

## FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES

### REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES – D. MICHAEL

10<sup>th</sup> August 2015

#### SECTION A - MATTER FOR DECISION

**WARDS AFFECTED: Port Talbot**

#### **1.0 LICENCE TO KEEP A HOME BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT**

An application for the grant of an animal home boarding establishment licence has been received as follows:

Premises	Applicant	Details
Towig Dogs 9 George Street Port Talbot SA13 3ES	Michelle Lloyd	Animal Home Boarding

#### **1.1 Background**

The Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 states any person that operates a business of providing accommodation for other people's animals requires a licence from the local authority. The legislation defines animals as cats or dogs.

#### **1.2 Officer Report**

The premises was inspected by the veterinary surgeon on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2015, a copy of the report is attached at Appendix 1.

The applicant wishes to offer boarding accommodation for either 4 small dogs or 2 medium dogs (>20 kgs) and it is proposed that the licence would allow dogs from different households to be boarded together.

The applicant also has one small Jack Russell dog of her own and this will not be included in the maximum of 4 dogs which can be boarded at the premises.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015, a Licensing Officer carried out a further inspection of the premises and confirmed that the points raised in the conclusion of the Veterinary report have been actioned.

### **1.3 Recommendation**

That where members consider approval of the application, the following conditions should be imposed:-

1. The premises must comply at all times with the NPTCBC Model Licence Conditions for Home Boarding (DOGS)
2. The premises must comply at all times with the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs published by the Welsh Assembly.
3. A maximum of 4 small dogs, or 2 medium dogs (>20kgs) shall be permitted to be accommodated at the premises at any one time, which does not include the resident dog.
4. Prior to boarding, a documented trial familiarisation session must be carried out with the applicants own resident dog. Written consent from the owners of the boarded dogs must be obtained following the trial familiarisation session.
5. Dogs from different households may be boarded together but only if:
  - The written consent of each owner is obtained
  - A documented trial familiarisation session for all dogs prior to stay
  - Separation of dogs from different households in secure areas when left unattended.
  - Separate feeding of dogs to minimise the likelihood of dispute and aggression

### **1.4 List of Background papers**

Licence Application  
Veterinary Officer's Report  
NPTCBC Model Licence Conditions for Home Boarding (DOGS)

Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs – Published by the Welsh Assembly

**1.5 Wards Affected**

Port Talbot

**1.6 Officer Contact**

Neil Chapple  
Licensing Manager  
Tel (01639) 763056  
email [n.chapple@npt.gov.uk](mailto:n.chapple@npt.gov.uk)



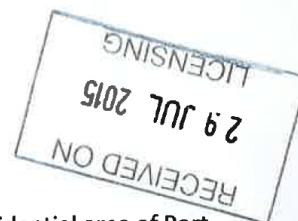
### Afon Veterinary Centre

Lletty Nedd • Penydre • Neath • SA11 3HH

Telephone: 01639 642739

www.afonvets.co.uk

**HOME BOARDING LICENCE APPLICATION.**  
**MRS M.L LLOYD, 9 GEORGE STREET, PORT TALBOT**  
**VISIT 2:30PM 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2015**



This application is for a home boarding license in a mid-terrace house in a residential area of Port Talbot. All numerical annotation refers to the Lacors Model Licence Conditions for Home Boarding (DOGS) Animal Boarding Establishment Act (1963).

#### Introduction

The two storey house is a mid-terrace house with a rear extension. There is no side recess to the house but rear access via a lane with a large double garage. Only the ground floor is involved in this application. Mrs Lloyd was fully aware of the requirements of the Lacors document.

1.3 Mrs Lloyd showed me an insurance policy that had a public liability element to it but I suggested she check with her insurers that sufficient cover would be provided by them.

1.3 to 1.6 The applicant was aware of these requirements.

#### Numbers of animals

3.1 Mrs Lloyd has one small Jack Russell Terrier. She expressed a desire not to accommodate any large breed dogs. Considering the space available I feel this property could accommodate 4 small dogs or 2 medium sized dogs (>20kgs) with her own dog.

3.2 & 3.3 Mrs Lloyd was made aware of these provisions.

3.4 No children live at this property. No general risk assessment had been prepared.

#### Construction

4.1 to 4.4 The property complied with the provisions of these sections.

4.5 There would easily be enough space to separate dogs if the need arose. The large double garage was a very versatile space and Mrs Lloyd already had collapsible cages for use if needed. Her own dog had a generous kennel in the rear yard.



### Management

5.1 No staff are to be employed.

### Cleanliness

5.2.1 The property has easily cleanable surfaces indoors and concrete outside. One area of tree bark may need regular replacement.

5.2.2 to 5.2.4 Waste disposal needs to be arranged. A "dog compact loo" may suit the purpose. Clarification of arrangements needs to be made with the local authority to ensure compliance with waste regulations.

### Food and water supplies

5.3 Mrs Lloyd was aware of the provisions of this section.

5.4 Food storage arrangements appeared satisfactory.

### Disease control and vaccinations

5.5.1 – 3 Mrs Lloyd was aware of these provisions and provided proof of her own dogs vaccination and worming history. She is registered with a local veterinary clinic. I pointed out the desirability of asking for vaccination against kennel cough.

5.5.4 A first aid kit was present.

5.5.6 & 5.5.7 Mrs Lloyd had products available to treat the premises.

5.5.8 I suggested asking her own vet for advice about disinfectants.

### Isolation and contagious disease outbreak

5.6 Mrs Lloyd was made aware of the provisions included in this section.

### Register

5.7.1 Mrs Lloyd showed me a registration form that covered the points in this section. She did not propose keeping a computer record.



#### Supervision

- 5.8 There are no children under 16 years of age resident. Mrs Lloyd and her husband proposed running this venture and comply with the provisions of this section.

#### Exercise

- 5.9.2 to 5.9.3 Dogs will have access to an area roughly 350 square feet. This area is mainly concreted and securely walled.
- 5.9.5 Identity tags were presented.

#### Fire emergency precautions

- 5.10 The dogs will be kept in the downstairs rooms. Egress will be achieved by two doors backdoor and front door. There is a mains wired fire alarm system and some fire extinguishing equipment.
- 5.10.7 No trailing wire were in evidence (Mr Lloyd is an electrician). Mrs Lloyd assured me she can comply with the rest of the provisions in this section.
- 5.10.4 No fire warning procedure and emergency evacuation plan had been formulated.
- 5.10.9 Mr and Mrs Lloyd have family and friends living locally in the event of emergency backup being needed. A notice with an emergency telephone number needs to be visible from the street.

#### Conclusion

The following points need to be addressed;

1. Public liability needs to be confirmed and the policy/cover note displayed.
2. Waste disposal arrangements have to be clarified and approved by the local authority.
3. Suitable animal friendly disinfectant should be sourced.
4. A general risk assessment of Home Boarding should be formulated (3.4)
5. A fire warning procedure and emergency evacuation plan needs to be provided (5.10.4)

If the issues raised above are addressed I can see no reason not to grant a Home Boarding licence for this premises.



Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R.C. Irons'.

R.C Irons BVSc MRCVS.

Dated: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015