



## **PET ANIMALS ACT 1951**

### **COMBINED FORM OF NOTIFICATION OF PRINCIPAL LICENSING PROVISIONS OF THE ACT AND OF APPLICATION FOR LICENCE TO KEEP A PET SHOP**

From the 1st April 1952, when the Pet Animals Act 1951, came into operation, it will be an offence to keep a pet shop except under the authority of a licence granted for the purpose.

The Act defines the "keeping of a pet shop" as the carrying on at premises of any nature (including a private dwelling) of a business of selling animals as pets and as including the keeping of animals in such premises with a view to their being sold in the course of such a business, whether by the keeper thereof or by any other person. "Animals" includes any description of vertebrate and "premises" includes any stall or barrow in a market but not any stall elsewhere or any part of a street or public place.

A person who keeps or sells pedigree animals bred by him is not to be deemed to keep a pet shop by reason only of such keeping or selling. A pedigree animal is an animal of any description which is by breeding eligible for registration with a recognised club or society keeping a register of animals of that description.

The Council are the responsible licensing authority for this area and among the factors which they are obliged to take into account in deciding whether to grant a licence in any particular case are:-

- (a) the suitability of the accommodation as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness;
- (b) arrangements for suitable food and drink and regular visits to the animals;
- (c) that animals (mammal) will not be sold at too early an age;
- (d) that reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent the spread of infection among the animals; and
- (e) that there are adequate precautions against fire and other emergencies.

The Council will specify in the licence, if granted, such conditions as appear to them necessary or expedient for securing all or any of these objects. Any of the Council's Officers, or any veterinary surgeon or any veterinary practitioner who is for the time being duly registered may, if authorised to do so by the Council in writing, enter and inspect at all reasonable times any licensed premises and any animals found thereon, for the purpose of ascertaining whether an offence has been/is being committed under the Act.

A licence will relate to the year in which it is granted or the next following year, according to the applicant's requirements coming into operation in the former case on the date on which it is granted and in the latter case on 1st January next; and in each case remaining in force until the end of the year to which it relates, unless previously cancelled.

The penalties for offences under the Act include fines not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale or imprisonment for not more than three months, or both. A further penalty is the cancellation of the licence, which may follow conviction for any offences under the Act or under the Protection of Animals Act 1911.

Application for a licence should be made on the form appended below, which should be forwarded to the Council together with the licensing fee of £



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**APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A LICENCE AUTHORISING THE  
KEEPING OF A PET SHOP AT PREMISES IN THE AREA OF THE  
COUNCIL**

To: Environmental Health Officer  
Sevenoaks District Council  
PO BOX 182  
Argyle Road  
Sevenoaks  
Kent TN13 1GP

\*I/We .....

carrying on business under the name of .....  
and not for the time being a person (persons) disqualified from keeping a pet shop,  
HEREBY APPLY for a licence under the above mentioned Act authorising \*me/us to  
keep a pet shop on premises (proposed to be) occupied by \*me/us at

.....

..... Tel No: .....

\*I/We require the licence to operate as from the .....day of .....20

A remittance of £ ..... is enclosed for the licensing fee.

Signature(s) of Applicant(s) .....

Date .....

\* delete inapplicabe words Address (if other than above) .....

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