

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**ANIMAL WELFARE ACT 2006  
DRAFT ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Committee that a draft Animal Welfare Policy has been developed, which is in need of consultation.
- 1.2 To seek approval from the Licensing Committee to start the consultation process.
- 1.3 Once the consultation has been carried out, the Animal Welfare Policy will be presented to the Licensing Committee for approval.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The Draft Animal Welfare Policy has been developed to provide a consistent approach to the Licensing of Animal Welfare Premises within North Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 There is no statutory requirement to have a written policy or charter, however it is seen as good practice to do so.
- 2.3 In developing the Animal Welfare Policy, it is proposed to follow the same principals as other Licensing Policies, in that a period of consultation will take place prior to adoption. This will then be reviewed every five years or when there is a significant need to do so.
- 2.4 A copy of the draft Animal Welfare Policy is attached as Appendix A to this report.

**3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 There are three options available to the Council at this point.
  - 3.1.1 Option 1 – To reject the draft policy.
  - 3.1.2 Option 2 – To amend the policy prior to consultation.

3.1.3 Option 3 – To approve the start of the consultation process for the draft policy.

#### **4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 The following is an analysis of each option:

4.1.1 Option 1 – To refuse the policy would mean that the processing of applications is as it has been for some time. Although this would not be a major issue, having a written policy assists the applicants and officers to understand the process that is expected of them. Further, having a policy makes the standards clear for all parties to follow.

4.1.2 Option 2 – Changing the policy at this early stage could result in those said changes being changed again following consultation.

4.1.3 Option 2 - The attached policy is a draft and it is anticipated that changes will be made to it before it is represented for approval. All ward members will be consulted on the policy as part of the process.

#### **5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)**

5.1 There are no financial, staffing, property or IT implications from this report.

#### **6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)**

6.1 None.

#### **7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

7.1 Not applicable

#### **8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

8.1 Consultation on the policy will commence following approval of this report.

#### **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 That Option 3 at paragraph 3.1.3 be approved and that consultation on the draft policy commence.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES

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Date: 1 November 2024

**Background Papers used in the preparation of this report – None**

**Where appropriate the report has been seen and commented on by (☐ or n/a)**

Cabinet Member	Human Resources	Legal & Democratic	Finance	Property	IT	EMT
n/a	n/a	✓	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

<b>Approved by Head(s) of Service (☐)</b>	✓
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