sought whenever necessary.

Any animals 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.

All animals must be allowed a suitable acclimatisation period before sale.

The facility to isolate sick animals must be provided.

All reasonable 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.

Puppies and kittens must be kept separate from other litters.

All necessary precautions must be taken to prevent the introduction to the premises, and harbourage, of rodents, insect and other pests.

N.B.

'Rodent' and 'insect' excludes livestock for sale or for feeding.

FOOD AND DRINK

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

All food must be suitable for the species concerned. Food and drink receptacles must be constructed and positioned to minimise faecal contamination.

A sufficient number of receptacles must be provided and cleaned at regular intervals.

FOOD STORAGE

All food excluding live foods intended for feeding livestock on the premises must be stored in impervious closed containers.

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

OBSERVATION

All livestock must be attended to at regular intervals, appropriate to the species.

N.B.

In no circumstances must this be less than daily.

EXCRETA AND SOILED BEDDING

All the excreta and soiled bedding must be stored in impervious containers with close fitting lids.

Excreta and soiled bedding should be removed from the premises on a regular basis, at least weekly, and disposed of to the satisfaction of the appropriate local authority and in accordance with current regulations and good waste management practice.

All containers must be kept in a clean condition.

TRANSPORTATION

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 by the Transit Animals (General) Order 1973 or other relevant legislation or recommendations.

N.B.

For air transportation, the LATA guidelines must be followed. For rail transportation, the British Rail guidelines must be followed.

TRANSPORTATION CONTAINERS

Livestock must be transported or handed to purchasers in suitable containers.

SALE OF LIVESTOCK

All stock sold must be in good healthy as far as can be reasonably determined without veterinary inspection.

No mammal shall be sold unweaned or, if weaned, at an age which it should not have been weaned.

In the case of non-mammals, they must be capable of feeding themselves.

DANGEROUS WILD ANIMALS

When dangerous animals are kept the cages must be a secure construction appropriate to the species. A fine wire mesh, glass or plastic safety barrier must be incorporated into the cage system.

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

PET CARE ADVICE

PTLA Pet Care leaflets or other similar written instructions should be made available to customers where appropriate at the time of purchase.

Purchasers of accessories should, where necessary be given proper advice as to their maintenance and use.

The PTLA Pet Store Manual or other appropriate reference books must always be available for use by staff.

STAFF TRAINING AND LIVESTOCK KNOWLEDGE

No animals should be stocked or sold unless the staff (or member of the staff) is familiar with the care and welfare of that animal.

In respect of new applications, at least one of the members of staff working at the license premises must hold the City and Guilds Pet Store Management Certificate, or some other appropriate qualification, or must be in the course of training to take the examination (within 2 years of the introduction of these conditions).

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

FIRE AND OTHER EMERGENCY PRECAUTIONS

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

Entrances and exits must be clear of obstructions at all times.

Fire extinguishers must be provided and sited as approved by the local fire protection/prevention officer.

The fire-fighting equipment must be maintained in good working order.

The licensee or a designated key holder, must at all times be within reasonable distance of the premises and available to visit the premises in case of emergency.

A list of key holders must be lodged with the local police and fire brigade.

An emergency telephone number must be displayed at the front of the shop this may either be the key holders number or the emergency telephone number 999. When pet shops are sited within other premises, the licence or key holder must have access at all times to the premises containing the livestock.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

SALE OF LIVESTOCK

No animal should be sold to any person under the age of 16 years who is unknown to the retailer unless that person is accompanied by a parent or legal guardian or provide appropriate written consent. Subsequent sales to a juvenile less than 16 years (but over 12 years) of age who is known to the retailer can be carried out in the absence of a parent or legal guardian or appropriate written consent, provided that the retailer is satisfied as far as possible that:-

The parent/guardian would not object to the acquisition;

The juvenile is sufficiently knowledgeable as to the needs, care and nature of the species acquired;

The juvenile's intention towards the acquisition is consistent with the well being of the animal concerned.

APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE

Although not provided for in the Act, it is recommended that applicants consult their local authority prior to submitting an application this is not necessary when renewing a licence.

TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

Licensees are recommended to apply for membership of an appropriate trade organisation which might act as a point of reference, should any disputes over the licence conditions arise.

CATEGORIES OF ANIMALS WHICH A PET SHOP MAY BE LICENSED TO KEEP

Dogs and cats (puppies and kittens)

Smaller domesticated mammals e.g. rabbits, cavies, gerbils, hamsters, rats, mice.

Larger domesticated mammals e.g. goats, pot bellied pigs

Primates e.g. marmosets

Other mammals

Parrots, parakeets and macaws

Other birds

Reptiles

Amphibians

Fish

Other species

SCHEDULE 1 STOCKING DENSITIES – CAGED BIRDS

<u>Parrot, Parakeets, Budgerigar etc</u>	Length (cm)	Floor area (sq cm)	
		Single	Each Additional
African Grey		1250	625
Amazon	Up to 35 35 – 40 Over 40	1000 1250 2000	500 625 750
Budgerigar		650	200
Cockatiel		1000	250
Cockatoo	Up to 35 35 – 40 Over 40	1250 2000 2750	625 1000 1325
Lovebird		750	200
Macaw	Up to 40 40 – 60 Over 60	1250 2250 3750	625 1000 1200
Parakeet (incl. Conure, Kakariki, Rosella)	Up to 25 25 – 35 Over 35	1000 1000 1400	250 250 450
Parrot (incl. Caique, Pronus Senegal, Meyer's)	Up to 30 30 – 35 Over 35	800 1250 1500	275 625 750
Parrotlet		400	200
Hanging parrot		450	250
Lories and Lorikeets	Up to 22.5 22.5 – 30 Over 30	800 1250 2000	250 375 5000
<u>Seed eaters</u>			
Canary		650	250
Cardinal		1000	250
Dove and Pigeon	Up to 22.5 Over 22.5	450 1250	250 625
Finch (incl. Mannikin, Silverbill, Sparrow, Waxbill)	Up to 12.5 12.5-17.5 Over 17.5	650 750 1000	100 150 200
Crossbeak		1000	200
Quail	Up to 15 15-20 Over 20	450 650 1000	250 375 500
Weaver	Up to 15 Over 15	650 1000	150 200
Whydah (male with full tail) – female and male non-breeding plumage as weaver	Up to 40 Over 40	1000 2000	200 275

SCHEDULE 2 STOCKING DENSITIES – SMALL MAMMALS

Mammal	Minimum floor area (sq cm) Single	Each additional	Minimum cage Height (cm)
Mice	200	50	20
Hamsters	300	75	20
Gerbils	300	75	20
Rats	500	125	20
Guinea pigs	700	175	20
Rabbits	2000	500	50
Kittens	2000	500	50
Puppies	1000	2500	50

Minimum floor areas apply to young stock. For adult stock offered for sale dimensions should be doubled. For advice in the age of stock, you are advised to contact the veterinary surgeon.

N.B. The range of behavioural opportunities for many of the animals listed in the above schedule will be increased by enriching the environment with such accessories as shredded paper, pieces of wood, toilet rolls, lengths of piping etc.

The installation of shelving in rabbit cages is particularly beneficial to rabbits as they like to spend a lot of time off the cage floor.

SCHEDULE 3 STOCKING DENSITIES – ORNAMENTAL FISH

It is virtually impossible to determine the quantity of fish to be kept in a tank purely on a weight/volume or number of fish/volume.

The variation in system design, husbandry techniques and types of fish involved would render any such method too simple to be useful or too complicated to be practical,

The maintenance of water quality standards is essential and is a simple but effective way to determine stocking densities.

WATER QUALITY CRITERIA

1mg/litre = 1ppm

Cold Water	*Dissolved oxygen	- min	6mg/litre
	*Free Ammonia	- max	0.02mg/litre
	Nitrite	- max	0.2mg/litre
	Nitrate	- max	50mg/litre above ambient tap water
Tropical Fish	*Dissolved oxygen	- min	6mg/litre
	*Free Ammonia	- max	0.02mg/litre
	Nitrite	- max	0.2mg/litre
	Nitrate	- max	50mg/litre above ambient tap water
Tropical Marine Species	*Dissolved oxygen	- min	5.5mg/litre
	*Free Ammonia	- max	0.01mg/litre
	Nitrite	- max	0.125mg/litre
	Nitrate	- max	40mg/litre. This is an absolute figure; it does not relate to ambient tap water.
	8 ph (tropical marine only)	- min	8.1

* These parameters should be checked first. Only if a problem exists with these tests is it necessary to check nitrite and nitrate levels.

SCHEDULE 4 STOCKING DENSITIES – OTHER SPECIES

Accommodation must be provided appropriate to size, age and type of species.