



LICENSING CONDITIONS FOR PET VENDING AND PET SHOPS



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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The following conditions are based on the Model Conditions for Pet Vending Licensing 2013 issued by Chartered Institute of Environmental Health. The conditions are minimum standards considered necessary by this Authority to ensure the health, safety and welfare of animals in pet shops. Other conditions from other local authorities have been used as a comparison to bench mark against to ensure consistent and proportionate regulation within these standards.

Local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales issue licences to proprietors of pet shops and other pet vendors under the provisions of the Pet Animals Act (1951) as amended. Before granting a licence the local authority must be satisfied that the animals are kept in accommodation that is suitable; that they are supplied with appropriate food and drink; and are adequately protected from disease and fire.

A local authority may attach conditions to the licence, may inspect the licensed premises at all reasonable times and may refuse a licence if the standards at the premises are unsatisfactory or if the terms of the licence are not being complied with.

Under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 which applies in England and Wales those responsible for animals, including pet vendors, have a responsibility towards the welfare of the animals in their care. Under this Act it is an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to a protected animal, whether by an 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

During the inspection process, prior to the issue of a licence, it is important that the five needs as outlined above are considered and assessed by the Authority. DEFRA have produced various Codes of Practice under the Animal Welfare Acts, which outline in more detail certain species' needs that can be referred to for guidance.

Other recognised guidelines issued by BIAZA and EAZA may be used to set licensing conditions for exotic animals and reptiles that are not normally recognised as common pets. These guidelines detail husbandry standards for particular species. Conditions can also be applied to animals and reptiles kept as 'exhibits' within the pet shop which are not intended for sale but fall into the Dangerous Wild Animal definition.

Issues specific to pet shops and other pet vendors are covered in this document.

2. HEALTH AND WELFARE

Where there is concern for the health and welfare of any animals of the licensed premises, veterinary advice will be sought by this Authority.

3. INSPECTION OF ESTABLISHMENTS

Upon application for a licence, the premises must be inspected by local authority authorised officer. This Authority reserves the right for a veterinary surgeon to accompany the officer if it is deemed necessary and charge the applicant as appropriate to cover the cost. This is primarily where the types of animals to be sold require expert knowledge for the inspection for example exotic mammals such as primates, reptiles and snakes. A report, following inspection, shall be considered by the local authority before determining whether or not to grant a licence. Those applications where new conditions need to be applied will be heard by LRC when there is challenge from the applicant and mutual agreement cannot be sought between them and the authorised officer.

It is recommended that inspections are carried out well before the licence date for renewal to allow for any repairs and/or maintenance to be completed before the licence expires. Existing licence holders are encouraged to apply for their licence at least three months before the current expiry date.

Once a licence has been granted, regular inspections may be carried out during the licence period (12 months) to protect the health and welfare of the animals. Routine inspections would normally take place once or twice a year, but inspections may also be unannounced.

4. COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION OF THE LICENCE

The duration of the licence is for one year (normally running from 1st January and ending on 31st December), and is effective from either the day stated in the application or the day the licence is granted, whichever is the later.

When considering any application for a pet shop licence the Council must be satisfied that the applicant is a 'suitable' person to hold such a licence. As a result the Council has approved a statement of policy concerning the relevance of criminal convictions relating to the determination of application, renewal or transfer of animal licences. The policy is available on request or can be downloaded from the Council website - <http://www.barrowbc.gov.uk/business/licensing/other-licensing/>

The aim of the policy is to:-

- provide the decision making body, the Licensing Regulatory Committee, with a reference document that allows for consistency to be demonstrated in how applications, etc. are processed; and
- ensure applicants understand how their convictions may affect their applications; and
- give the applicants confidence that his/her application is being dealt with effectively and fairly even if the outcome is not to his/her satisfaction.

The relevant section from the policy relating to pet shops is as follows:

Licence to Run a Pet Shop

Pet Animals Act 1951

Owners of pet shops are expected to understand and implement the highest welfare standards required for the animals that they sell in order that they can demonstrate this

and advise the public. They must always provide a suitable environment for the animals under their care.

Under the Pet Animals Act 1951 a Court may cancel any licence and/or disqualify a person from holding such a licence.

Therefore any of the following may result in an application being refused

- *An unspent conviction under the Pet Animals Act 1951,*
- *An unspent conviction for any offence of animal cruelty listed in Annex 1.*
- *An unspent conviction for any offence listed in Annex 2*
- *A Court ordered disqualification from holding such a licence during the period of any disqualification.*
- *A Court ordered ban of animal ownership during period of any ban.*

NB: The application form for a pet shop licence requires the applicant to sign a declaration that they do not have the above convictions. The Disclosure and Barring Scheme does not hold information on these convictions.

5. PETS TO BE LICENSED FOR SALE

The Local Authority receives applications to vend a variety of animals covered by the Pet Animals Act 1951 as amended.

All applications for the sale of puppies, dogs, kittens, cats and exotic mammals such as primates will go before the Licensing Regulatory Committee for a decision as to whether they are granted or not.

6. PLANNING PERMISSION

It is the responsibility of the proprietor to ensure that they have the relevant planning permission for the business that is intended for the site.

7. INSURANCE

Employers Liability Insurance is mandatory for employers under the Employers Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969. Therefore if the business employs any staff then this insurance is required.

It is recommended that Public Liability Insurance is considered when operating a breeding establishment. Whilst this is not compulsory, it would provide cover for the business should for example an accident occur to a member of the public whilst on the property.

Insurance may be considered for matters such as veterinary fees.

Certificates of Insurance must be prominently displayed at the licenced premises.

8. OTHER LEGISLATION/ORDERS THAT ARE RELEVANT

- Dangerous Dogs Act 1991
- Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
- Breeding of Dogs Act 1973
- EU Regulation on the protection of animals during transport (EC) 1/2005
- Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006
- Animal Welfare Act 2006
- Docking of Working Dogs' Tails (England) Regulations 2007
- Mutilations (Permitted Procedures) (England) Regulations 2007
- EU Wildlife Trade Regulations: Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97, implements CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna) in the European Community
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, implements the EU Habitats Directive: Council Directive 92/43 EEC.

Schedule A – General Conditions

1. LICENCE DISPLAY

1.1 Condition

The licence, or copy of the licence, shall be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position.

N.B. For security reasons, the licence shall not display the licence holder's home address.

2. ACCOMMODATION

2.1 Condition

Animals must, at all times, be kept in accommodation and environment suitable to their species with respect to situation, size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness, not exposed to draughts and avoid over-exposure to direct sunlight. All accommodation must be kept in good repair.

Guidance

Animals should be able to move around freely, climb, fly, swim and jump where appropriate, and be comfortable in their environment. Definitions of appropriate sizes and materials are in the appropriate schedules to this document. Regular maintenance and repair will prevent injury from damaged housing. Temperature monitoring devices should be provided. It is important to avoid draughts.

Ventilation must be provided to all interior areas without the creation of excessive, localized draughts. Ventilation is important as an aid to disease control and aims to decrease smell accumulation and prevent excessive humidity of the atmosphere.

The spread of airborne infections can be a significant risk. Excessive or inadequate humidity can cause other health problems.

2.2 Condition

If animals are displayed outdoors, they must have protection appropriate to their species.

Guidance

This should include shelter from wind, rain or snow and/or the sun and predators if appropriate.

2.3 Condition

Housing must be constructed of nonporous durable materials or be appropriately treated.

Guidance

Appropriate housing will prevent direct transmission of disease and injuries. This will maintain structural integrity and ensure dry, easily cleansed surfaces. In general, untreated wood is not an appropriate material as it cannot be thoroughly cleaned.

2.4 Condition

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.

2.5 Condition

Accommodation must be cleaned as often as necessary to maintain good hygiene standards.

2.6 Condition

Where accommodation is on a tiered system, water, food or other droppings must not be allowed to enter the lower housing. This will prevent contamination of the lower cages. This does not apply to centrifuged fish systems or aviaries where perching and ground birds are housed together.

2.7 Condition

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

Guidance

To stimulate natural behaviours.

2.8 Condition

Animals must be kept in housing which minimises stress from other animals or the public. Signage must be in place to deter public interference.

Guidance

An area to hide away, if needed, will help to reduce stress levels for the animals. In addition to signs, other measures may be required, such as limiting access to some sides of animal enclosures. Care should be taken to avoid sensory contact between prey and predator species.

N.B. When designing accommodation, consideration should be given to using systems which would allow removal of the animals in the case of emergency. This provision would not usually apply to aquariums and ponds.

3. EXERCISE FACILITIES

3.1 Condition

Suitable and sufficient exercise facilities must be available where appropriate.

Guidance

Animals must be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns and this may require the provision of suitable space for exercise.

N.B. For puppies, where required, a covered exercise area of at least 2.46 sq. meters (26 sq. ft.) should be provided. Exercise areas should have a minimum height of 1.8 metres (6ft) to facilitate adequate access by staff for cleaning.

4. REGISTER OF ANIMALS

4.1 Condition

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

- 4.1.1 puppies;
- 4.1.2 kittens;
- 4.1.3 psittacines;
- 4.1.4 species contained in the Schedule to the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (as modified)

Guidance

This can be cross referenced to an invoice file. The purpose of the register is to ascertain the source of livestock and for emergency contact or purchase. The name, address and telephone number of the purchaser should be obtained.

4.2 Condition

Animals under veterinary treatment must be identifiable.

5. STOCKING NUMBERS AND DENSITIES

5.1 Condition

No animals etc. other than those specified in the licence, may be stocked. The licence conditions shall clearly state the numbers for each species or species group that may be kept on the premises, except fish. Please refer to Schedules for individual species for more details.

Animals are defined as any vertebrate animals; invertebrates are exempted from the legislation.

Guidance

The maximum numbers of animals to be stocked on the premises will be governed by the accommodation available, as stated in the stocking density lists detailed in the schedules attached to these licence conditions. No other animals, other than those specified in the licence, may be stocked without prior written approval from the licensing authority. These stocking densities are provided for guidance and recommendation only.

5.2 Condition

Where appropriate, all animals etc. must be housed in social groups of suitable size.

Guidance

To ensure good animal welfare and reduce stress. Details can be found in the relevant schedules and DEFRA Guidance.

6. HEALTH, DISEASE AND ACCLIMATISATION

6.1 Condition

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

Guidance

Vendors and staff are responsible for providing the animals' needs including good health care. Illness and obvious parasitic infection should be addressed before the animal is sold. Veterinary advice should be sought in any case of doubt. Transport and the introduction to a novel environment are stressful and animals should be allowed to acclimatise before being further stressed by being offered for sale. Where animals are obtained for sale to a specific client it may be acceptable for the animal to be sold immediately. All animals should receive appropriate vaccination where required for the species, as advised by the retailer's veterinary surgeon. Veterinary advice must be sought whenever necessary. A Record of Treatment should be provided to the purchaser. Vaccination courses should begin at the appropriate age for each species.

6.2 Condition

Any sick or injured animal must receive appropriate care and treatment without delay. Inexperienced staff must not treat sick animals unless under appropriately experienced supervision. They can only be treated by appropriately competent staff or veterinary surgeons.

Guidance

"Care and treatment" may include euthanasia but under no circumstances may an animal be euthanised other than in a humane and effective manner. Veterinary advice/treatment must be sought for all animals (excluding fish).

6.3 Condition

Facilities must be provided to isolate sick animals.

Guidance

Isolated animals shall be kept in a secure, comfortable location where their condition and needs can be kept, also detailing treatment. For ornamental fish, in-line UV treatment or other sterilising devices effectively provide a means of isolating individual tanks in multiple tank systems. They must be of a proper size and maintained in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.

6.4 Condition

All animals must receive appropriate inoculations where required for the species, as advised by the veterinary surgeon. Veterinary advice must be sought whenever necessary.

6.5 Condition

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

Guidance

Information on any known conditions not defined as significant abnormalities or disease should be provided to the new owner.

6.6 Condition

All animals must be allowed a suitable acclimatisation period before sale to maintain good animal health and wellbeing.

6.7 Condition

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.

Guidance

Precautions should include regular cleaning and disinfection, and good personal hygiene of staff in addition to effective quarantine of incoming groups of animals except for fish. Staff handling animals should wash or disinfect, and rinse if appropriate, their hands between groups. The shop should be registered with a veterinary practice and there should be veterinary input to Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) where appropriate. It is important that the supplying breeders should have a policy for inherited and infectious disease control agreed. Staff should be aware of zoonotic transmission.

6.8 Condition

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

6.9 Condition

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

Guidance

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

7. FOOD AND DRINK

7.1 Condition

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

7.2 Condition

All food must be suitable for the species concerned.

Guidance

Water should be available at all times except for those species where it may be harmful. An SOP should be produced for basic nutritional needs for each species or species group, and age group if appropriate. The owner should be advised to continue feeding consistent with the diet given by the pet shop.

7.3 Condition

Food and drink receptacles must be constructed and positioned to minimise faecal contamination and spillage.

Guidance

There must be suitable facilities for cleaning of receptacles and equipment which should be separate from staff facilities.

8. FOOD STORAGE

8.1 Condition

All food, excluding live foods intended for feeding to livestock on the premises, must be stored in impervious closed containers. The containers and equipment used for feeding must be kept in a clean and sound condition. Daily temperature checks and periodic recording shall be undertaken for fridges and freezers to ensure that food is kept fresh where appropriate.

9. OBSERVATION

9.1 Condition

All livestock must be attended to at regular intervals, except where defined in the schedule, at least once daily, appropriate to the individual animal/species.

Guidance

Regular checks and observation records aid in early detection of illness, injury or behavioural problems and should be considered very important for all animals. A system of recording observation should be maintained.

10. DISPOSAL OF WASTE

10.1 Condition

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 Condition

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

10.3 Condition

All containers must be kept in a clean condition.

Guidance

This is important for biosecurity and odour reduction. Excreta and soiled bedding should be removed from the premises on a regular basis, at least weekly, disposed of to the satisfaction of the appropriate local authority, and in accordance with current regulations and good waste management practice. Premises should maintain a contract for removal with an appropriate company and adhere to local authority regulations.

10.4 Condition

There shall be appropriate arrangements in place for removal of dead animals.

11. TRANSPORTATION

11.1 Condition

When receiving animals, the licensee must make reasonable effort to ensure that it is transported in a suitable manner. The registration number of vehicles transporting livestock must be recorded.

11.2 Condition

Any livestock received or consigned shall be transported according to the regulations laid down in current legislation; such as the Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order 1997.

11.3 Condition

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

Guidance

Buyers should be advised how to transport animals home so as to minimise stress. For air transportation, the IATA live animals regulations must be followed as a minimum legal standard.

12 SALE OF LIVESTOCK

12.1 Condition

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

Guidance

Young mammals require nutritional and behavioural support from their mothers.

12.2 Condition

All non-mammals must be capable of feeding themselves.

12.3 Condition

No animal shall 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 provides 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:

- a) The parent/guardian would not object to the acquisition.
- b) The juvenile is sufficiently knowledgeable as to the needs, care and nature of the species acquired.
- c) The juvenile's intention towards the acquisition is consistent with the well-being of the animal concerned.

12.4 Condition

Licensees selling primates must request a documented pet care plan from the purchaser on how they plan to care for the animals and be satisfied that the future care and accommodation is appropriate for the animals.

12.5 Condition (New)

Animals that are longer term residents possibly due to a reduced demand (over 6 months) shall be considered as a 'display' animal and shall be housed accordingly. Suitable guidelines are available from the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA). If these criteria cannot be met then the animals shall be rehomed.

13. DANGEROUS WILD ANIMALS AS DEFINED BY THE DANGEROUS WILD ANIMAL ACT 1976

13.1 Condition

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

Guidance

Safety of staff and the general public should be of utmost importance and safety barriers may aid in this, as well as prevention of escape.

13.2 Condition

The local authority shall 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. Although it is acknowledged that there is an exemption contained within the Act in relation to pet shops, it is recommended that consideration shall be given to complying with any special requirement(s) specified in the Act for the safe accommodation or care of the animal.

13.3 Condition

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

Guidance

The primary requirements of the Act are to protect the public but there are also welfare implications. Although it is acknowledged that there is an exemption contained within the Act in relation to pet shops, it is recommended that consideration should be given to complying with any special requirement(s) specified in the Act for the safe accommodation and care of the animal.

Licensees should take note of the latest guidance from DEFRA.

14. PET CARE ADVICE

14.1 Condition

Pet care leaflets or other similar written instructions must be made available to customers free of charge at the time of purchase, in addition to any offer to purchase pet care books or leaflets.

14.2 Condition

Purchasers must be given proper advice on the care of the animal and, where necessary, on the maintenance and use of any accessories.

14.3 Condition

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

15. STAFF TRAINING AND LIVESTOCK KNOWLEDGE

15.1 Condition

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

- 15.2** In respect of new applications from 2017 onwards (not renewals), at least one member of staff working at the licensed premises must hold the City and Guilds Pet Store Management Certificate, or some other appropriate qualification; or must be in the course of training, and obtain the qualification within two years of the licence being granted.

Guidance

Qualifications should be City & Guilds or National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 3 equivalent and appropriate to the species kept.

15.3 Condition

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

15.4 Condition

The licensee must ensure that the purchaser is informed of the correct care of the animal covering feeding, housing, handling, husbandry, accessories and veterinary care.

Guidance

Pet care leaflets or other similar written instructions suitable for the species (or group of species) in question should be made available to customers free of charge at the time of purchase, in addition to any offer to purchase pet care books or leaflets. Information can be in the form of Codes of Practice issued by governments. In addition, information may also be made available electronically.

15.5 Condition

Appropriate reference materials on the care of each species must always be available for use by staff.

Guidance

Further advice can be obtained from the organisations listed in the 'Useful Contacts' section at the back of this document.

16. FIRE AND OTHER EMERGENCY PRECAUTIONS

16.1 Condition

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

Guidance

Staff should be aware of these procedures and a copy should be displayed for staff to refer to as and when needed. Evacuation should be regularly practised and practices recorded. All staff should undergo regular training and records should be kept of such training.

16.2 Condition

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

Guidance

To facilitate risk free evacuation if needed, when designing accommodation, consideration should be given to using systems which would allow timely removal of the animals in the case of emergency. This provision would not usually apply to aquaria and ponds.

16.3 Condition

Suitable firefighting 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.

Guidance

This will ensure that, if needed, the equipment will function correctly. Staff should be properly trained on the use of equipment provided.

16.4 Condition

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.

Guidance

A reasonable distance would, in normal conditions, be interpreted as no more than 20 minutes travelling time.

16.5 Condition

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

16.6 Condition

In the interests of animal welfare, the following notice must be displayed at the front of the shop. "In case of emergency, dial 999". The number of the local police station shall also be displayed.

16.7 Condition

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.

Guidance

This is vital for access to the animals at all times to ensure correct care is provided

16.8 Condition

All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe condition and subject to Portable Appliance Testing where appropriate.

16.9 Condition

There must be an effective contingency plan for essential heating, ventilation and aeration/ filtration systems, as appropriate.

Guidance

Some species are very sensitive to temperature fluctuation.

17 PERSON OR PERSONS RUNNING THE BUSINESS

17.1 Condition

No person who has been disqualified by a court from dealing in animals, owning them, keeping them, participating in keeping them or involved with the transporting them, will be granted a licence for a pet vending business or permitted to have any involvement whatsoever in the running of said business.

17.2 Condition

It is the responsibility of the licence holder to ensure that any persons that they may employ to assist them with the running of the business, either by means of a contract of employment, or on a voluntary basis, is not disqualified as described in section 4.0 above.

18. BOARDING OF ANIMALS

18.1 Condition

No pet shop shall be used for the purpose of boarding any species of animal for which they are not licensed to sell. If it is intended to board cats and dogs, suitable and sufficient accommodation must be provided. If boarding is undertaken suitable and sufficient accommodation must be provided away from the animals for sale and not in contact with any animals in quarantine to prevent the spread of disease. Hand-washing

and disinfecting facilities need to be available in areas where boarders are kept to prevent the spread of disease, including zoonotic risks.

Guidance

Boarding of cats and dogs is subject to separate licence issued under the Animal Boarding Establishment Act.

19. ADDITIONAL SCHEDULES OF CONDITIONS WHICH MAY BE ATTACHED TO A LICENCE

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

Schedule B – Additional Conditions - Dogs

1. Condition

Puppies must be weaned before leaving the mother.

Guidance

To ensure puppies can eat the food provided. Puppies must be 8 weeks old or over. Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations prohibits the transport of puppies without their mother before this age.

2. Condition

Puppies may only be sourced from a licenced breeder. This is in addition to the General Condition 4.1. Proof of the licence for that breeder must be available on inspection by this authority.

Guidance

Full traceability must be evident for where puppies have been sourced from.

3. Condition

Puppies must be kept on the premises for 7 days.

Guidance

This period is to allow for the puppies to show any signs of common diseases. For example parvo virus. This is in addition to the requirements of General Condition 6.

4. Condition

The minimum kennel size must be:

4.1 For a batch of small breed puppies – max 6 pups – 1.5m² for sleeping, plus 2m² for exercise

4.2 For a batch of medium breed puppies – max 4 pups – 2m² for sleeping, plus 2m² for exercise

4.3 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 is not a defence if the welfare of the animals is 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.

5. Condition

Suitable and sufficient exercise facilities must be available and accessible where appropriate.

6. Condition

Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

Guidance

Puppies are relatively sensitive to high/low temperatures. Temperatures should not normally go below 12°C or exceed 26°C

7. Condition

General bedding must include an adequate amount of absorbent material.

Guidance

The use of enough absorbent material allows urine and faeces to be contained and reduce contamination of the puppies.

8. Condition

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.

Guidance

Puppies do not discriminate in where they toilet and this maintains a clean environment. A cleaning schedule or SOP should be provided.

9. Condition

A specific lying place must be provided lined with soft material.

Guidance

The use of soft material will prevent skin lesions being caused by soiling or pressure sores.

10. Condition

Puppies must be fed at least four times daily, at appropriate intervals.

Guidance

The diet should be appropriate for puppies.

11. Condition

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. There should be Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

12. Condition

Batches of puppies must not be mixed until they have been on the premises for seven days or have shown no sign of infectious disease for seven days.

Guidance

Puppies are particularly susceptible to disease as they have immature immune systems. The new owner should be advised to register the puppy with a vet.

13. Condition

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 shall be of similar size, age and temperament and there should be good supervision of mixing.

Guidance

Isolating healthy puppies does not allow them to exhibit natural behaviour patterns.

14. Condition

There must be environmental enrichment in all kennels.

Guidance

To allow puppies to exhibit normal behaviour patterns. Toys should only be given under supervision and should be easily cleaned or replaced between batches.

** Please see ‘Schedule A – General Conditions’ for food, water and isolation conditions

15. Identification of Puppies

15.1 Condition

Puppies must be microchipped by the breeder prior to purchase by the pet vendor. The breeder must provide details of the microchip and the register that it is linked to. It is the responsibility of the vendor to ensure that the microchip registration details are accurate. The Microchip register must have the following details:

- a) the full name and address of the keeper;

- b) where applicable, the fact that the keeper is also the breeder;
- c) if the keeper is the breeder and is licensed by the local authority under the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973(6)—
 - i. the breeder's licence number; and
 - ii. the name of the local authority by which they are licensed;
- d) the original name or identification number given to the dog;
- e) the contact telephone number (if any) for the keeper;
- f) the name given to the dog by the keeper, if that is different to the details recorded pursuant to sub-paragraph (d);
- g) the sex of the dog;
- h) the breed of the dog, or a description if it is a cross-breed;
- i) the colour of the dog;
- j) the most accurate estimate of the dog's date of birth which the keeper is capable of giving; and
- k) the unique number of the microchip implanted in the dog.

Note: "breeder" means any keeper of a bitch which whelps, whether or not they carry on a business as a breeder of dogs.

15.2 Condition

The livestock register for the pet vending business must contain the following details:

- i. Microchip number
- ii. Microchip registration database operator details
- iii. Name and address of breeder

Schedule C – Additional Conditions - Cats

1. Condition

Kittens must be weaned before leaving the mother.

Guidance

To ensure kittens can eat the food provided. Kittens must be 8 weeks old or over. Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related legislation prohibits the transport of kittens without their mother before this age.

2. Condition

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 1m x 1m) 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 shall be space for feeding, drinking, and sleeping and litter tray to be kept separate.

3. Condition

Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

Guidance

Kittens are relatively sensitive to low temperatures owing to their small body weight. Temperatures should not normally go below 15°C or exceed 26°C.

4. Condition

Disposable or washable bedding must be provided and kept clean.

Guidance

Kittens need a warm sleeping, soft area, away from the litter tray and food.

5. Condition

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.

6. Condition

Kittens must be fed at least four times daily, at appropriate intervals.

Guidance

The diet shall be appropriate for kittens.

7. Condition

Batches must not be mixed and if several batches are kept in one area then the pen must have solid sides.

Guidance

Diseases spread very easily between litters, both by direct contact or by sneezing. Kittens are particularly susceptible to disease as they have immature immune systems. The new owner should be advised to register the kitten with a vet.

8. Condition

Kittens must have frequent, quality contact time with staff.

Guidance

It is recommended that this should be a minimum of 4 times per day with 20 minutes of specific interaction per batch. Kittens should be protected from over-handling by staff or the public as they require time to rest.

9. Condition

There must be environmental enrichment in all cages such as toys, climbing frames and platforms.

Guidance

To allow kittens to exhibit normal behaviours, particularly climbing. Toys should be easily cleaned or replaced between batches.

Schedule D – Additional Conditions - Rabbits and Guinea Pigs

1. Condition

Rabbits must be correctly sexed and housed in same sex groups.

Guidance

Rabbits are easier to sex at 8 weeks than any earlier, which will help prevent mis-sexing and unwanted litters.

2. Condition

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.

Guidance

Dwarf Lops/Dutch rabbits are the most commonly available in pet shops and weigh up to 4kgs. The height should allow the rabbit to rear up to perform natural behaviour. Rabbits should be kept in store in groups. Rabbits need to be able to move freely and to be able to perform vital behaviours such as caecotrophy and rearing.

3. Condition

There must be environmental enrichment in all enclosures. A hiding place must be provided.

Guidance

To allow rabbits to exhibit normal behaviours, indestructible toys; cardboard boxes; chewing substrates should be provided. Toys should be easily cleaned or replaced between batches. Rabbits are prey animals and should have the opportunity to hide if scared or stressed.

4. Condition

Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

Guidance

Ambient temperature should not normally go lower than 12°C or exceed 26°C. Providing cool water, cool packs in their bedding, air movement and air conditioning may each help to avoid the stress caused to rabbits by high environmental temperatures.

5. Condition

Rabbits must be provided with a suitable substrate and bedding material in sufficient amounts.

Guidance

Rabbits need a warm, softly-bedded sleeping area away from the litter and food/water.

6. Condition

Visibly soiled substrate and bedding must be removed daily. The pen should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before introducing a new animal.

Guidance

The disinfectant should be effective against viral, bacterial and parasitic infection and safe for use on rabbits. Check with a vet or manufacturer if unsure. Diseases such as E. cuniculi can be spread via urine, so thorough cleaning is required between new occupants. Rabbits often choose to toilet in the sleeping area of a hutch and a litter tray could be placed here.

7. Condition

If batches are mixed you must ensure all animals are free from obvious parasitic infection.

Guidance

Diseases spread very easily between litters. Rabbits should be housed with batch mates where possible.

8. Condition

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. Feed dishes should be suitable to ensure feed does not get contaminated by urine or faeces.

Guidance

Rabbits teeth are open rooted and therefore constant access to good quality hay is essential, for dental health, gastrointestinal health (without a constant supply of fibrous food, rabbit GI tracts slow down) and behavioural reasons (to relieve boredom). It is vital that hay is available throughout the day and sufficient provided for them at closing time to last them until the next business day. Dry food should be provided for youngsters to assist growth, see manufacturer's instructions, but should not be fed ad-lib.

9. Condition

Animals must be provided with an appropriate diet and any new feeds must be introduced slowly.

Guidance

Due to the delicate digestive system, particularly under stress, if diets are to be changed then a slow transition between diets is advisable.

Schedule E – Additional Conditions - Other Small Mammals

1. Condition

All small mammals must be correctly sexed and housed in single sex groups unless a solitary species e.g. African Pygmy Hedgehogs (or sold as a breeding pair).

Guidance

To help avoid unwanted litters, all animals should be sexed immediately on arrival to the premises and housed in single sex groups. Animals from different sources should not be mixed. Animals will fight if they are solitary.

2. Condition

Animals must at all times be kept in suitably sized accommodation.

Guidance

Animals should be able to freely move around the accommodation and be able to perform natural behaviours. See attached table for species relevant sizing.

Minimum accommodation requirements – small rodents

Area in square metres	1-4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Minimum Cage Height (m)	Minimum Cage Depth (m)
No. of Animals									
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

3. Condition

Animals must be provided with a suitable substrate in sufficient amounts.

Guidance

Providing sufficient and appropriate substrate keeps the accommodation clean and dry and allows digging where appropriate. There are a number of substrates available and the type used will depend on the animal kept.

4. Condition

Animals must be provided with a suitable bedding material in sufficient amounts.

Guidance

Bedding provides a place to sleep and rest, the type used will depend on the animal kept. It should be provided in sufficient quantities to enable the animal to feel secure and warm. African Pygmy Hedgehogs are sensitive to cold and changes and should have a heated pad under their bedding to maintain a constant temperature between 23-24.4°C.

5. Condition

Animals must be provided with places to hide. Accessories and enrichment should be provided, suitable to the species.

Guidance

Animals must be given the opportunity to hide as a natural instinct and be given suitable accessories to allow for stimulation and to reduce stress. Chinchillas and Degus should be given the opportunity to use a sand bath by offering one on a regular basis, e.g. 10 minutes daily. Rodents need to express natural behaviour such as running and chewing/gnawing. Toys and entertainment such as hides, tunnels, and paper bags filled with hay and fruit twigs are ideal for expressing natural foraging behaviour. Animals should be able to move away from direct lighting. Cool hides should be provided to prevent overheating. Pygmy hedgehogs must have a heat pad in their housing and used to maintain a suitable temperature for their housing.

6. Condition

Suitable food and drink receptacles must be provided and positioned to avoid faecal contamination.

Guidance

Water for small animals is usually provided in clean gravity fill drinking bottles, (which should be of a suitable size for the species) or automatic or semi – automatic drinking systems. Fresh water should be available at all times, or as appropriate to the species; some desert-dwelling species such as jerboas [family Dipodidae] should not be given water ad- lib. Bottles should be kept clean and free from algae. Some species may require a sturdy ceramic bowl so it isn't knocked over easily.

7. Condition

All small mammals and rodents must be fed a suitable diet, ad lib and have free access to hay where required.

Guidance

The diet should be appropriate for the breed, life stage and species. Food should be refreshed regularly. Guinea pigs should have sufficient vitamin C in their diet. Guinea pigs are unable to synthesise Vitamin C. African Pygmy Hedgehogs are insectivores and insects should be included in their diets to promote natural feeding.

8. Condition

All rodents must be fully weaned on admission

Schedule F – Additional Conditions - Ferrets

1. Condition

Ferrets must be at least eight weeks old when it is sold.

Guidance

Ferret kits can find separation from their mother very stressful and the stress response in a ferret often results in diarrhoea which can prove fatal.

2. Condition

Ferrets must be housed with batch companions

Guidance

Ferrets are naturally social animals that depend on the companionship of their own kind. Lone ferrets often suffer depression including poor appetite and lack of enthusiasm to move or play.

3. Condition

Ferrets must be housed in groups or pairs of either sex. Adult hobs (males) require individual accommodation.

Guidance

Ferret kits can be easily be sexed at 8 weeks of age. Adult, un-neutered hobs (males) may exhibit dominant behaviour and fight, so requiring individual accommodation. House the Jill (female) kits at a reasonable distance to prevent aggression between the hobs as they mature at around 20 weeks. Adult jills (females) should be prevented from having repeated seasons. Jills (females) left in season are prone to oestrogen induced anaemia, a factor in shortening their normal lifespan. Veterinary advice should be sought.

4. Condition

Batches of ferrets must not be mixed.

Guidance

Not mixing will reduce the risk of disease spreading. Mixing can be stressful for ferrets

5. Condition

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.

Guidance

Enclosures should be placed on a hard surface and anchored to the ground. Ferrets require space for their toilet area removed from their sleeping or eating areas. Ferrets require space to exhibit their normal active behaviour – running backwards, forwards and sideways and to climb, explore and play. Ferrets are naturally clean and will usually select one corner as their toilet

6. Condition

Sleeping quarters must be draught free and dark.

Guidance

Ideally sleeping quarters should be raised. Ferrets seek dark areas for sleeping and sleep for long hours, up to twenty a day in the winter. Their natural instinct is to hide whilst sleeping.

7. Condition

Ferrets must have suitable bedding.

Guidance

Suggested bedding includes fabric items that can be laundered, straw and dust extracted wood shavings.

8. Condition

Extreme temperatures must be avoided.

Guidance

Temperatures should not normally go below 12°C or exceed 26°C. Ferrets tolerate cold better than heat. Provide plenty of warm bedding for when it is cold. Be aware heat prostration is likely at 32°C.

9. Condition

Ferret kibble must be provided at appropriate intervals.

Guidance

Feed a recognised and branded ferret kibble / biscuit. Small, frequent meals or ad lib feeding are recommended as ferrets have a rapid rate of digestion

10. Condition

Water must be supplied in both a heavy based bowl and a water bottle attached to the side of the enclosure.

Guidance

Ferrets are renowned for tipping bowls.

Schedule G – Additional Conditions - Birds

1. Condition

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. Cages must include appropriate environmental enrichment.

Guidance

Stocking densities will depend on the type of bird as well as cage dimensions and number of perches. Access to rain can be beneficial for plumage. Some species will need adequate space to fly. Chickens require an appropriate area and substrate to perch.

2. Condition

Perches must be positioned so that birds do not defecate on each other and must be of appropriate size and shape for each species.

3. Condition

Ambient temperature must be appropriate for the species. Extremes of temperatures must be avoided.

Guidance

Birds are more sensitive to high temperatures.

4. Condition

There must be adequate drinkers/feeders commensurate with the number of birds and these must be cleaned regularly. Bowls etc. must be positioned so that birds do not defecate in food/water.

Guidance

Birds should not have to compete for drinkers/feeders and risk exclusion. Passerines should have food available at all times. Enrichment and feeding devices need to be provided for larger psittacids. For parrots, it is preferable to use swinging systems such that the keeper does not need to enter the cage in order to change food/ water. Bowls should not be able to be removed from holders by the parrot.

5. Condition

Cages must be constructed from materials suitable to the type and size of birds. Materials must be safe to birds and in good repair.

Guidance

Enclosures should be placed on a hard surface some species require more robust materials. Materials such as loose zinc coating can be toxic to birds.

6. Condition

Windproof nest boxes must be provided in all outside housing and inside where appropriate.

Guidance

Many birds find sleeping or sheltering in nest boxes an essential form of security or for sheltering from inclement weather but it is recognised that some species, such as canaries, will rarely if ever voluntarily enter nest boxes.

7. Condition

Flooring must be drop-through or easily washed/hosed.

Guidance

If ground living birds are kept with perching birds then attention should be paid to flooring such that bumble foot issues are addressed - i.e. no concrete/rough stone. Where natural turf flooring is used, parasite status of the birds should be checked on a regular basis every few weeks.

Stocking Densities for Birds in Cages

Type	Length of Bird (cm)	Floor Area (m ²)	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		1.6	
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*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 i.e., a 20cm increase could refer to 20cm width, 20cm length or say 10cm width combined with 10cm length.

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 1.8m)
Budgerigar		18
Canary		18
Cockatiel		8
Finches	Less than 12.5 12.5 – 17.5 more than 17.5	24 18 12
Parakeets and Lovebirds *1	less than 25 25-35 more than 35	10 6 4
Parrots	less than 30 30 – 35 more than 35	10 6 4
Chickens		4 (min height 0.9m)
Bantams		6 (min height 0.9m)
Quails		8 (min height 0.9m)

Schedule H – Additional Conditions - Reptiles and Amphibians

1. Condition

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. Condition

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

Guidance

Snakes: As a minimum, the requirement for snakes is that the snake must be able to stretch out fully in one dimension (e.g. across the diagonal).

Lizards: the length of the enclosure should be three times the full length of the lizard, or larger. For chelonian, the enclosure must be four times the length of the animal. Juveniles can be kept in smaller containers as long as the temperature, heat and lighting requirements can be met for a maximum period of 6 weeks.

Amphibians: The enclosure of 30cm x 30cm x 30cm or three times the length of the animal whichever is larger unless it is a sedentary species. Water depth must be four times the depth of the animal if an aquatic species.

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. Condition

All reptiles: Temperature, humidity, lighting, photoperiod, UV-V and ventilation requirements must be appropriate to the species for the time of year.

Guidance

Ambient and basking temperatures should be appropriate to the species concerned, with the following guidance for commonly kept species.

These are guidelines only and individual species should be researched as requirements for some species will fall outside of these recommendations. Vendors and staff must have access to relevant reference material (books, internet etc.). Basking spots may be provided by convection or radiant heat sources (e.g. light bulb, or heat mat), as appropriate to the species. Ventilation should be appropriate to the species and should allow sufficient change of air without jeopardising the temperature or humidity in the enclosure. Good ventilation removes the build-up of gases and ammonia from their enclosure.

4. Condition

Lighting must be appropriate to the species.

Guidance

An appropriate light period should be observed. Species requiring UVB lighting, e.g. diurnal lizards and tortoises, should have appropriate UVB emitting lamps. These should be replaced according to manufacturer's recommendations. Mercury Vapour or Metal Halide UVB emitting lamps may also be used to provide a daytime heat source. UV light sources must not be screened by non UV transmitting glass or plastic. Animals should have areas of shade so that they can escape from the light if desired.

5. Condition

Substrate must be easily cleaned and appropriate to the species must be present.

Guidance

Substrate should be appropriate to the species concerned and may include, but not be limited to: newspaper, paper towel, bark chip, wood chip, terrarium humus, moss, gravel, calcium carbonate, terrarium sand etc. Measures should be taken to ensure that substrate is not ingested.

6. Condition

Enrichment must be provided appropriate to the species.

Guidance

Décor should be appropriate to the species and should not be harmful, e.g. sharp rocks, toxic or injurious plants. Décor should be secure and not able to fall and cause injury. Enclosure should be furnished in such a fashion as to allow inhabitants to exhibit natural behaviour e.g. climb or hide where appropriate.

7. Condition

Food and water must be provided in the appropriate manner for the species. Water must be provided in a suitable container to allow bathing of the full body or records of regular misting or bathing must be kept for the species where this is more appropriate.

Guidance

Feeding habits vary between species and between individuals. Staff should have knowledge of the requirements for all the species held. Food should be presented in a form or pattern that is acceptable to the species concerned. Food supplements [vitamin and minerals] should be provided as appropriate to the species concerned. Live food intended for use should be housed in suitable escape proof containers, and fed appropriately. Fresh foods [salads] should be kept refrigerated where appropriate. Frozen foods intended for use must be stored in an appropriate deep freeze and defrosted thoroughly before use. Feeding records for hatchling snakes should be kept and made available to purchasers. Fresh water should be available at all times, with the exception of certain desert species, such as *Uromastyx* sp. which should be offered water periodically. Certain species, such as chameleons, do not drink from standing water and should be offered water appropriately, e.g. by a dripper system or sprayer.

8. Condition

Hygiene: enclosures must be cleaned appropriately.

Guidance

Spoiled food stuffs should be removed at appropriate time periods, at least daily. Substrates should be replaced as appropriate, and spot cleaned daily. Décor should be sanitised as appropriate. Enclosures should be disinfected with appropriate disinfectant as necessary and always between different batches of animals. Disinfectant should be appropriate for the contaminants likely to be encountered. Disinfectant hand gels should be available for staff to use between animals, to prevent the external environment being contaminated. Water bowls should be cleaned as appropriate and disinfected at least weekly. Slough [shed skins] should be removed daily.

9. Condition

Handling must be kept to a minimum at all times.

Guidance

Handling must be kept to a minimum at all times. Staff should receive training on how to handle animals and animals which may be aggressive should only be handled by competent staff. Staff and customers should wash hands after handling specimens, and any equipment used should also be disinfected. Customers handling animals prior to purchase should be supervised and offered facilities to wash their hands afterwards.

As reptiles are carriers of salmonella, hand-washing facilities must be available and easily accessible for members of the public who have handled animals. Amphibians should not be handled by anyone other than the staff wearing appropriate gloves to prevent disease risk spread and damage to the protective mucus layer of the amphibian.

Schedule I – Additional Conditions - Fish

1. Condition

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.

Minimum water standards must be:

1) 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

2) 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

3) 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

Guidance

It is virtually impossible to determine the quantity of aquatic organisms to be kept in a system purely on a weight or number of aquatic organisms per unit, volume, or water surface area. The variation in holding system used, the quality of husbandry and the

types of aquatic organisms stocked vary so greatly that it would render any such system too complicated to be practical or too simple to be useful. The maintenance of water quality standards can be used to determine working stocking densities. The water quality standards should not be met at the expense of a correct feeding regime. Exceptions to these standards might occur e.g. when aquatic organisms are diseased, after transport or other stress. However in these cases appropriate remedial actions e.g. treatment, acclimatisation or isolation should be undertaken. Sea water holds less oxygen than fresh water. The recommended level is 5.5 mg/l so extra care is needed to ensure that levels do not routinely fall below this.

2. Condition

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 shall be undertaken.

Guidance

One test is representative of all the water in the system of centralised systems. Standalone systems must each be tested. Poor water quality is often the underlying cause of problems presenting as disease or mortalities.

3. Condition

Holding systems must be cleaned and checked regularly.

Guidance

Aquaria must be checked daily and cleaned as often as is necessary to maintain good hygiene standards, consistent with the rate of stock turnover and consequent stocking densities.

4. Condition

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

Guidance

No fish or other aquatic organism should be subject to rapid fluctuation in light (lights should be on dimmers if automated), temperature and chemical composition of their water, other than for the controlled treatment of disease or as part of a controlled breeding programme. There are in excess of 4000 fish species in trade and thus the acceptable conditions may vary substantially and often counter intuitively. In case of doubt expert advice should always be sought.

Further Information

Register of Wild Animals and Endangered Species

Some species are listed on the Annexes of EU Wildlife Trade Regulations which implement CITES [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species]. Species listed on Annex A of EU Wildlife Trade Regulations [Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97] must have a valid Article 10 Certificate and may require microchipping or closed ring. Species listed on Annex B do not require Certificates but the vendor should be able to provide proof the animal was acquired legally.

Further information is available from Animal Health, Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service: 1-15 Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6EB

Wild-caught specimens listed on Annex IV of the EU Habitats Directive [Council Directive 92/43 EEC] collected within the EU require the appropriate Certification. Captive-bred specimens are exempted from such requirements.