



Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Thursday, 08 September 2022	Matter for Information and Decision
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Report Title: **Animal Licensing Policy (September 2022)**

Report Author(s): **Jon Wells (Senior Strategic Development Manager)**

Purpose of Report:	To consider any relevant updates with regard to Animal Licensing Policy 2022 ("the Policy") and to ensure any relevant changes updates are included.
Report Summary:	The current Policy needs to be reviewed and updated where necessary. In 2022, it is essential that this is refreshed and updated to ensure the effective ongoing regulation of Animal Licensing Policy. An updated draft version is attached at Appendix 1.
Recommendation(s):	A. That the Animal Licensing Policy 2022 be adopted ; and B. That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Law and Democracy to consider any other amendments as may be necessary in consultation with the Chair of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee.
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	David Gill (Head of Law and Democracy / Monitoring Officer) (0116) 257 2626 david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk Jon Wells (Senior Strategic Development Manager) (0116) 257 2692 jon.wells@oadby-wigston.gov.uk
Corporate Objectives:	Providing Excellent Services (CO3)
Vision and Values:	Accountability (V1) Customer Focus (V5)
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	Whilst there is no statutory requirement for a local authority to adopt an Animal Licensing Policy, it gives clarity to the public, partner agencies and applicants, provides a framework for Officers and Members to enable consistent decision making and transparency, and reduce the opportunity for challenge through the courts by judicial review. The authority must have regard to the the regulations and statutory guidance issued by DEFRA which sets out the activities which must be licensed, who may apply for a licence and how the Council must determine applications for a licence. The regulations also set out the conditions which must be applied to any licence granted.
Financial:	There are no implications directly arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Regulatory Governance (CR6) Reputation Damage (CR4)

Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications arising from this report.
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	None.
Background Papers:	'Animal Activities Licensing: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities' – Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, Last Updated 1 June 2022
Appendices:	1. Draft Animal Licensing Policy (September 2022)

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council are responsible for licencing a number of establishments to protect animals and their welfare. Powers are contained in various Acts and Regulations which are detailed in the section 3 of the draft Policy.

2. Policy Review

- 2.1 The current policy has been reviewed and updated and a draft is provided at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.2 There have been amendments to regulations which are reflected in the Policy, along with guidance from DEFRA regarding keeping and buying of animals.
- 2.3 The main changes are therefore in section 3 and section 7 of the draft policy.