

---

|                                |  |   |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>REPORT TO:</b>              | Environmental and Development Service Committee  | <b>AGENDA ITEM: 7</b>                           |
| <b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>        | 6th March 2014   | <b>CATEGORY:<br/>DELEGATED/<br/>RECOMMENDED</b> |
| <b>REPORT FROM:</b>            | Chief Executive  | <b>OPEN/EXEMPT<br/>PARAGRAPH NO:</b>            |
| <b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b> | Emma McHugh<br>01283 595 716<br><a href="mailto:emma.mchugh@south-derbys.gov.uk">emma.mchugh@south-derbys.gov.uk</a> | <b>DOC:</b>                                     |
| <b>SUBJECT:</b>                | Adoption of conditions under the Animal Boarding Establishments 1963   | <b>REF:</b>                                     |
| <b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>       | All  | <b>TERMS OF REFERENCE:</b>                      |

---

## 1. Recommendations

That Members:

- 1.1 Approve the conditions contained in Annexes 1 to 4 of this report relating to animal boarding to come into effect upon adoption by Council.

## 2. Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To provide Members with the outcome of a consultation with interested parties.
- 2.2 To provide Members with the necessary information to be able to give full consideration to the recommendation contained in paragraph 1.1 of this report.

## 3. Detail

- 3.1 The boarding of cats and dogs is a regulated activity by virtue of the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 (the 'Act'). The Council is responsible for issuing licences to the proprietors of businesses falling within the definition of an animal boarding establishment, and ensuring compliance with the Act.
- 3.2 The Act permits the Council to adopt conditions it deems necessary, or expedient in the particular case, as specified in section (3)(a) to (e) of the Act, namely:
  - (a) that animals will at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects construction, size of quarters, number of occupants, exercising facilities, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness;
  - (b) that animals will be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and bedding material, adequately exercised, and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals;

- (c) that all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent and control the spread among animals of infectious or contagious diseases, including the provision of adequate isolation facilities;
- (d) that appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the animals in case of fire or other emergency;
- (e) that a register be kept containing a description of any animals received into the establishment, date of arrival and departure, and the name and address of the owner, such register to be available for inspection at all times by an officer of the local authority, veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner authorised under section 2(1) of this Act.

3.3 The Council currently licences a total of 32 establishments for the boarding of dogs and cats in kennels and catteries, and home boarding. All kennel and cattery licences are controlled by conditions based on the 1995 Chartered Institute of Environmental Health's (CIEH) set of model conditions for kennel boarding and catteries.

3.4 All home boarding applications have been considered against the 2005 (updated 2009) Local Authority Coordinators of Regulated Services (LACORS) set of model conditions for the home boarding of dogs, and cats at the time of determining.

### **Proposed Conditions**

3.5 The amendments to the existing boarding conditions introduce a requirement for there to be a written procedure for dealing with disease outbreak that all staff are trained on, and the introduction of a complaint notification requirement. The other amendments align the Council's existing conditions with the 1995 model conditions where errors have been detected, or provide clarity where the original condition was slightly ambiguous.

3.6 In relation to the home boarding conditions, it is necessary to adopt the model conditions (as amended) in Annex 3 and 4. This is in order to provide robust, and consistent enforcement as the market grows, and to reassure members of the public that action can be taken if their pet's welfare is put at risk.

### **Consultation**

3.7 Officers conducted a consultation exercise on these proposals. The response, which can be found in Annex 5 were considered by Officers, and the conditions in Annex 1 to 4 were amended.

## **4. Financial Implications**

4.1 There are no financial implications to the Council.

4.2 Recommendation 1.1 will have no financial implications on existing licence holders.

## **6. Corporate Implications**

6.1 These proposals will provide a clear framework for anyone wishing to start their own business which will contribute directly to the corporate vision to make South Derbyshire a better place to live, work, and visit, and to the theme of sustainable growth and opportunity.

6.2 These proposals will also demonstrate to members of the public that South Derbyshire District Council takes the safety and welfare of animals seriously, which contributes to the theme of safety and security.