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ehealth@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

Q1 Does everyone who keeps a dog need a licence?

Generally speaking, yes. It is an offence for anyone to own an unlicensed dog, unless the dog falls into one of the following categories:

- (a) An assistance dog
- (b) A police dog
- (c) A dog under 6 months old kept by the person who at the time of birth was the keeper of the bitch which gave it birth
- (d) A dog kept in a pet shop licensed by the Department of Agriculture, where the dog is on offer for sale to the public.

Q2 When should I get a Dog Licence?

You must buy a Dog Licence before you take possession of a dog. If you do not, both you and the supplier of the dog are committing an offence.

Q3 Do Dogs need a Microchip?

Every dog must have a microchip implanted before a licence can be issued. It is the responsibility of owners to ensure that the contact details held on the appropriate database are accurate and up to date. If the details are inaccurate the dog is not considered microchipped and therefore the licence is void.

Q4 How do I apply for a Dog Licence?

By phone - 0300 0300 900

In Person or by Post to your local office

Online (See Council's website)

www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

Q5 How do I pay for a Dog Licence?

Payments can be made by Credit/Debit card by telephone; Cheque/postal order by post (should be made payable to Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council) and cash, if making application in person.

Q6 Income-Related Benefit means—

- (a)Universal credit under the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015;
- (b)State pension credit under the State Pension Credit Act (Northern Ireland) 2002;
- (c)Income support under section 123 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992;
- (d)Housing benefit under section 129 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992;

(e)Income-based jobseekers allowance under the Jobseeker's (Northern Ireland) Order 1995;

(f)Income-related employment and support allowance under the Welfare Reform Act (Northern Ireland) 2007;

(g) Working tax credit under the Tax Credits Act 2002.

Q7 How long does a Dog Licence Last?

A dog licence is valid for one year from the commencement date.

Q8 Do I need any other form of ID on my dog's collar?

Yes. You are required to fasten a disc with your name and a contact number to your dog's collar.

Q9 Can a Dog Licence be transferred?

Yes. If your dog dies, and you hold a valid Dog Licence, you can apply to the Council with details of the replacement dog.

Q10 Can I get a refund of the Dog Licence fee?

Yes, but only if within 30 days from the date of issue you do not get a dog; you dispose of the dog; or the dog dies.

Q11 Who can get a Block Licence?

Any person who keeps on the same premises:

- (a) Not less than 3 unsterilized bitches which breed between them less than 3 litters in a 12 month period;
- (b) 3 or more dogs (including bitches) registered with the Kennel Club or other approved registering organisation;
- (c) If a person keeps as part of a registered guard dog kennels 3 or more dogs which are used as guard dogs elsewhere.

Q12 Who needs a breeder's licence?

"Breeding establishment" means one or more premises within the same district Council area, operated by the same person from which that person keeps 3 or more breeding bitches; and

- (a) Breeds 3 or more litter of puppies in any 12 month period;
- (b) Advertises 3 or more litters of puppies for sale in any 12 month period;
- (c) Supplies 3 or more litters of pupplies in any 12 month period; or
- (d) Advertises a business of breeding or selling of puppies.

Contact your local office for further details.

NOTE

Register Data (as prescribed under Schedule 7 of The Dogs (Licencing & Identification) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011) is kept in a register which may be inspected at all reasonable hours and copies taken free of charge.