

DOG BREEDING.

COMMON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

1. I have only had 1 litter of pups accidentally. Do I need a licence?

In 2016, the Government set a trading allowance of £1000. Providing the litter of pups as a WHOLE do not exceed this trading allowance and there are no intentions to breed further, then you may not need a dog breeders licence.

2. I only breed my dog for keeping the line as I show my dogs at events. Do I need a licence?

Is this a repetitive activity? Do you intend to breed in the future, even if it only once a year and you meet the above financial criteria? Then yes you are likely to need a licence. The reason behind breeding your dog unfortunately is not something the legislation takes into consideration – so this also includes breeding for sentimental reasons.

3. Can I advertise my pups for sale online?

Yes, providing you have a dog breeders licence, or you fall out of scope for needing a licence AND there is a detailed description of the dogs for sale and there are photographs of the bitch present. You must include details of the Local Authority and your licence number.

4. What does a licence inspection consist of?

You will be sent an application form and once this is returned, the Officer will make an appointment with you and the Council appointed Vet to visit you in your home to view your breeding set up and relevant paperwork. Once this is carried out, the Officer will carry out a risk rating and generate a star rating for your licensable activity. If you fall below the criteria needing to be met, the Council offer full support to get you to where you need to be.

5. What happens when a dog breeder breaches their licence?

The Council carry out an investigation into which breaches have occurred. Depending on the severity, the licence can be reviewed, which can result in the licence being refused or revoked. Where there are minor failings, education and advice can be issued to work towards a higher rating and better understanding of what is expected.

6. Can I breed from a dog when she has had a caesarean section?

Yes – but there are rules in place to protect the welfare of the dog. If you aim for a higher star rating, you need to retire her from breeding after she has had 1 c-section, even if it means she has only had 1 litter. The minimum standard is 2 c-sections, but we always recommend 1 for that higher animal welfare standard.

7. The paperwork seems daunting, is there anything to help me better understand what I need?

Yes! Have a look on Google at 'dog breeders paperwork packs'. The pack documents the records needed to be kept by you as a licenced breeder. Any other queries, just email Carlisle City Council and we will be happy to help.

8. How much does it cost to have a licence?

To apply as a new applicant, the fee is split into two parts. Part A is the application fee and is £183.00. Part B is a fee which covers the cost of the licence and is £53.50 which is payable once your licence has been approved. There will be a separate invoice from the vets for their time during the initial inspection.

For a renewal of a licence, Part A fee is £163.00 and Part B is £53.50. These prices may vary in the new financial year.

9. Does the Vet always attend at every inspection?

No, the vet attends for all new applicants and for any other inspection where there may be welfare queries or veterinary aspects needing addressed.

10. How do I contact you?

Email us at: environmentalhealth@carlisle.gov.uk

Ring us on: 01228 817200