

Home Boarding Licence Application

Laura Parry, Happy Tails, Edgehill, Cae Rhys Ddu Road, Neath, SA11 1JA .

Visit 27th February 2023.

Introduction

The applicant has a semi-detached house located in Neath. The application involves the entrance hall, two reception rooms, utility room and garden. The applicant has one dog.

All paragraph numbers refer to the Model Licence Conditions for Home Boarding (dogs), Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963.

1. General

1.1 -1.6 There was no public liability insurance in place for home boarding. The applicant was made aware that entire males and bitches in season or bitches due to be in season during the boarding, must not be boarded together or boarded with resident dogs and that puppies under 6 months of age must not be boarded together with other dogs including resident dogs.

2. Licence Display

1.2 The applicant was made aware of this requirement.

3. Numbers of Animals

3.1 The maximum number of dogs to be kept at any one time is 2 dogs.

3.2 The applicant was made aware of these requirements. There is adequate space for dogs to be fed and housed separately when unsupervised.

3.3 There are no cats on the premises. There is one dog present.

3.4 There is one child living in the house. He has separate areas to play in both indoors and outdoors. He has been brought up with dogs. A risk assessment needs to be completed.

4. Construction

4.1 The applicant was made aware of this requirement.

4.2 There is no shared entrance or shared ground.

4.3 There is adequate space, light, heat and ventilation.

4.4 There were a few trailing wires that need to be made safe. The fires should not be used when dogs are being boarded

4.5 There is space to separate dogs.

4.6 The applicant was made aware of the provisions of this section. She does not intend to transport dogs.

5. Management

5.1 Training

5.1.1 No staff will be employed.

5.2 Cleanliness

5.2.2 -5.2.5 The inspected areas were clean and tidy. The applicant will need to arrange for an appropriate commercial waste contractor to be engaged.

5.3 Food and Water Supplies

5.3.1-5.3.4 The applicant was made aware of the requirements of this section. The owner is aware of the risks of raw feeding to children and will not be accepting raw fed dogs for boarding.

5.4 Kitchen Facilities

The applicant was aware of this section.

5.5 Disease Control and Vaccination

5.5.1 &5.5.2 The applicant was made aware of the vaccination requirements, regular worming and flea treatment and record keeping.

5.5.3 – 5.5.5 The applicant is registered with a veterinary surgeon. A first aid kit is required.

5.5.6 The applicant was aware of the importance of regular parasite prevention. This is especially important with children in the household. Boarded dogs should be wormed monthly with a product effective against roundworms.

5.5.7 It was advised that the applicant use a veterinary recommended product to treat the premises.

5.5.8 An appropriate disinfectant is required, some examples were given and further advice can be obtained from her veterinary surgeon.

5.6 Isolation and Contagious Disease Outbreak

5.6.1-5.6.4 The applicant was made aware of the provisions of this section and the utility room could be used as an isolation area with a crate. The applicant must inform the council on the next working day if a dog develops an infectious disease and the premises may need to undergo a quarantine period.

5.7 Register

5.7.1 A registration document was available and needs to be emailed to the council.

5.7.2– 5.7.5 The applicant was made aware of the provisions of these sections.

5.8 Supervision

5.8.1-5.8.2 The applicant is able to comply with all the provisions of these sections.

5.8.3 The applicant has a seven year old boy. Under the provisions of this section, she should not be licensed. It would be advisable however to consider if there could be additional risk assessments and a trial with each dog and her child to assess the risks posed by individual dogs to her child and by her child to individual dogs. Procedures could be put in place to regulate the interactions between the dogs and her son. A full risk assessment and details of any procedures that will be put in place needs to be provided to the council. Familiarisation trials would need to be documented. The layout of the home allows separation of her son from the boarded dogs both inside and outside.

5.8.4 The applicant is aware that only persons over 16 years of age are allowed to walk the dogs in public.

5.9 Exercise

5.9.1 The applicant is aware that she must record owners' wishes regarding exercise.

5.9.2-5.9.4 There is access to the back garden. This is very large and some of the fencing is not secure or high enough. The applicant plans to fence off part of the garden for boarding dogs. The fencing will need to be high enough to prevent escape and the few small gaps under the existing fence will need to be filled. A gate that can be locked will need to separate this area from the rest of the garden.

5.9.5 The applicant was aware of the necessity for identity tags or collars.

5.9.6 The applicant was made aware that the council must be informed on the next working day if a dog goes missing from the licensed premises.

5.10 Fire/Emergency Precautions

5.10.1 – 5.10.3 The applicant was aware of the provisions of these sections.

5.10.4 An emergency evacuation plan and a fire warning procedure is required. This needs to be displayed.

5.10.5 There were smoke alarms on the premises. The applicant is aware that there needs to be at least two working smoke detectors located at the top and the bottom of the staircase.

5.10.6 The applicant was made aware of this requirement.

5.10.7 There were a few trailing wires that need to be made safe.

5.10.8 There were no freestanding heating appliances.

5.10.9 The applicant will need to put arrangements in place in case of emergencies. The Licensing Authority will need to record these arrangements.

Conclusion

The following points need to be addressed;

1. Public Liability insurance needs to be put in place.
2. Arrangements need to be put in place for storage and disposal of trade waste.
3. The garden needs to be made secure.
4. A first aid kit is required.
5. Any trailing wires need to be tidied and made inaccessible to the boarded dogs.
6. A risk assessment needs to be carried out and provided to the council.
7. Procedures to reduce risks to children on the premises needs to be provided to the council.
8. A registration document needs to be provided to the council.
9. The details of the emergency contact need to be given to the Local Authority.

If the points raised above are satisfactorily addressed, I can see no reason why a Home Boarding Licence should not be granted.

Signed:



Catherine I Costello MVB MRCVS

27/02/2023