

# Regulatory Committee

1.30pm, Monday, 22 October 2018

## Animal Boarding Establishment Licensing: Update and Proposed Licensing Conditions

<b>Item number</b>	7.9
<b>Report number</b>	
<b>Executive/routine</b>	
<b>Wards</b>	All
<b>Council Commitments</b>	N/A

### Executive Summary

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On 26 June 2018 the Regulatory Committee approved in principle proposals to introduce revised sets of licence conditions and a proposed revised pricing structure for licences issued under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963.

This report provides an update after statutory consultation was carried out.

## Animal Boarding Establishment Licensing: Update and Proposed Licensing Conditions

### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 The Regulatory Committee is asked to:
  - 1.1.1 Note the contents of this report; and
  - 1.1.2 Agree proposed conditions of licence and revised fee structure for Animal Boarding Establishments as set out in Appendices 1 to 4, these to be effective from 1 November 2018.

### 2. Background

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- 2.1 Traditionally, licences granted under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 are for commercial dog kennels and catteries, where the animals are kept in pens or cages and are let out on a daily basis to be exercised in the establishment's exercise facilities.
- 2.2 Home boarding of dogs is becoming increasingly widespread where homeowners create a small-scale business in their homes, looking after other people's dogs in a home environment whilst the dog owner goes on holiday or is at work. This often additionally includes overnight boarding.
- 2.3 Businesses or individuals offering day boarding for dogs, either in their home or on private land, is more popularly known as 'dog day care', 'dog crèche' or similar variations. These premises generally board dogs during the day but not normally overnight.
- 2.4 The Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 is antiquated and in need of update. The Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006 contains a provision to repeal the legislation, but this provision has never been brought into force and there is no information on when it may be implemented.
- 2.5 There is currently one fee for an Animal Boarding Licence, which is applied regardless of the number of animals being boarded. This reflected a more traditional model of animal boarding.

### 3. Main report

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- 3.1 The Council has previously approved draft standard licensing conditions for Animal Boarding Establishments. These have not been reviewed since at least 1996.
- 3.2 Following the in principle decision of the Regulatory Committee to amend licensing conditions and the pricing framework for Animal Boarding Establishment licensing, the Committee instructed the Executive Director of Place to consult on the proposed revised conditions and to report back to the Regulatory Committee.
- 3.3 As discussed at the previous meeting of the Committee, a guidance note will be attached to conditions explaining the possibility of a need to obtain planning permission, in order to ensure that any potential issues regarding noise and amenity (which would ordinarily be the remit of the planning system) are brought to applicants' attention. The guidance will state "Please be aware that if you operate and Animal Boarding Establishment from your home the Council's Guidance for Businesses provides advice on when planning permission is needed and information on the matters to consider if an application is required".
- 3.4 The proposed revised conditions and pricing structure are attached at Appendices 1 - 4 and, if agreed, will thereafter be applicable in respect of any Animal Boarding Establishment Licence granted or renewed from 1 November 2018.
- 3.5 As directed by the committee, a consultation on the proposed changes was published on the council's Consultation Hub between 6 August and 16 September 2018.
- 3.6 There were 41 responses in total. 32% of respondents were from residents, 32% were from Home Boarding businesses and 20% were from other businesses (such as dog walkers and trainers).
- 3.7 78% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the proposed Home Boarding conditions. 9% disagreed or strongly disagreed.
- 3.8 89% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the proposed conditions with respect to Kennels and/or Dog Day Care in Non-Residential Property. 5% disagreed or strongly disagreed.
- 3.9 63% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the proposed fee structure for Animal Boarding Establishment Licences. 29% disagreed or strongly disagreed.
- 3.10 Respondents were asked for further comments and these are attached at Appendix 6. Having reviewed the comments, the Directorate does not believe

any amendments are needed and does not recommend any change to the draft conditions.

3.10.1 If an individual applicant considers a particular requirement to be too onerous then they are at liberty to seek a variation in the form of exemption from a condition – this would deal with the majority of issues raised.

3.10.2 A number of comments seek to extend conditions to control associated areas such as dog walking. Whilst no doubt motivated by genuine concerns, extending conditions to cover an activity outwith the ambit of the Act would be outwith the Council's legal powers – members are reminded that the committee previously adopted a position in support of licensing dog walkers, but Scottish Government indicated that it was not minded to do so.

3.11 The Regulatory Committee is asked to approve the proposed revised conditions and pricing structure (Appendices 1 – 4). It is proposed that these conditions would take effect from 1 November 2018.

#### **4. Measures of success**

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- 4.1 That the city's licensing function is modernised to ensure that it meets the needs of customers
- 4.2 That any Licensing policy adopted balances appropriate protection of citizens with the need to ensure a minimum burden on economic development.
- 4.3 The revised Animal Boarding Establishment licensing conditions and pricing structure are suitable for the needs of the city and address concerns raised with the Council.

#### **5. Financial impact**

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- 5.1 The Council's current scale of fees for licensing applications was approved with effect from 1 April 2018. Any costs implementing policy changes will be contained within the current ring-fenced income generated from licence application fees.
- 5.2 If agreed, revised fees will take effect from 1 November 2018.

#### **6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 The development of policy in respect of licensing of Animal Boarding Establishments is part of a wider place-making role for the Council. It is essential

that all the strategic aims of the Council are considered and that the revised conditions are consistent with these.

- 6.2 There is a recognised process for amending the policy and this approach is in line with the statutory requirements.

## **7. Equalities impact**

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- 7.1 No protected groups are affected.

## **8. Sustainability impact**

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- 8.1 None.

## **9. Consultation and engagement**

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- 9.1 All licence holders were written to and advised of the consultation, which commenced on 6 August and finished on 16 September 2018.

## **10. Background reading/external references**

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- 10.1 [Regulatory Committee report - Animal Boarding Establishments - 26 June 2018](#)

## **11. Appendices**

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- 11.1 Appendix 1 – Current conditions: Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 - STANDARD CONDITIONS
- 11.2 Appendix 2: ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963 – HOME BOARDING proposed conditions
- 11.3 Appendix 3 - Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 – Dog Day Care Centre Licence proposed conditions
- 11.4 Appendix 4 –table of proposed application fees for Animal Boarding Establishment Licences
- 11.5 Appendix 5 – summary responses to consultation questions
- 11.6 Appendix 6 – responses to question 13

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Executive Director of Place

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## Appendix 1

# Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

## Current Conditions in effect

### STANDARD CONDITIONS

1. 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;
2. That animals will be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and bedding material, adequately exercised, and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals;
3. 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;
4. That appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the animals in case of fire or other emergency;
5. That a register be kept containing a description if 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 Council, Veterinary Surgeon or Veterinary Practitioner authorised under Section 2(1) of the said Act.
6. It is recommended that all boarding establishments be kept free of the parasite *toxocara* and therefore all dogs and cats entering such establishments should be treated with an anti*toxocara* drug at, or immediately before, the time of admission.

## Appendix 2

# Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

## Home Boarding Licence Conditions to take effect from 1 November 2018

### 1. GENERAL LICENSING CONDITIONS

1.1 Unless otherwise stated, these conditions shall apply to all buildings and areas to which dogs have access and/or which are used in association with the boarding of dogs.

1.2 The Licence holder must ensure that the establishment is covered by adequate and suitable public liability insurance and, where necessary, adequate and suitable employers liability insurance. In addition to this it is recommended that care, custody and control insurance is in place.

1.3 No dog registered under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 must be accepted for home boarding.

1.4 Dog hybrids registered under the Dangerous Wild Animal Act 1976 (e.g. Wolf Hybrids) and dogs subject to Dog Control Notices served under the Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010 are not to be accepted for home boarding.

1.5 Entire males and bitches in season or bitches due to be in season during the boarding must not be boarded together or boarded with resident dogs.

1.6 Dogs under 6 months shall only be boarded if they are suitably vaccinated and difficulties had not been identified during a trial socialisation period. There is an exception for puppies where they are being boarded with mother or siblings provided no other dogs are boarded on the premises at any time.

1.7 A copy of the Licence and its associated conditions and a Certificate of Insurance shall be made available to each client.

1.8 The maximum number of day boarders to be kept at any one time is noted on your licence. The maximum number of night time boarders to be kept at any one time is marked on your licence.

1.9 Dogs must not be boarded with any cat, unless they normally live together in the same household or there is prior agreement with the client and difficulties had not been identified during a trial socialisation period.

1.10 Only dogs from the same household may be boarded at the same time unless the following precautions are taken:

- Specific written consent of each household is given, showing confirmation that they are content for their dogs to be boarded with others.
- A mandatory, trial (documented) familiarisation session for all dogs prior to stay.
- Separation of dogs from different households in secure areas when left unattended.
- Separate feeding of dogs (unless from the same family and normally fed together) to minimise the likelihood of dispute and aggression.

1.11 The Licence holder will be required to make an assessment of the risks of home boarding to include the risk to or caused by children who are likely to be at the property.

1.12 The means of transportation, dogs, premises and anything therein and the Register may be inspected at all reasonable times by a local authority officer or veterinary surgeon authorised by the local authority under Section 2 (1) of the Act.

1.13 Dogs must wear a collar and tag during the stay of boarding. The tag must be made of a durable and hardwearing material and shall display the contact telephone number of the boarding establishment.

1.14 The establishment must be operated in such a manner that it does not cause a statutory nuisance to occupiers of neighbouring properties.

## **2. CONSTRUCTION**

2.1 Dogs must live in the home as family pets. There must be no external construction of buildings, cages or runs for boarded animals.

2.2 There must be adequate space, light, heat and ventilation for the dogs.

2.3 As far as reasonably practicable, all areas/rooms within the home to which boarded dogs have access, must have no physical or chemical hazards that may cause injury to the dogs.

2.4 There must be sufficient space available to keep the dogs separately if required.

## **3. KITCHEN FACILITIES**

3.1 Airtight containers must be provided for the storage of dry foods. Uncooked food and the remains of opened tins must be stored in covered, non-metal, leak proof containers in the fridge.

3.2 All bulk supplies of food shall be kept in vermin proof containers.

## **4. CLEANLINESS**

4.1 All areas where the dogs have access to, including the kitchen etc. must be kept clean and free from accumulations of dirt and dust and must be kept in such a manner as to be conducive to maintenance of disease control and dog comfort.

4.2 All excreta and soiled material must be removed from all areas used by dogs at least daily and more often if necessary. Disposal facilities for animal waste must be agreed with the Licensing Authority.

4.3 All bedding areas must be kept clean and dry.

4.4 Facilities must be provided for the proper reception, storage and disposal of all waste. Particular care should be taken to segregate clinical waste arising from the first aid treatment and handling of dogs with infectious diseases. The final route for all such waste shall comply with current waste regulations.

4.5 Measures must be taken to minimise the risks from rodents, insects and other pests within the premises.

## **5. DISEASE CONTROL**

5.1 Adequate precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious and contagious disease and parasites amongst the dogs, staff and visitors.

5.2 Proof must be provided that boarded and resident dogs have current vaccinations against Canine Distemper, Infectious Canine Hepatitis (Canine adenovirus), Leptospirosis (*L. canicola* and *L. icterohaemorrhagiae*) and Canine Parvovirus and other relevant diseases. With the exception of where a bitch and her pups are boarded together, the course of vaccination must have been completed at least four weeks before the first date of boarding or in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A record that this proof has been supplied must be kept on-site throughout the period that the dog is boarded.

5.3 Advice from a veterinary surgeon must be sought in case of signs of disease, injury or illness. Where any dog is sick or injured, any instructions for its treatment, which have been given by a veterinary surgeon, must be strictly followed.

5.4 A well-stocked first-aid kit suitable for use on dogs must be available and accessible on site and in any vehicle used for transporting boarded dogs.

5.5 The Licensee must be registered with a veterinary practice that can provide help and advice. Where night time boarding is carried out registration should be with a 24-hour veterinary practice. The clients own veterinary practice must be known and consulted if necessary.

5.6 Precautions must be taken to prevent the spread of fleas, ticks, intestinal parasites and other parasites in both boarded and resident dogs. A record must be maintained of all routine and emergency treatment for parasites.

5.7 The premises shall be regularly treated for fleas and parasites with a veterinary recommended product.

5.8 Cleaning substances must be suitable for the purpose and the cleaning substance and its fumes must pose no risks to the dogs.

## **6. ISOLATION**

6.1 Dogs showing signs of any disease or illness shall be isolated from any other dogs until veterinary advice is obtained. There must be sufficient facilities within the licensed premises to ensure effective separation of any sick animal.

6.2 The Licensee must inform the Licensing Authority by the next working day on becoming aware that a dog has developed an infectious disease.

6.3 Following an episode of infectious disease during any stay, the premises must undergo suitable cleaning and a reasonable quarantine period before new boarders are admitted. This period will be specified by the Licensing Authority as agreed with their authorised veterinary surgeon. A record must be maintained of each episode of infectious disease, together with details of the implemented quarantine period.

6.4 The Licensing Authority must be informed by the next working day of any animal death on the premises. The Licence holder must make arrangements for the body to be stored under suitable conditions until the owner returns.

## **7. FOOD AND WATER SUPPLIES**

7.1 All dogs shall have an adequate supply of suitable food as directed by the client.

7.2 Fresh drinking water must be available at all times (unless advised otherwise by a veterinary surgeon) and drinking vessels cleaned at least once per day.

7.3 Clients must be encouraged to provide each dog with its own clean bedding, bowls, grooming materials etc. If supplied, these items must be cleaned regularly to prevent cross-infection. The Licence holder should be able to provide extra bedding material as required.

7.4 Where necessary, eating and drinking vessels must be provided, and where so, they must be capable of being easily cleansed and disinfected to prevent cross contamination. They must also be maintained in a clean condition. Feeding bowls must be cleaned or disposed of after each meal and each dog must be provided with its own bowl.

## **8. REGISTER**

8.1 A register must be kept of all dogs boarded. The information kept must include the following:

- Date and time of arrival;
- Name of dog, any identification system such as microchip number or tattoo;
- Description, breed, age and gender of dog;
- Name, address and telephone number of owner or keeper;
- Name, address and telephone number of contact person whilst boarded;
- Name, address and telephone number of dog's veterinary surgeon;
- Anticipated and actual date of departure;
- Proof of current vaccinations, medical history and requirements;
- Health, welfare, nutrition and exercise requirements;
- Date of last season for a bitch; and
- Written agreement in respect of emergency veterinary treatment.

8.2 The Register shall be available for inspection at all reasonable times by an officer of the local authority or an authorised veterinary surgeon.

8.3 The Register must be kept readily available for a minimum period of 2 years and kept in such a manner as to allow an authorised officer easy access to such information.

8.4 Details of any medication administered must be recorded, including type of medication, quantity and time administered.

8.5 Where records are computerised, a back-up copy must be kept. The Register must also be available to key members of staff of the establishment at all times.

## **9. SUPERVISION**

9.1 A fit and proper person with relevant experience must be present to exercise supervision and deal with emergencies whenever dogs are boarded at the premises.

9.2 Dogs must be visited at regular intervals, as necessary, for their health, safety and welfare, and must not be left unattended for longer than 3 hours at a time and then not on a routine basis.

9.3 No person under 16 years of age is permitted to walk boarded dogs in public places unless supervised by a fit and proper person.

9.4 No child under 16 shall be left unaccompanied with boarded dogs at any time.

9.5 If there is a resident dog within the household, the boarded dogs must be kept separated on the occasions when they are left unattended.

## **10. TRAINING**

10.1 A written training policy for staff must be provided. Systematic training of staff must be demonstrated to have been carried out.

## **11. FIRE/EMERGENCY PRECAUTIONS**

11.1 Appropriate steps must be taken for the protection of the dogs in case of fire or other emergencies.

11.2 The occupier of the property must be aware of the location of the dogs in the property at all times.

11.3 Fire detection and firefighting equipment must be provided in accordance with general advice given by the Fire Safety Officer.

11.4 All doors to rooms where dogs are boarded must be kept shut at night.

11.5 All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe condition. No

unsupervised dog must be left in a room with loose or trailing cables or wires.

11.6 All heating appliances must be free of risk of fire as is reasonably practicable. There must be no regular or routine use of freestanding gas or oil appliances.

11.7 Arrangements must be made whereby spare keys can be obtained to allow access to the premises in the event of an emergency or alternatively, an emergency contact number shall be displayed in an obvious location at the premises.

## **12. EXERCISE**

12.1 Dogs must be exercised in accordance with their owner's wishes. If dogs are taken off the premises, they must be kept on leads unless with the owners written permission. The Licensee must be satisfied that the dogs are under proper control at all times.

12.2 There must be access to a suitable outside area.

12.3 Any exercise/garden area of the premises to which the boarded dogs may have unrestricted access must be totally secure and safe. Fencing must be adequate to offer security to prevent escape and be safe, with no dangerous sharp objects or protrusions. Gates must be able to be locked.

12.4 The Licensing Authority must be informed by the next working day if a dog is lost.

## **13. TRANSPORTATION**

13.1 If a collection and delivery service is provided or transport is used to travel to an exercise area then a suitable vehicle must be used. An individual dog must be secured

within a dog cage or behind a dog guard whilst travelling within the vehicle. Where more than one dog is to be transported at any time the vehicle must be fitted with individual cages of adequate size for the safe transportation of the dogs. The journey time shall be kept to a minimum when transporting boarded dogs.

## Appendix 3

# Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

## Dog Day Care Centre Licence Conditions to take effect from 1 November 2018

- 1.1 Unless otherwise stated, these conditions shall apply to all buildings and areas to which dogs have access and/or which are used in association with the day care of dogs.
- 1.2 The Licence holder must ensure that the establishment is covered by adequate and suitable public liability insurance and, where necessary, adequate and suitable employer's liability insurance. Proof of such must be provided with any application.
- 1.3 If a collection and delivery service is provided, a suitable vehicle with a dog guard or cage in the rear must be provided.
- 1.4 A copy of the licence and its conditions must be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position in or about the day care establishment.
- 1.5 Entire males and bitches in season or bitches due to be in season during the boarding must not be boarded together or boarded with resident dogs.
- 1.6 Dogs under 6 months shall only be boarded if they are suitably vaccinated and difficulties had not been identified during a trial socialisation period. There is an exception for puppies where they are being boarded with mother or siblings provided no other dogs are boarded on the premises at any time.
- 1.7 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 .
- 1.8 Appropriate steps will be taken for the protection of the dogs in case of fire or other emergency.

- 1.9** All dogs must be adequately supplied with suitable food as agreed with the owner
- 1.10** Wholesome water must be available at all times and changed at least twice daily.
- 1.11** Eating and drinking vessels must be capable of being easily cleansed and disinfected to prevent cross-contamination. They must be maintained in a clean condition.
- 1.12** There must be direct access to a suitable outside area. The area / garden must only be for use by the business (not shared with other neighbouring properties) and must be kept clean.
- 1.13** The exercise/garden area of the premises and any other area to which the boarded dogs may have access, must be totally secure and safe. Fencing must be adequate to offer security to prevent escape and be safe, with no dangerous sharp objects or protrusions. Gates must be able to be locked.
- 1.14** The establishment must be operated in such a manner that it does not cause a statutory nuisance to occupiers of neighbouring properties.
- 1.15** The maximum number of dogs to be kept at any one time is XX
- 1.16** No animals other than dogs are to be boarded within the licensed facilities without the written approval of the City of Edinburgh Council
- 1.17** No dogs registered under The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 must be accepted for day care
- 1.18** Dog hybrids registered under the Dangerous Wild Animal Act 1976 (e.g. wolf hybrids) are not to be accepted for day care.
- 1.19** The number of dogs onsite at any time should take into account the size and breed of each dog to ensure a harmonious setting
- 1.20** Suitable bedding which is capable of being easily and adequately cleaned and sanitised must be provided which allows each dog to be comfortable during its

stay at the day care centre. All bedding material must be maintained in a clean, parasite free and dry condition.

- 1.21** Areas where dogs have access to must open onto secure corridors or other secure areas so that dogs are not able to escape from the premises.
- 1.22** On a daily basis a register must be kept of all dogs present in the day care centre. The information kept must include a description if any animals received into the establishment, date of arrival and departure, and the name and address of the owner,
- 1.23** The register must also include proof of current vaccinations, medical history and requirements, along with any health welfare and nutrition requirements.
- 1.24** The register must be available for inspection at all times by an Officer of the Council, Veterinary Surgeon or Veterinary Practitioner authorised under Section 2(1) of the said Act.
- 1.25** Where records are computerised, a back-up copy must be kept. The register must also be available to key members of staff of the establishment at all times.
- 1.26** Written consent from the owner to their dog having contact with other dogs must also be received in writing.
- 1.27** The licence holder must have a way of identifying each dog and a system in place which ensures that relevant information about the dog is readily available.
- 1.28** The Licensing Authority must be informed by the next working day if a dog is lost.
- 1.29** A written training policy must be provided. Systematic training of staff must be demonstrated to have been carried out.
- 1.30** Licence holders and key staff must be trained in dog first aid and a record of this training kept.

- 1.31** A fit and proper person must always be present to exercise supervision and deal with emergencies whenever dogs are boarded at the premises.
  
- 1.32** There must be a ratio of one member of staff to every six dogs at all times. Dogs will not be left unattended for their health, safety and welfare
  
- 1.33** Staff must have relevant experience and must not have any criminal convictions or accepted any simple cautions for any animal welfare related offences.

## Appendix 4 – Proposed Fee Structure (to take effect 1 November 2018)

Type of establishment	Fee per annum
Animal Boarding (Commercial kennels)	£323
Home Boarding or Dog Day Care, (1-10 animals)	£150
Home Boarding or Dog Day Care (more than 10 animals)	£323

Additionally, applicant will pay any veterinary fee incurred by the Council in inspecting the premises.

## Appendix 5



### Animal Boarding Establishments: Summary report

This report was created on Monday 17 September 2018 at 14:12.

The consultation ran from 06/08/2018 to 16/09/2018.

#### Contents

Question 1: What is your name?	1
Name	1
Question 2: What is your email address?	2
Email	2
Question 3: What is your ethnic group? (Choose ONE section from A to E, then tick ONE box which best describes your ethnic group or background)	2
Ethnicity (A - White)	2
Other white ethnic group, please write in	2
Ethnicity (Mixed or multiple ethnic group)	2
Any mixed or multiple ethnic groups, please write in	2
Ethnicity (Asian, Asian Scottish, Asian British)	3
Other, please write in	3
Ethnicity (D - African, Caribbean or Black)	3
Other, please write in	3
Ethnicity (E - Other)	4
Other, please write in	4
Question 4: What is your sexual orientation?	4
Sexuality	4
Question 5: What is your age?	5
How old are you?	5
Question 6: How would you describe your national identity? (Please tick all that apply)	6
National Identity	6
Other, please write in	6
Question 7: What is your gender?	6
Gender	6
Question 8: What religion, religious denomination or body do you belong to?	7
Religion	7
Another religion (please specify)	7
Question 9: Please choose which of the following applies to you.	8
Respondent organisation	8
Further details	8
Question 10: Click 'More information' for proposed conditions with respect to Home Boarding. Do you agree with the proposed conditions?	8
Agree with home boarding conditions?	8
Question 11: Click 'More information' for proposed conditions with respect to Kennels and/or Dog Day Care in Non-Residential Property. Do you agree with the proposed conditions?	9
Agree with Kennels/day care conditions?	9
Question 12: Click 'More Information' for a proposed fee structure for Animal Boarding Establishment Licences. Do you agree with the proposed structure?	9
Agree pricing structure?	9
Question 13: Would you like to make any comment about these proposals?	10
Please give us your comments.	10

#### Question 1: What is your name?

##### Name

There were 40 responses to this part of the question.

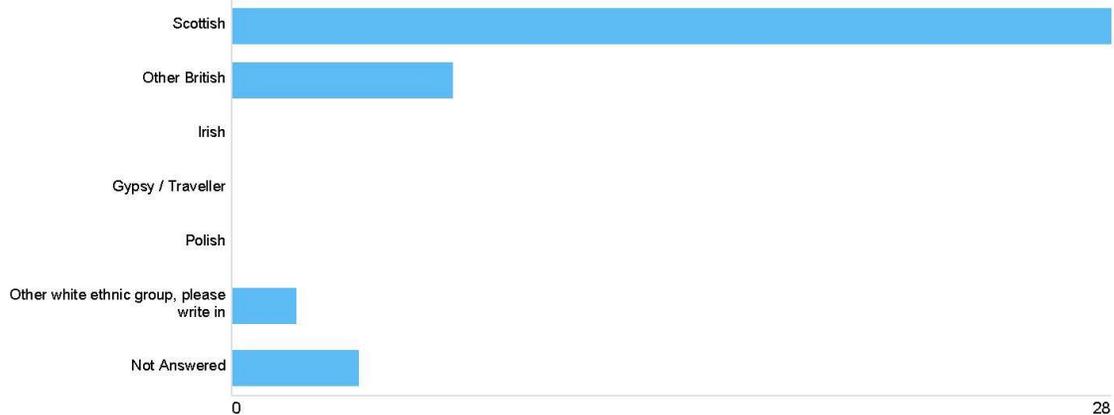
**Question 2: What is your email address?**

**Email**

There were 37 responses to this part of the question.

**Question 3: What is your ethnic group? (Choose ONE section from A to E, then tick ONE box which best describes your ethnic group or background)**

**Ethnicity (A - White)**



Option	Total	Percent
Scottish	28	68.29%
Other British	7	17.07%
Irish	0	0%
Gypsy / Traveller	0	0%
Polish	0	0%
Other white ethnic group, please write in	2	4.88%
Not Answered	4	9.76%

**Other white ethnic group, please write in**

There was 1 response to this part of the question.

**Ethnicity (Mixed or multiple ethnic group)**



Option	Total	Percent
Any mixed or multiple ethnic groups, please write in	0	0%
Not Answered	41	100.00%

**Any mixed or multiple ethnic groups, please write in**

There were 0 responses to this part of the question.

**Ethnicity (Asian, Asian Scottish, Asian British)**



Option	Total	Percent
Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British	0	0%
Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British	0	0%
Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British	0	0%
Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British	0	0%
Other, please write in	0	0%
Not Answered	41	100.00%

**Other, please write in**

There were 0 responses to this part of the question.

**Ethnicity (D - African, Caribbean or Black)**



Option	Total	Percent
African, African Scottish or African British	0	0%
Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British	0	0%
Black, Black Scottish or Black British	0	0%
Other, please write in	0	0%
Not Answered	41	100.00%

**Other, please write in**

There were 0 responses to this part of the question.

**Ethnicity (E - Other)**



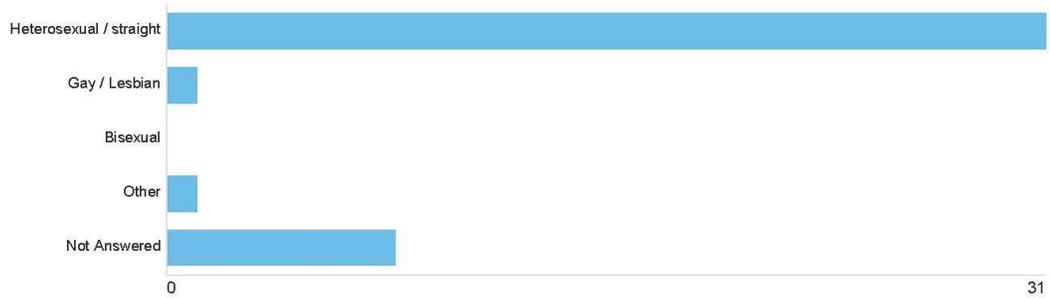
Option	Total	Percent
Arab	0	0%
Other, please write in	1	2.44%
Not Answered	40	97.56%

**Other, please write in**

There was 1 response to this part of the question.

**Question 4: What is your sexual orientation?**

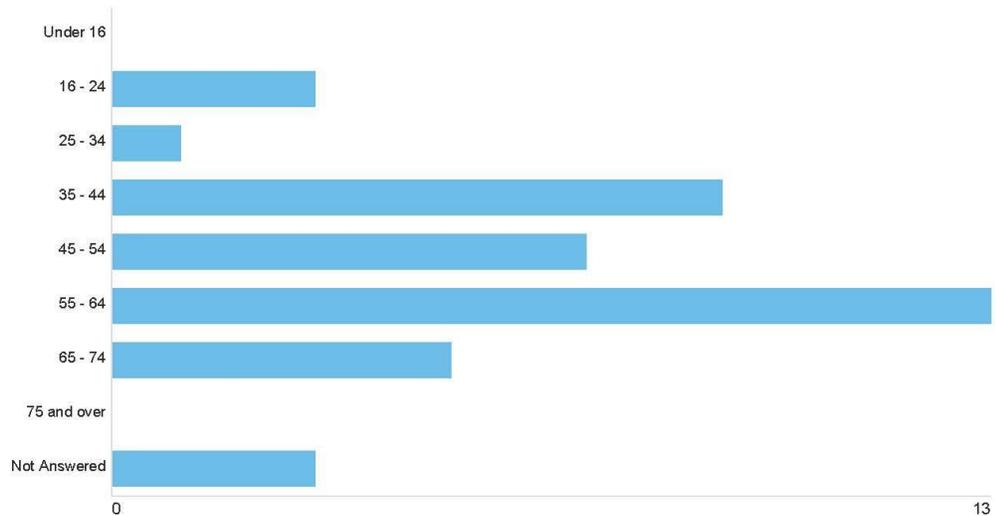
**Sexuality**



Option	Total	Percent
Heterosexual / straight	31	75.61%
Gay / Lesbian	1	2.44%
Bisexual	0	0%
Other	1	2.44%
Not Answered	8	19.51%

**Question 5: What is your age?**

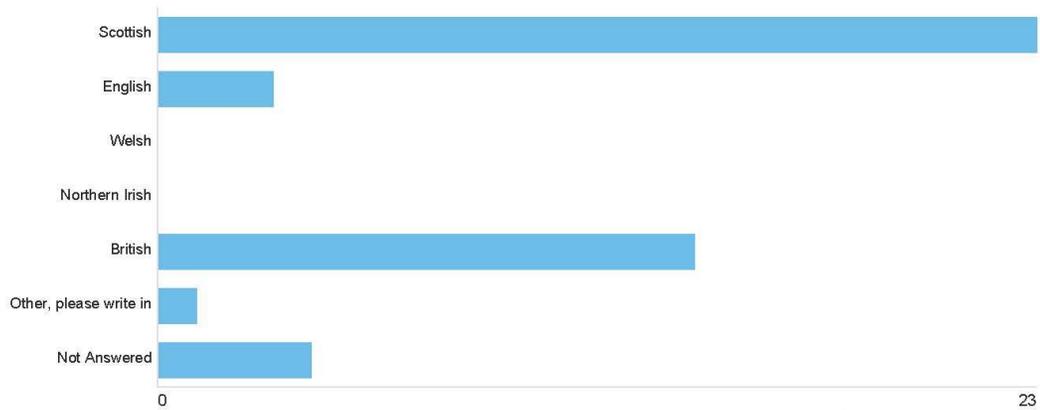
*How old are you?*



Option	Total	Percent
Under 16	0	0%
16 - 24	3	7.32%
25 - 34	1	2.44%
35 - 44	9	21.95%
45 - 54	7	17.07%
55 - 64	13	31.71%
65 - 74	5	12.20%
75 and over	0	0%
Not Answered	3	7.32%

**Question 6: How would you describe your national identity? (Please tick all that apply)**

*National Identity*



Option	Total	Percent
Scottish	23	56.10%
English	3	7.32%
Welsh	0	0%
Northern Irish	0	0%
British	14	34.15%
Other, please write in	1	2.44%
Not Answered	4	9.76%

*Other, please write in*

There were 0 responses to this part of the question.

**Question 7: What is your gender?**

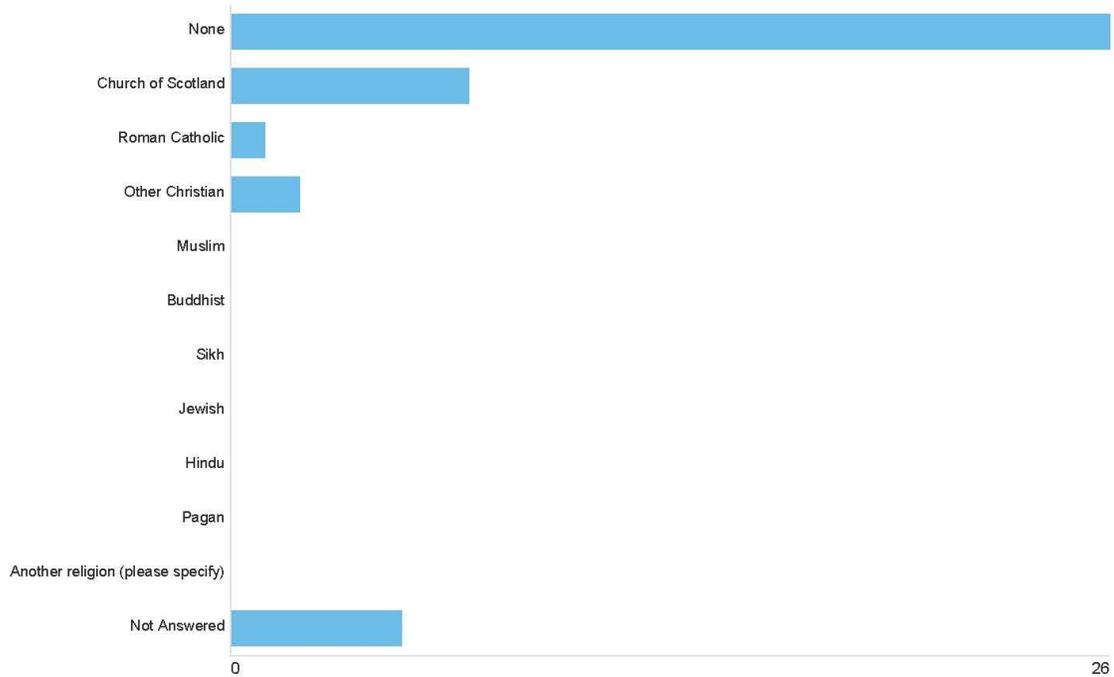
*Gender*



Option	Total	Percent
Male	6	14.63%
Female	33	80.49%
Other Gender Identity	0	0%
Not Answered	2	4.88%

**Question 8: What religion, religious denomination or body do you belong to?**

*Religion*



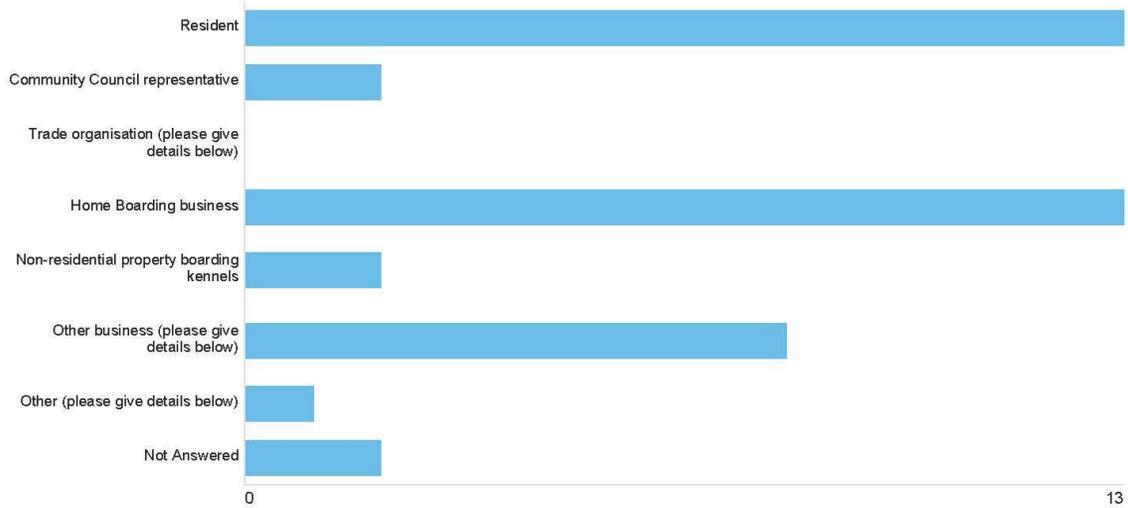
Option	Total	Percent
None	26	63.41%
Church of Scotland	7	17.07%
Roman Catholic	1	2.44%
Other Christian	2	4.88%
Muslim	0	0%
Buddhist	0	0%
Sikh	0	0%
Jewish	0	0%
Hindu	0	0%
Pagan	0	0%
Another religion (please specify)	0	0%
Not Answered	5	12.20%

*Another religion (please specify)*

There were 0 responses to this part of the question.

**Question 9: Please choose which of the following applies to you.**

*Respondent organisation*



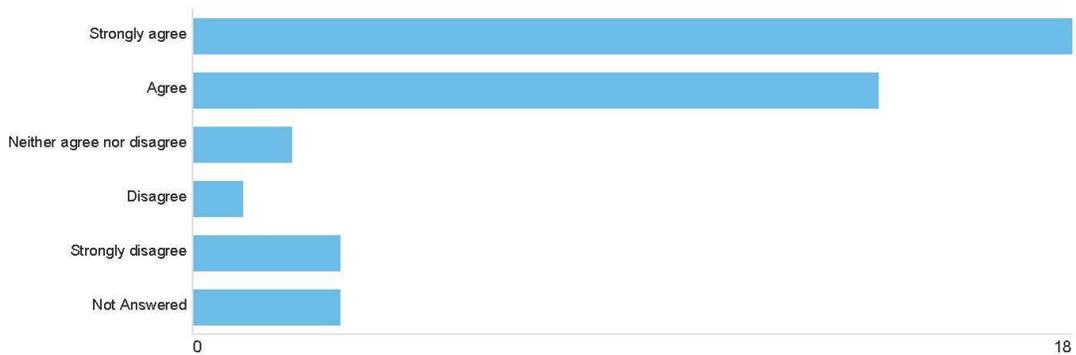
Option	Total	Percent
Resident	13	31.71%
Community Council representative	2	4.88%
Trade organisation (please give details below)	0	0%
Home Boarding business	13	31.71%
Non-residential property boarding kennels	2	4.88%
Other business (please give details below)	8	19.51%
Other (please give details below)	1	2.44%
Not Answered	2	4.88%

*Further details*

There were 13 responses to this part of the question.

**Question 10: Click 'More information' for proposed conditions with respect to Home Boarding. Do you agree with the proposed conditions?**

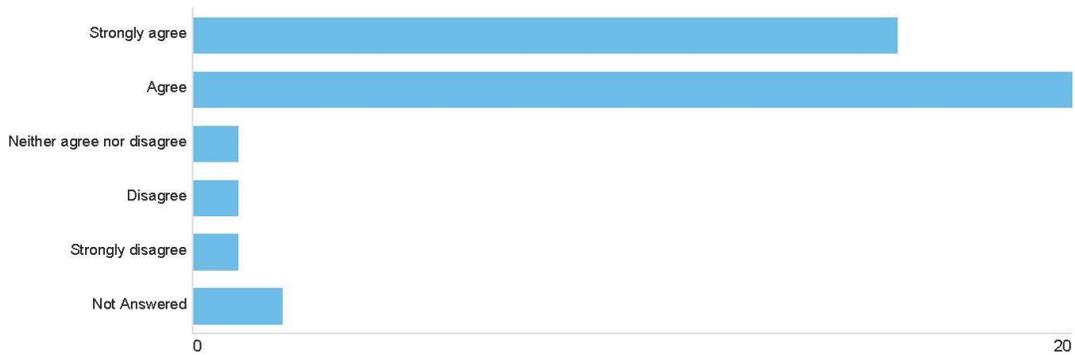
*Agree with home boarding conditions?*



Option	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	18	43.90%
Agree	14	34.15%
Neither agree nor disagree	2	4.88%
Disagree	1	2.44%
Strongly disagree	3	7.32%
Not Answered	3	7.32%

**Question 11: Click 'More information' for proposed conditions with respect to Kennels and/or Dog Day Care in Non-Residential Property. Do you agree with the proposed conditions?**

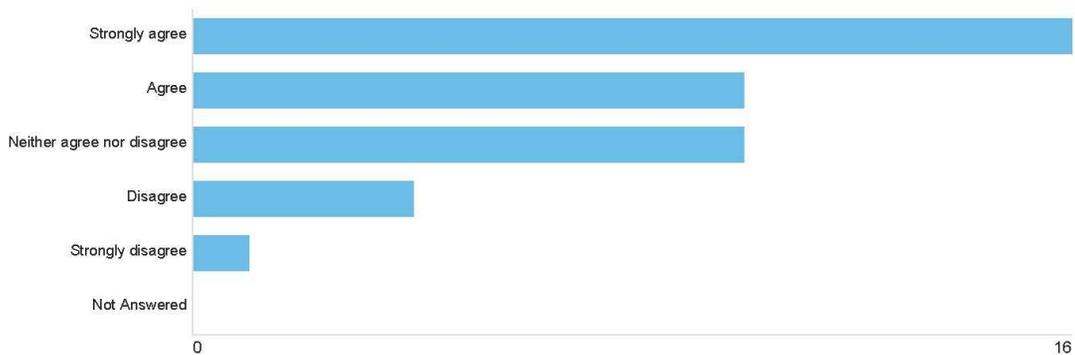
*Agree with Kennels/day care conditions?*



Option	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	16	39.02%
Agree	20	48.78%
Neither agree nor disagree	1	2.44%
Disagree	1	2.44%
Strongly disagree	1	2.44%
Not Answered	2	4.88%

**Question 12: Click 'More Information' for a proposed fee structure for Animal Boarding Establishment Licences. Do you agree with the proposed structure?**

*Agree pricing structure?*



Option	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	16	39.02%
Agree	10	24.39%
Neither agree nor disagree	10	24.39%
Disagree	4	9.76%
Strongly disagree	1	2.44%
Not Answered	0	0%

**Question 13: Would you like to make any comment about these proposals?**

*Please give us your comments.*

There were 23 responses to this part of the question.

## Appendix 6

- I didn't agree or disagree to the third question regarding fees as I have no expertise in what the fees should be to maintain the dogs.  
I am happy to agree to all the changes in the proposal, as they seem to benefit the lives of the animals and that is the most important thing.
- I welcome these changes to ensure boarders are reputable and the dogs safety is paramount.  
I appreciate the drop in price as I only ever home board one or two dogs and it's not that often that I actually do as I only board for existing walking clients. This year had to pay over £300 for my license which is expensive for how often I actually board.  
I believe a Canine First Aid qualification should be an essential requirement, ideally gained from a RVN rather than from an online course.
- I have paid £323 for the last year and this year which is excessive compared to other councils I also thought it unfair that I pay the same as large kennels.  
There are lots of organisations eg Dogbuddy, Pawshake, Holidogs with over 100 dog boarders but when I got the list from Edinburgh council there were only about 20 establishments on the list.
- When day care companies are exercising boarded dogs in public spaces, dogs should be kept on a leash at all times. There should be a limit to the number of dogs per person. 6 dogs per person as mentioned above seems reasonable. Too many dogs and dogs being allowed off the leash results in the responsible person being unaware of the dogs fouling public areas as I have witnessed on several occasions.
- I do not think more than 2 dogs should be allowed to board in a person's home due to noise for neighbours and safety you do not know how other dogs will interact with each other.  
The ratio should be more than one adult to 6 dogs if a fight were to break out.
- At the moment it seems the, £323 fee for home boarding unfair when it's the same price as a large boarding establishment.
- The dog boarding and day care industry is currently swamped by individuals who see it as a means to make money for little or no work. Many of these people have no interest in the welfare of the animals in their care.  
At the moment there are a number of unregistered residential premises being used for home boarding in the Edinburgh area, mostly working through social media to get business.  
Several businesses are operating vehicles in which animals are not restrained for safety, not separated, and don't even have basic fresh air provision, let alone climate control.

There needs to be more inspection of businesses, individuals, vehicles and premises.

Edinburgh Council should be looking to take steps to license vehicles used by dog walkers, day care, and boarding establishments- a license similar to the parking permits in Edinburgh could be used to show the vehicle has been inspected and deemed suitable and safe.

- Regarding home boarding, the bracket of 5 to 10 dogs...as a dog trainer and dog walker, the thought of up to 10 dogs boarding in the same house fills me with horror. I know there are home boarders who do this but the dogs are crated with no access to the home. This is not technically home boarding as advertised and the dogs would fare better in reg kennels. There is also the question of the effect on neighbours. One home boarder in the grange area has been doc as having 13 dogs in her home, a flat. This is detrimental to all concerned except to the boarder who is making a lot of money through the suffering of others. It is pointless amending prices when there is no one policing this area of licensing and the majority of home boarders do not and are not planning on registering. Perhaps talks with some of us who have been in the business for a long time might facilitate real change that others in the profession would approve and back
- Perhaps large kennels should pay more than smaller establishments. Perhaps professional dog walkers should have a license appropriate to the number of dogs exercised daily
- I think that home dog boarding businesses should be required to apply for change of use for their properties. I think that when permission for home dog boarding is being sought it should be mandatory to inform neighbours (under the current 1963 Act this is not required), to give them the chance to object. I also think that dog boarding should not be allowed within flats:-
  1. Soundproofing between flats is always a problem, to a greater or lesser degree, and serious noise nuisance will inevitably occur.
  2. Dogs boarded within flats would have to use common access paths, hallways, stairs, and common ground. This creates the following problems:-
    - (a) noise nuisance (in addition to the noise disturbance created within the flats themselves).
    - (b) hygiene problems: dogs will on occasion (maybe often) urinate and/or defaecate in common access areas, both external and internal.
    - (c) dirt: dogs track in a lot of dirt and mess.
    - (d) Fear and alarm to, and personal safety of, residents of other flats within the building when large or aggressive dogs are boarded.
    - (e) impact on personal and property security caused by the frequent presence of unknown visitors to the property, at any hour of the day.
- I am impressed. They seem to be very comprehensive rules and I hope each and every one of them is agreed and voted for by the councillors. This modern phenomena of dog walking and boarding has to be regulated as there are far too many unscrupulous

people making a very great deal of money out of dog care with few checks or restrictions. Dogs cannot talk and are potentially the subject of abuse and the owner none the wiser.

- I am concerned that the Home Boarding is combined with Day Care for numbers and pricing structures. The upper number of home boarding dogs is very high and surely does not fall under the definition of Home. Should this actually read Kennels?
- In June 2016 I was granted a licence for home boarding which cost £323. Where I should have been charged £100 is this correct?
- I feel the proposed licensing structure and prices has been set realistically and fairly in accordance to all kinds of dog boarding.  
With the lower fees for home boarders, it is much more affordable for people doing this as a part-time job or for most carers within PetStay, they do it for the company of a dog rather than the money making aspect.  
PetStay Edinburgh has already recruited 5 new dog carers in the last month since finding out the costs are getting cut down. They are in line waiting on the results of the final consultation. This is a huge leap for the business and dog carers within the City of Edinburgh council's area and now the business can grow.  
As a result in changing the fees I would expect a lot of the home boarders within the city to start becoming official licence holders. This way it will be more clear as to how many home boarders are operating within the city.  
At PetStay all carers must be licenced. We strongly believe in the home boarding licence, as it is the correct way to run a business. Customers have the peace of mind knowing that their dog carer has had the appropriate checks carried out and have been approved. With the licence fee being reduced, dogs have a much bigger chance of being placed in a secure yet loving home.
- Glad you are looking to reduce the fee as I would not board enough dogs to be able to justify the old fee
- This consultation is invasive with Urban Slang for sexual orientation which is not relevant & extremely poorly written. Costs are not based on time frames. Not all dogs are indoor dogs & to put them in a hot home environment would cause undue stress.
- Citidogs is a dog day care business which has been established successfully for 8 years. I welcome these proposals as there are too many start up businesses who do not take canine welfare, health and safety or staff training seriously - to the detriment of the overall care of the dogs.

At Citidogs we have worked closely with the council licensing and veterinary departments to ensure we fulfil all that is required of us, and have achieved this for the past 8 years.

My concern has been the businesses who have started up and have managed to avoid

the correct processes and due diligence, once again to the detriment of the dogs. My only concern would be with regard to increased fees. At Citidogs our cost of sale is high and profit margin extremely low, profits are reinvested into infrastructure. To ensure all of the requirements of the licence are met, the cost of staff salaries, staff training, infrastructure, administration systems, employment support, cleaning materials and general equipment is all astronomical. I would hope any fee increase would be considered as commensurate with the conditions enforced.

I can manage the current licence fee, however if fees did increase then as a small business we would be hindered and would therefore face the closure of the company and subsequent redundancies of 24 people and a huge gap in the canine care market which we have admirably filled with a 98% client satisfaction rate.

- There must be regular inspections to ensure compliance with any license granted.
- As a small business £100 is more than enough to be charged for Home boarding.
- Any responsible person who home boards will already apply many of the proposed conditions but some are unreasonable and/or contradictory.
  - 1.1 separation of dogs from different households in secure areas when left unattended - does this mean crates, kennels or rooms? This contradicts 2.1 dogs must live in the home as family pets. Dogs are by nature pack animals - separating them could cause distress. Any responsible person would ensure boarders are well socialised etc before agreeing to board them in the first place. 9.5 - my own dog would be distressed if separated from any boarders - and vice versa.
  - 11.4 - doors to rooms where dogs are boarded must be kept shut at night - no! - most dogs hate being shut in and i want to hear if any are unsettled in the night in case they need into the garden.
  - 13.1 - using crates in the back of my car not necessary with well behaved dogs. I find they each have their preferred spot in the back anyway whether towards the front or back of the space.I have more objections to proposals for home boarding many of which should only apply to the big commercial non residential dog care.

- Yes on the part where it says about the First Aid for Dogs, is this before they are licensed or can this be during their training if they are one of PetStay dog carer??  
PetStay are looking forward also to the new law coming into England and now have a Primary Authority with City of London who are working on the new rules with Defra and training the officers.

The changes you have made are more than welcome to us as we have been waiting nearly two years for this and has stopped our franchisee in Edinburgh recruiting dog carers in your area so thank you for the changes so now we can go forward and grow our team.

Kind regards

Carole Davy

Managing Director

PetStay Ltd  
www.petstay.net  
info@petstay.net

- PetStay welcomes appreciates the review of the home boarding licence fee
- Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home supports the application of Licence conditions for all boarding kennels to ensure the highest levels of animal welfare standards are maintained. However, we disagree with a number of the key conditions around licensing of Kennels in non-residential properties, such as ourselves. The main one of these is no. 32, that there must be a ratio of one member of staff to every six dogs at all times. We would like to understand where this figure was sourced as it is our experience that within a secure environment, the Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare can be maintained at a ration of one staff member to every 12 dogs.