

Keeping and Breeding of Cats and Dogs

Purpose

This checklist is designed as a guidance tool to ensure breeders and keepers of cats and dogs are compliant with legislative requirements. These requirements are based on the Animal Management (Dogs and Cats) Act 2008 and Council's local laws.

Animal enclosure and handling

✓

Objective	Standards
Housing provides for the good health and well-being of cats and dogs	Minimum dimensions are met
	Keep and maintain sanitary conditions
	Materials and construction are appropriate
	Meets the requirements for the animals' health and well-being
	Isolation facilities are available
Noise management prevents nuisance to neighbours and the community	Manage animal to prevent noise
	Structural provisions in place limit nuisance
Security methods prevent accidental or unauthorised access to animals, facilities or dangerous materials	Animals are kept reasonably secured to prevent access by unauthorised people
	All potential poisons and harmful substances, whether in storage or in use, must be kept out of reach of animals

Sourcing of animals

✓

Objective	Standards
Breeding animals are sourced responsibly to ensure the welfare of animals and prevent poor breeding practices	Sources have a local government breeders permit and/or are recognised breed societies
	Animals supplied are healthy, bright and alert, and social and are provided with a health guarantee
	Documentation of health care, medical history and genetic problems is maintained

Food and water

✓

Objective	Standards
Animals receive appropriate and sufficient food and water to maintain good health and growth, recognising the special needs of differing ages, species, and states, such as pregnancy or lactation	Diets are nutritionally balanced and appropriate to the particular needs of each animal
	Fresh water is available at all times
	Food must be stored to prevent its deterioration, contamination and vermin proof

Hygiene		✓
Objective	Standards	
Pest prevention and control measures should be implemented on specialist advice and manufacturer's instructions to protect the health and safety of animals' carers and animals	Routine and preventative treatment plan in place	
	Waste waters are drained in a nuisance free manner and the run-off is kept off adjoining land	
	Animal faeces are collected and disposed of in accordance with the standards	

Socialisation, exercise, enrichment and training		✓
Objective	Standards	
Cats and dogs and their offspring are well socialised and provided with positive physical and mental stimulation to be friendly, confident and well-adjusted to home life	New owners are informed and encouraged to continue the training and socialisation process	
	Animals are provided with physical and mental enrichment through exposure to a variety of safe, non-threatening objects and activities	

Health care		✓
Objective	Standards	
Animals are cared for to maximise their health and well-being and minimise health risks to other animals in the breeding facility and the community	Established liaison with a veterinary practitioner	
	Routine preventative treatment plan is in place	
	Health and welfare of animals is monitored regularly to detect signs of disease, injury and distress with treatment provided where necessary	
	Euthanasia of cats and dogs is only used for the relief of incurable illness, chronic pain and suffering and only performed by a veterinarian	
	Scheduled vaccinations are performed by a veterinarian	

Breeding and rearing of young animals		✓
Objective	Standards	
Quality of the life of the animal is paramount.; prioritising animal welfare, maintaining genetic integrity and diversity of the species, and preventing surplus animals	Maximum number of breeding animals kept on the land at any one time meets permit conditions	
	Maximum number of breeding animals kept on	

Breeding and rearing of young animals		✓
Objective	Standards	
	the land at any one time meets permit conditions	
Breeders ensure the welfare of their breeding sires and dams and the availability of responsible homes for litters	Appropriate methods are in place to avoid unwanted pregnancies	
Ensure the appropriate care of breeding animals	Regularly monitor health and welfare of each animal	
	Provision of a clean, adequately sized and isolated birth area	
A person must not give, or take, possession of a declared dangerous dog or restricted dog for the purpose of allowing it to breed with another dog		
The owner of, or a responsible person for, a declared dangerous dog or restricted dog must not allow or encourage the dog to breed with another dog		
Effectively manage kitten and puppy weaning	Animals offered for sale must be weaned and fully self-sufficient by the point of sale or transfer	
	Large dogs should not be weaned before 7 weeks and small dogs and kittens before 8 weeks	
Kitten and puppy are cared for to maximise their health and well-being and minimise health risks to other animals in the breeding facility and the community	Routine preventative treatment plan, in addition to the health and welfare monitoring of animals is in place	
	Complete and maintained written medical records for each animal	

Transfer of ownership		✓
Objective	Standards	
The transfer of ownership of animals should be used to promote socially responsible pet ownership	Appropriately identify animals as per legislative requirements and notify new owners of their obligations (i.e. microchipping). Microchipping cannot occur prior to 12 weeks of age	
	Sales are only made according to the standards set out in the Code	
	Advertisements for sale of a litter includes the Breeders Permit number allocated by local government	

Transfer of ownership		✓
Objective	Standards	
Desexing cats and dogs – including puppies and kittens – prior to sale or transfer contributes to reducing unwanted cat and dog populations	Puppies/kittens should be desexed prior to being sold or transferred to a person/s who do not hold a current Breeder Permit	
The future welfare of the animals is the primary obligation when selling or re-homing animals	Important information about the individual animal, such as health care, management and training, are provided to new owners pre and post adoption	
Transporting animals to new owners should be conducted with minimal distress to the animal	Transportation of animals is undertaken according to the requirements of the individual animal and the current IATA Live Animal Regulations	

Record keeping		✓
Objective	Standards	
The transfer of ownership of animals should be used to promote socially responsible pet ownership	Keep and maintain a detailed written register which records specific details of the breeding activities pertaining to the permit conditions	

Owner/breeder acknowledgement
I have reviewed and completed the above self-assessment checklist. I acknowledge I understand the responsibilities imposed upon me in accordance with the <i>Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008, Animal Care and Protection Act 2011</i> and Local Laws.
Date:
Signature: