

Licensing Committee – 3rd February 2009

5. Update on Laburnums Cattery & Windsor Cattery

Executive Portfolio Holder: Ric Pallister
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Purpose of the Report

To update the committee on progress made at Laburnum Cattery, Hinton Hill, Crewkerne, Somerset & Windsor Cattery following removal of derogation and the decision not to renew their animal boarding establishment licences.

Recommendation

That the report be noted

Background

In 2006 catteries with derogations were reviewed by Licensing in accordance with the decision made when Model Licence Conditions & Guidance (MLC&G) for Cat Boarding Establishments were introduced. We involved Feline Advisory Bureau (FAB) in the process as they have experience of inspecting catteries and knowledge of cat welfare requirements. Inspections were carried out by Rachel Lloyd and representatives from FAB to find out if the catteries with derogations were now in compliance with MLC&G or if progress had been made to meet the requirements of MLC&G.

When we visited Laburnums Cattery we found that the pens did not meet the minimum size set out in MLC&G, the cats did not have access to natural daylight, the register was not maintained to the required standard, the floor of the cattery was not smooth and impervious making it difficult to clean and the ventilation in the building was poor. We agreed a schedule of work with Mrs Moore (the proprietor of Laburnums) to improve standards at the premises. The work schedule included improving fire safety at the premises, keeping the required records and numbering of pens so that the animals could be identified easily.

The visit to Windsor Cattery revealed that the pens did not meet the minimum height requirements, the majority of pens did not meet the minimum size requirement and the method of heating the pens was not satisfactory.

In 2007 the Licensing Committee resolved to remove the derogations and not to renew the licences for both premises.

Report Detail

On 5th January 2009 I visited Laburnums to carry out an inspection for the renewal of the animal boarding licence and was pleased with the conditions in the cattery. Photos of the new cattery are attached at Appendix 1.

In July 2008 the Licensing Department received an application to licence the new cattery at Windsor Cattery. Unfortunately we do not have any pictures of the new cattery at Windsor but

the design is very similar to the cattery at Laburnums. As the new cattery meets the MLC&G the licence was granted on 6th August 2008.

Financial Implications

None.

Implications for Corporate Priorities

None.

Other Implications

None

Background Papers: *Minutes of Licensing Sub-Committee 12th February 2007*
