



Breeding of Dogs Act 1973

1973 CHAPTER 60

1 Licensing of breeding establishments for dogs

- (1) No person shall keep a breeding establishment for dogs except under the authority of a licence granted in accordance with the provisions of this Act.
- (2) Every local authority may, on application being made to them for that purpose by a person who is not for the time being disqualified—
 - (a) under this Act, from keeping a breeding establishment for dogs; or
 - (b) under the Pet Animals Act 1951, from keeping a pet shop; or
 - (c) under the Protection of Animals (Cruelty to Dogs) Act 1933, from keeping a dog; or
 - (d) under the Protection of Animals (Cruelty to Dogs) (Scotland) Act 1934, from keeping a dog; or
 - (e) under the Protection of Animals (Amendment) Act 1954, from having the custody of animals; or
 - (f) under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963, from the boarding of animals,and on payment of a fee of two pounds or such sum as the Secretary of State may by order determine, grant a licence to that person to keep a breeding establishment for dogs at such premises in their area as may be specified in the application and subject to compliance with such conditions as may be specified in the licence.
- (3) Any order made under this section shall be made by statutory instrument which shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament and may be varied or revoked by a subsequent order made in like manner.
- (4) In determining whether to grant a licence for the keeping of a breeding establishment for dogs by any person at any premises, a local authority shall in particular (but without prejudice to their discretion to withhold a licence on other grounds) have regard to the need for securing—
 - (a) that the dogs 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;

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (b) that the dogs 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 dogs of infectious or contagious diseases;
- (d) that appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the dogs in case of fire or other emergency;
- (e) that all appropriate steps will be taken to secure that the dogs will be provided with suitable food, drink and bedding material and adequately exercised when being transported to or from the breeding establishment;

and shall specify such conditions in the licence, if granted by them, as appear to the local authority necessary or expedient in the particular case for securing all the objects specified in paragraphs (a) to (e) of this subsection.

- (5) Any person aggrieved by the refusal of a local authority to grant such a licence, or by any condition subject to which such a licence is proposed to be granted, may appeal to a magistrates' court; and the court may on such an appeal give such directions with respect to the issue of a licence or, as the case may be, with respect to the conditions subject to which a licence is to be granted as it thinks proper.
- (6) Any such licence shall (according to the applicant's requirements) relate to the year in which it is granted or to the next following year. In the former case, the licence shall come into force at the beginning of the day on which it is granted, and in the latter case it shall come into force at the beginning of the next following year.
- (7) Subject to the provisions hereinafter contained with respect to cancellation, any such licence shall remain in force until the end of the year to which it relates and shall then expire.
- (8) In the event of the death of a person who is keeping a breeding establishment for dogs at any premises under the authority of a licence granted under this Act, that licence shall be deemed to have been granted to his personal representatives in respect of those premises and shall, notwithstanding subsection (7) of this section (but subject to the provisions hereinafter contained with respect to cancellation), remain in force until the end of the period of three months beginning with the death and shall then expire:

Provided that the local authority by whom the licence was granted may from time to time, on the application of those representatives, extend or further extend the said period of three months if the authority are satisfied that the extension is necessary for the purpose of winding up the deceased's estate and that no other circumstances make it undesirable.
- (9) Any person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of an offence; and if any condition subject to which a licence is granted in accordance with the provisions of this Act is contravened or not complied with, the person to whom the licence was granted shall be guilty of an offence.
- (10) In the application of this section to Scotland, in subsection (5) for any reference to a magistrates' court there shall be substituted a reference to the sheriff.