
CONSULTATION DRAFT

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Breeding dogs and cats) Standards 2017

under the

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation 2012

The following Standards are approved by the Minister for Primary Industries as relevant Standards for the purposes of Part 4 of the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation 2012*.

Explanatory note

The object of these Standards is to prescribe legally enforceable requirements which apply to everyone involved in the activity of breeding dogs and cats.

These Standards deal with the following:

- (a) the responsibilities and competency of the staff who care for and manage breeding dogs and cats (**Part 2**),
- (b) the management systems that must be used in animal breeding establishments (**Part 3**),
- (c) the standards of housing required for dogs and cats in animal breeding establishments (**Part 4**),
- (d) the requirements for managing the care of dogs and cats in animal breeding establishments including requirements for food and water, cleanliness and transport (**Part 5**),
- (e) the health care standards for dogs and cats in animal breeding establishments (**Part 6**),
- (f) matters relating to the transfer of ownership of dogs and cats from animal breeding establishments (**Part 7**),
- (g) matters relating to breeding and rearing of dogs and cats in animal breeding establishments (**Part 8**),
- (h) matters relating to the humane destruction of dogs and cats in breeding establishments (**Part 9**),
- (i) other miscellaneous matters (**Part 1**).

Clause 26 of the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation 2012* (“the Regulation”) includes a requirement that the following persons must comply with the provisions of these Standards:

- the proprietor of a breeding establishment,
- each person concerned in the management of a breeding establishment,
- any person employed by or working in a breeding establishment.

Failure to comply with a provision of these Standards is an offence under clause 26 of the Regulation. In more serious cases, failure to comply with a provision of these

CONSULTATION DRAFT

Standards may result in a prosecution for an offence against the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979*.

Compliance with these Standards does not remove the need to comply with other requirements of the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979* and the Regulation, or the requirements under any other legislation such as the *Companion Animals Act 1998*, the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Impounding Act 1993* and the *Animal Research Act 1985*.

These Standards are made for the purposes of the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979*, including the definition of *animal trade* in section 4(1) and Part 4 of, and Schedule 1 of, the Regulation.

DRAFT

CONSULTATION DRAFT

Contents

Contents	3
Part 1 Preliminary	5
1 Name of Standards.....	5
2 Commencement.....	5
3 Application of these Standards.....	5
4 Interpretation	5
Part 2 Responsibilities and competency of staff.....	9
5 Responsibilities and competency of staff	9
6 Required numbers of staff.....	10
7 Staff training register	11
Part 3 Quality management systems	11
8 Directory of information about dogs and cats.....	11
9 Register of Companion Animals	12
10 Time period for keeping information.....	12
11 Production of information	12
12 Written operating procedures	13
Part 4 Dog and cat housing standards	15
Division 1 Construction and maintenance standards for dog and cat housing	15
13 Construction standards for dog and cat housing.....	15
14 Lighting of dog and cat housing	16
15 Ventilation of dog and cat housing	16
16 Temperature of dog and cat housing.....	17
17 Minimum housing requirements for dogs	17
Table 2 Minimum sizes for dog enclosures.....	18
18 Minimum housing requirements for cats.....	18
Table 3 Minimum sizes for cat enclosures	19
19 Exercise enclosures for dogs	19
20 Dog and cat treatment room	20
21 Isolation facilities.....	20
Division 2 Management of dog and cat housing.....	21
22 Group housing.....	21
23 Special dog and cat housing requirements	21
24 Sleeping area requirements.....	21
25 Special cat housing requirements.....	22
Division 3 Security of dog and cat housing	22
26 Design of dog and cat housing for security purposes	22

CONSULTATION DRAFT

27	Barriers between dog or cat and exterior of facility.....	22
28	Emergency management	23
Part 5	Management of dog and cat care	23
29	General standards for the care of dogs and cats.....	23
30	Food and water requirements.....	24
31	Cleanliness and hygiene requirements	25
32	Requirements when transporting dogs or cats	26
Part 6	Health standards for dogs and cats.....	27
33	Monitoring health status of dogs and cats	27
34	Arrangements with veterinary practitioner.....	28
35	Veterinary treatment of dogs and cats.....	29
36	Vaccination.....	30
37	Control of parasites	30
38	Isolation of infectious dogs and cats	30
Part 7	Transfer of ownership	31
39	Requirements for dogs and cats to be sold	31
40	Guarantee and returns.....	31
41	Consideration of conditions at proposed new home	32
42	Information and advice to new owners	32
Part 8	Breeding and rearing	34
43	Special requirements for mating dogs and cats	34
44	Frequency of breeding.....	34
45	Special requirements for pregnant dogs and cats.....	35
46	Special requirements for birthing.....	35
47	Special requirements for lactating bitches and queens.....	36
48	Artificial rearing.....	36
49	Weaning puppies and kittens	36
Part 9	Humane destruction.....	37
50	Separate area required for humane destruction.....	37
51	Method of humane destruction	37
52	Who may perform humane destruction	37
53	Humane destruction recommended by veterinary practitioner.....	37
Appendix 1	Socialisation and enrichment for dogs and cats.....	38
Appendix 2	Suggested enrichment activities.....	39

CONSULTATION DRAFT

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Breeding dogs and cats) Standards 2017

under the

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation 2012

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Name of Standards

These Standards are the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Breeding dogs and cats) Standards 2017*.

Note: These Standards are referred to in Column 2 of Schedule 1 to the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation 2012*. Clause 26(5) of that Regulation provides that these Standards are the relevant Standards, for the purposes of clause 26 of that Regulation, in respect of a business specified in Column 1 of Schedule 1, being the conduct of animal breeding establishments.

2 Commencement

These Standards commence on the same day as the [*Insert name of Regulation amending Schedule 1 to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation 2012*].

3 Application of these Standards

These Standards apply to the conduct of animal breeding establishments for dogs and cats.

4 Interpretation

In these Standards:

ad libitum means to feed without restriction.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

animal means a dog, cat, puppy or kitten.

biosecure means a facility that utilises security measures to protect animals against the transmission of disease and pests.

bitch means an undesexed female dog.

brachycephalic means a dog or cat with a shortened skull and flattened muzzle.

breeder health declaration means a declaration signed by a breeder, and includes details of:

- (a) any known physical abnormality in a dog or cat at the time of sale, and
- (b) how the abnormality may affect the short and long term health and welfare of the animal.

breeding means the business of breeding of cats or dogs for fee or reward.

cat housing means any enclosure used to contain a cat and includes a cattery, cage, module, or colony pen within a facility, premises or any room forming part of premises.

dog housing means any enclosure used to contain a dog and includes a cage, run, or module within a facility, premises or any room forming part of premises.

disease means:

- (a) any infection of an organism having the potential to result in or resulting in an abnormal, pathological or unhealthy condition that is caused by a known or unknown disease agent, and
- (b) any other medical condition that has a negative impact on the physical or psychological health of an animal.

disease agent includes a prion, a microorganism, an infectious agent and a parasite.

emergency management plan means a document that details the response to an actual or imminent event or situation that endangers, or threatens to endanger, the safety or health of animals and that may destroy or damage, or threaten to destroy or damage, property.

environmental enrichment means the provision of appropriate activities or experiences within an animal's environment to meet that animal's physical and psychological needs.

exercise enclosure means a pen, run or yard in a facility in which an animal can exercise without escaping, that is not used for housing the animal.

facility means any place, premises or thing used for accommodation or shelter of animals for the purpose of breeding or rearing dogs or cats, or where puppies or kittens are housed as a result of breeding, and includes a vehicle used for the transportation of animals.

healthy means a dog or cat that is free from sickness, injury or disease affecting the overall physical and psychological well-being of the animal.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

housing means cat housing and dog housing.

infectious disease means a disease caused by a transmissible agent that may cause illness or death in susceptible animals that become infected.

isolation facility means a secure area in which individual animals are kept separate from other animals and which can be made biosecure.

kitten means a cat which is less than 16 weeks of age.

kittening means to give birth to a kitten.

mating means to pair animals together for breeding purposes.

microchip means subcutaneous full duplex electronic radio transponder inserted under the skin of a dog or a cat for permanent identification purposes.

parvovirus means a virus which causes intestinal inflammation in infected dogs, for which symptoms include vomiting, diarrhoea, high fever, and dehydration.

person in charge of a facility, includes:

- (a) the proprietor of the business that conducts the animal trade of breeding cats or dogs at the facility,
- (b) each person concerned with the management of the facility, and
- (c) any person performing the role of the manager of the facility.

post-partum means following the birth of a puppy or kitten.

proprietor means the owner.

puppy means a dog which is less than 16 weeks of age.

queen means an undesexed female cat.

Register of Companion Animals has the same meaning as in the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

registered training organisation means a training provider registered by the Australian Skills Quality Authority of the Commonwealth

sale means the transfer of ownership of an animal or animals, and includes:

- (a) selling by wholesale, retail, auction or tender, or
- (b) barter or exchange, or
- (c) supplying for profit, or
- (d) offering for sale, receiving for sale or exposing for sale, or
- (e) consigning or delivering for sale, or
- (f) having in possession for sale, or
- (g) causing or allowing any of the above to be done.

socialisation means exposing an animal to different age-appropriate positive experiences in order to prepare the animal for coping throughout life.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

staff or *staff member* means a person who works in a facility including the person in charge of a facility, employees or volunteers, whether working full-time or part-time and whether working for fee or reward or not.

the Act means the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979*.

the Regulation means the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation 2012*.

vaccinated means inoculated according to current veterinary advice and the vaccine manufacturer's instructions for a vaccine registered for the species.

volunteer means a member of the public who is not paid, but works in a voluntary capacity under the supervision of the person in charge of the facility.

whelping means to give birth to a puppy.

written procedures mean the procedures developed under these Standards that are in place for the pet shop.

zoonoses means any disease that is communicable between humans and another animal species.

Note: Pursuant to section 11 of the *Interpretation Act 1987*, words and expressions in this Standard such as ***animal trade, cage, cat, dog, inspector, owner, person in charge*** in relation to an animal, ***veterinary practitioner*** and ***veterinary treatment*** have the same meaning as they have in the Act.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

Part 2 Responsibilities and competency of staff

5 Responsibilities and competency of staff

- (1) The person in charge of the facility must:
 - (a) keep a copy of these Standards and the written procedures at the facility, and
 - (b) make a copy of these Standards and the written procedures available to all staff.
- (2) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that each staff member is provided with proper and adequate on-the-job training and experience in animal welfare matters for breeding cats and dogs.
- (3) During all hours of operation of a facility, the person in charge of the facility must ensure that at least one staff member is present who:
 - (a) has had proper and adequate on-the-job training and experience in each of the animal welfare matters for breeding cats and dogs, and
 - (b) from the date that is 2 years after the commencement of these Standards, holds as a minimum qualification, a current Certificate II in Animal Studies or higher formal qualification, or equivalent competencies that have been formally assessed by a registered training organisation.
- (4) A staff member must not carry out an activity in any of the animal welfare matters for breeding cats and dogs unless:
 - (c) the staff member has received proper and adequate on-the-job training in, and has experience of, that area, or
 - (d) the staff member is supervised by another staff member who has received proper and adequate on-the-job training in, and has experience of, that area.
- (5) In this clause, ***animal welfare matters for breeding cats and dogs*** means:
 - (a) the care and welfare of dogs and cats,
 - (b) methods of identifying dogs and cats,
 - (c) providing food and water to dogs and cats,
 - (d) administering first aid or other treatments to dogs and cats under veterinary supervision or advice to dogs and cats,

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (e) cleaning and proper hygiene in the facility,
- (f) dog and cat behaviour and social or psychological needs of dogs and cats, abnormal behaviours and deterioration of psychological health of dogs and cats, and the protection of dogs and cats from distress or injury caused by other dogs and cats or interference by the public,
- (g) procedures for receiving a dog or a cat into, and selling a dog or cat from the facility,
- (h) housing dogs and cats,
- (i) handling and controlling dogs and cats,
- (j) the provision of socialisation and environmental enrichment for dogs and cats,
- (k) moving, transporting and capturing dogs and cats,
- (l) identifying signs of health and ill health, both physical and psychological, in dogs and cats, including identifying when prompt veterinary care is required,
- (m) procedures for the care of sick and injured dogs and cats,
- (n) special requirements for pregnant, nursing, old or young dogs and cats,
- (o) disease and parasite prevention and control,
- (p) procedures for managing emergencies in the facility, and
- (q) record keeping in the facility.

6 Required numbers of staff

- (1) During all hours of operation of a facility, the person in charge of the facility must ensure that the following staff are present:
 - (a) a minimum of one staff member per 20 animals (litters with mothers to be counted as 2 animals) to feed and clean the dogs or cats and their housing, and provide socialisation and enrichment to the dogs and cats, and
 - (b) sufficient staff to attend to all of the following duties:
 - (i) exercise dogs,
 - (ii) provide preventative and veterinary treatments as per veterinary advice to the dogs or cats,
 - (iii) receive dogs or cats into the facility, and
 - (iv) transfer ownership of animals being sold by the facility.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (2) Staff members present at the facility must be trained to provide for the care of all species at the facility.

7 Staff training register

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must maintain an electronic record of all training undertaken by staff (the *Training Register*).
- (2) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that the following matters are recorded in the Training Register:
 - (a) the qualifications in animal care held by each staff member, and
 - (b) details of training undertaken by each staff member, including the date of training and a description of the topics covered by the training.
- (3) The person in charge of the facility must ensure that each staff member is provided with regular opportunities to up-date their qualifications and experience.

Part 3 Quality management systems

8 Directory of information about dogs and cats

The person in charge of a facility must maintain an electronic register in which the following current information about all dogs and cats within the facility is recorded (the *Animal Directory*):

- (a) microchip number and other permanent identification details of the dog or cat, such as tattoo information,
- (b) any other unique identification details allocated by the facility to a dog or cat,
- (c) the name, address and telephone number of the lessee of a dog or cat,
- (d) for leased dogs or cats, the name and contact telephone number of the veterinary practitioner who normally attends the animal,
- (e) type (species) and breed of the dog or cat,
- (f) gender of the dog or cat and whether neutered (if known),
- (g) colour and identifying features of, or marks on, the dog or cat,
- (h) vaccination status (if known) of the dog or cat,
- (i) date of arrival of the dog or cat at the facility,

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (j) details of any special medical and dietary requirements of the dog or cat,
- (k) details of any adverse observations referred to in clause 33,
- (l) details of any preventative and veterinary treatment provided to the dog or cat while in the facility, including worming, parasite control and desexing,
- (m) the date of birth, and registration number (for purebred animals) of dogs and cats,
- (n) date of mating of the dog or cat at the facility including the name and microchip number of the dam and the sire,
- (o) date of whelping or kitting of a dog or cat at the facility,
- (p) details of each litter including identification details of each animal within the litter, including any abnormalities or deaths,
- (q) name, address and contact details of the person to whom the dog or cat was sold,
- (r) the date and method of transfer of owned and leased dogs and cats, including whether the dog or cat was placed in foster care,
- (s) the date of death or humane destruction of dogs and cats, (including the reason for, and the method of, humane destruction), and
- (t) the date of cleaning and disinfection of all dog and cat housing.

9 Register of Companion Animals

The person in charge of a facility must comply with the *Companion Animals Act 1998* in relation to notification and identification information and registration information.

10 Time period for keeping information

The Animal Directory must be retained at a facility for a minimum of five years.

11 Production of information

For the purposes of section 24G of the Act, the Training Register and the Animal Directory are registers that staff must produce on request by an inspector to do so.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

12 Written operating procedures

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must have in place written procedures for each of the subjects described in Table 1.
- (2) The person in charge of a facility must regularly review the written procedures to ensure that the written procedures continue to adequately address the subjects described in Table 1.
- (3) The person in charge of the facility must obtain advice from a veterinary practitioner:
 - (a) when developing the written procedures, and
 - (b) when amending the written procedures.
- (4) The person in charge of a facility must ensure the facility is managed in accordance with the written procedures.
- (5) The person in charge of a facility must ensure:
 - (a) staff are provided with the written procedures,
 - (b) staff acknowledge, in writing, that they have been provided with the written procedures.
- (6) A staff member must:
 - (a) read the written procedures, and
 - (b) sign a document stating they have read and understood the written procedures, and
 - (c) follow the written procedures.

Table 1 **Written procedures for a facility**

<i>Column 1</i> No	<i>Column 2</i> Description of written procedure
1. Procedures relating to general management of dogs and cats	
1.1	Procedure for the safe feeding and general care of dogs and cats, including puppies and kittens
1.2	Procedure for providing a complete and balanced diet for dogs and cats, including puppies and kittens
1.3	Procedure for cleaning and grooming dogs and cats
1.4	Procedure for providing exercise, enrichment and socialisation to dogs and cats
1.5	Procedure for the safe and humane handling of dogs or cats that pose a risk to the safety of other dogs and cats, including behavioural and disease risks

CONSULTATION DRAFT

1.6	Procedure for appropriate humane methods of capturing and transporting dogs or cats
2. Procedures relating to the health and well-being of dogs and cats	
2.1	Procedure for assessing when a dog or cat needs veterinary treatment, including when showing signs of abnormal physical or psychological well-being
2.2	Procedure for the care of ill, injured or distressed dogs and cats
2.3	Procedure for disease and parasite prevention and control
3. Procedures relating to breeding dogs and cats	
3.1	Procedures for the care of pregnant bitches and queens
3.2	Procedures for whelping and kitting
3.3	Procedures for lactating bitches and queens and weaning puppies and kittens
4. Procedures relating to the administration of the facility	
4.1	Procedure for receiving dogs and cats into the facility including a procedure for the identification of individual dogs and cats
4.2	Procedure for transfer of ownership of dogs and cats from the facility, including procedures for ensuring prospective buyers are matched to suitable dogs and cats, and for information to be provided to new owners about the care of dogs or cats being sold
4.3	Procedure for record keeping, including procedures for recording: (a) the details of individual dogs and cats specified in clause 8, (b) for each dog and cat under veterinary treatment, details of: (i) medication regimes, (ii) administration of medications, and (iii) storage of medications.
5. Procedures relating to maintenance of the facility	
5.1	Procedure for responses to emergencies such as fire, flood, power failure, extreme climatic events, hazardous spills or leaks, including an evacuation plan for safe exit from the facility (<i>Emergency management plan</i>)
5.2	Procedure for implementing biosecurity measures, including management of disease outbreaks
5.3	Procedure for the humane control of pests such as flies, mosquitoes and wild rodents
5.4	Procedure for reporting any facility maintenance issues requiring attention
5.5	Procedure for cleaning dog and cat housing, yards and other facilities

CONSULTATION DRAFT

6.	Procedure where an isolation facility is at a facility
6.1	Procedure for managing an isolation facility at a facility including biosecurity measures for the isolation facility

Part 4 Dog and cat housing standards

Division 1 Construction and maintenance standards for dog and cat housing

13 Construction standards for dog and cat housing

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that:
 - (a) housing is designed, constructed and maintained, so that:
 - (i) all solid surfaces are constructed of impervious, washable material and are free of cracks or crevices,
 - (ii) walls and doorways prevent the protrusion of limbs of dogs or cats through to the outside of, or between housing,
 - (iii) wall and floor junctions are impervious or curved to facilitate cleaning and disinfection,
 - (iv) flooring surfaces are solid, impervious and non-slip,
 - (v) liquids or faeces can be rapidly removed from housing with minimal risk of contaminating the coat of a dog or a cat or other housing,
 - (vi) dogs or cats can easily access food and water,
 - (vii) animals can be easily inspected by staff,
 - (viii) the risk of injury or transmission of disease to a dog or a cat is minimised,
 - (ix) dogs and cats are unable to escape or cause injury to other animals, and
 - (x) dogs and cats are protected from distress or injury caused by interference by people.
 - (b) housing has a roof and is partially enclosed so as to protect the animal housed from rain, wind, direct sunlight or other adverse weather conditions.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (2) The person in charge of a facility must ensure vehicles, caravans, portable crates located at the facility and the crawl space under any dwelling at the facility are not used as housing for dogs and cats.
- (3) Where a facility houses both dogs and cats, the person in charge of the facility must ensure the cat housing is a sufficient distance or otherwise isolated from dog housing to minimise the stress created by the sound, sight or smell of dogs.
- (4) The person in charge of the facility must ensure the facilities have a continuous water supply, adequate to meet the daily requirements of the dogs and cats held.

14 Lighting of dog and cat housing

The person in charge of a facility must ensure that:

- (a) housing is lit, either from artificial or natural sources, and that the lighting mimics the prevailing natural light cycles,
- (b) the light in housing enables a thorough inspection and observation of the dogs and cats housed, and
- (c) the dogs and cats housed are protected from excessive external light.

15 Ventilation of dog and cat housing

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that ventilation in housing:
 - (a) maintains the health of the dogs and cats, and
 - (b) minimises the accumulation of noxious gases, odours, moisture condensation and draughts that may have an adverse impact on the animals.
- (2) Where a mechanical air ventilation device is used in housing, the person in charge of a facility must ensure that the air ventilation device has:
 - (a) an air exchange rate which is sufficient to distribute fresh air evenly throughout the housing, and
 - (b) a back-up system in the event that the ventilation device ceases to operate.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

16 Temperature of dog and cat housing

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that the temperature and humidity of housing is managed:
 - (a) so as to minimise stress and distress to dogs and cats;
 - (b) to prevent death or morbidity of dogs and cats, and
 - (c) so that housing provides an acceptable temperature gradient for the species being cared for.
- (2) Very old and very young animals which are more sensitive than others to changes in temperature, must be provided with additional heating or cooling, if required.
- (3) The temperature of any room in which the housing is located must not exceed 30 degrees Celsius and must not fall below 15 degrees Celsius.

17 Minimum housing requirements for dogs

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that dog housing:
 - (a) provides sufficient space to allow dogs:
 - (i) to walk around freely without obstruction, and
 - (ii) to sleep, and eat away from areas where they urinate and defecate,
 - (b) allows a dog to make normal postural adjustments and assume a comfortable position when lying down with limbs extended and when eating, drinking, sitting, urinating and defecating,
 - (c) allows a dog to hold its tail erect when in a normal standing position, and
 - (d) complies with the minimum sizes set out in Table 2 below.
- (2) In Table 2, *minimum floor area* includes the area allocated to bedding.
- (3) The minimum requirements set out in Table 2 do not remove the requirement that dogs are provided with sufficient space to rest, stand, stretch, or move freely, as appropriate to the species.
- (4) The person in charge of a facility must ensure dividing partitions between dog housing must be solid, impervious and be of a minimum height of 120cm.
- (5) The minimum sizes set out in Table 2 do not apply to dogs under veterinary care for a disease or injury.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

Table 2 Minimum sizes for dog enclosures

Dogs	Min floor Area* (m ²)	Min Height (cm)	Min width (cm)
Puppies (+/- bitch)	3.5	180	120
1 dog, <40cm height at shoulder	1.5	180	90
2 dogs, <40cm height at shoulder	2.5	180	90
Socially compatible groups of dogs, <40cm height at shoulder, housed in backyard or house	1.5 per animal	-	-
1 dog, 40-60cm height at shoulder	2.4	180	90
2 dogs, 40-60cm height at shoulder	3.6	180	90
Socially compatible groups of dogs, 40-60cm height at shoulder, housed in backyard or house	2.4 per animal	-	-
1 dog, >60cm height at shoulder	3.5	180	120
2 dogs, >60cm height at shoulder	5.2	180	120
Socially compatible groups of dogs, >60cm height at shoulder, housed in backyard or house	3.5 per animal	-	-

**minimum floor area* includes the area allocated to bedding.

18 Minimum housing requirements for cats

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that all cat housing:
 - (a) provides sufficient space to allow cats:
 - (i) to walk around freely without obstruction, and
 - (ii) to sleep and eat away from areas where they urinate and defecate,
 - (b) allows a cat to make normal postural adjustments and assume a comfortable position when lying down with limbs extended and when eating, drinking, sitting, urinating and defecating,
 - (c) allows a cat to hold its tail erect when in a normal standing position, and
 - (d) complies with the minimum sizes set out in Table 3 below.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (2) If cat housing is required to have a minimum height of 210cm, the housing must contain at least 2 levels incorporating raised sleeping quarters and provide access to all levels by ramps, poles, steps or similar means.
- (3) The minimum requirements set out in Table 3 do not remove the requirement that animals are provided with sufficient space to rest, stand, stretch, or move freely, as appropriate to the species
- (4) The person in charge of the facility must ensure dividing partitions between cat housing must be solid, impervious and be of a minimum height of 120cm.
- (5) The minimum sizes set out in Table 3 do not apply to cats under veterinary care for a disease or injury.

Table 3 Minimum sizes for cat enclosures

Cats	Min floor Area** (m2)	Min Height (cm)	Min width (cm)
Kitten/s (+/- queen)	0.8	210*	60
Single Cat	0.8	210*	60
Cats (max 2)	0.8	210*	60
Socially compatible group housed in backyard or house	0.8 per animal, with provisions made for vertical space		-

* The module must contain at least two levels incorporating raised sleeping quarters. Access to all levels must be available through the provision of ramps, poles, steps or the like.

** *minimum floor area* includes the area allocated to bedding.

19 Exercise enclosures for dogs

The person in charge of a facility must ensure that free-running or off-lead exercise enclosures for dogs are:

- (a) a minimum size of 10 metres by 4 metres, and
- (b) fenced so as to:
 - (i) prevent a dog escaping,
 - (ii) prevent a dog being injured, and
 - (iii) prevent the protrusion of the head or limb of a dog through to the outside of the exercise enclosure or between exercise enclosures.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

20 Dog and cat treatment room

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that a treatment room is available at the facility, away from public view, for the provision of first aid and the treatment of sick or injured dogs and cats.
- (2) A treatment room may also be used for the humane destruction of dogs and cats, so long as the provisions of clause 52 are met.
- (3) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that a treatment room located at the facility:
 - (a) is regularly cleaned and disinfected,
 - (b) is temperature controlled,
 - (c) has power and running water,
 - (d) has covered floor and wall junctions, and
 - (e) has appropriately sized cages.
- (4) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that dogs and cats undergoing treatment and housed in the treatment room are inspected at a frequency that ensures adequate care.

21 Isolation facilities

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that an isolation facility is available to take animals from the facility of having an infectious disease or parasite:
 - (a) at a facility, away from public view, or
 - (b) at a veterinary hospital with which the breeder has an arrangement to take dogs and cats from the facility suspected of having an infectious disease or parasite.
- (2) A cat isolation facility must be a sufficient distance or otherwise isolated from dog housing to minimise the risk of spreading disease and stress caused by the sound, sight or smell of dogs.
- (3) Isolation housing must provide adequate space for dogs and cats to be comfortable.
- (4) Dogs and cats housed in an isolation facility must be inspected at a frequency that ensures adequate care.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

Division 2 Management of dog and cat housing

22 Group housing

Staff must ensure that no more than four compatible dogs or six compatible cats are kept in any housing, unless they are a litter of puppies or kittens, with or without a lactating mother, and where the minimum cage size conforms to the minimum requirements.

23 Special dog and cat housing requirements

- (1) Staff must ensure that the following dogs and cats are housed individually in a quiet, warm and dry area that is separated from other dogs and cats:
 - (a) a dog or a cat about to give birth,
 - (b) a dog or a cat in season, where it is not the intention to breed,
 - (c) a dog or cat with dependent young,
 - (d) a dog or a cat that is aggressive or has other behavioural needs, and
 - (e) a sick or injured dog or cat.
- (2) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that dogs and cats are not distressed by the presence of other dogs and cats.
- (3) If an animal may be distressed by the presence of other cats or dogs, that animal must be separated from other cats and dogs, to prevent visual and minimise or reduce olfactory contact with other cats and dogs.

24 Sleeping area requirements

The person in charge of a facility must ensure that:

- (a) each individual housing has a designated raised sleeping area, which is clean and dry,
- (b) all sleeping areas for dogs and cats have clean, hygienic and dry bedding:
 - (i) appropriate to the species and breed,
 - (ii) sufficient for and equal to the number of dogs and cats housed (unless litters of puppies or kittens), and
 - (iii) sufficient to insulate the cat or dog from the floor.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

25 Special cat housing requirements

The person in charge of a facility must ensure that each cat is provided with:

- (a) an area in which they can fully withdraw or a suitable box in which to sleep or hide,
- (b) a litter tray which is at least 1.2 times the length of the cat, and which contains a sufficient depth of material such as commercial cat litter, sawdust, shavings, sand or shredded paper to ensure absorption of waste.

Division 3 Security of dog and cat housing

26 Design of dog and cat housing for security purposes

- (1) The proprietor of a facility must ensure that housing is designed to:
 - (a) prevent access by the public unless under the supervision of staff, and
 - (b) prevent escape and theft of the dogs and cats housed.
- (2) The person in charge of the facility must ensure all housing is fitted with a secure closing device that cannot be opened by the animals housed.
- (3) The person in charge of the facility must ensure any security methods allow for ready access to dogs and cats and ready exit for staff and animals from the facility in the event of an emergency.
- (4) The person in charge of the facility must ensure the facility is secured to prevent access to the facility by unauthorised people.
- (5) The person in charge of the facility must ensure all potential poisons and harmful substances are kept out of reach of dogs and cats.

27 Barriers between dog or cat and exterior of facility

The person in charge of a facility must ensure that the facility has a minimum of two gates adequate to contain a dog or cat, between a dog or a cat and the exterior of the facility.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

28 Emergency management

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that staff are trained and practised in all matters in the emergency management plan, including the use of firefighting equipment in the facility.
- (2) The person in charge of a pet shop must ensure that functioning firefighting equipment is available for use in the pet facility

Part 5 Management of dog and cat care

29 General standards for the care of dogs and cats

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that all staff are able to identify individual dogs and cats.
- (2) The person in charge of the facility must ensure that staff exercise dogs for at least 20 minutes daily, whether on or off lead, except under the written advice of a veterinary practitioner.
- (3) If a dog is allowed to exercise off lead, the person in charge of the facility must ensure staff place the dog in an exercise enclosure.
- (4) The person in charge of the facility must ensure that no more than 4 compatible dogs are given access to an exercise enclosure at the same time.
- (5) The person in charge of the facility must ensure staff supervise any yard for group exercise, and care is taken to avoid mixing of incompatible dogs, fighting and the transmission of infectious disease.
- (6) Dogs must not be exercised in any way which may pose the risk of injury..
- (7) Staff must ensure the long haired dogs and cats are properly groomed and that the dogs and cats coats are not left dirty, matted, tangled or unkempt.
- (8) The person in charge of the facility must ensure that dogs and cats are provided with daily environmental enrichment.
- (9) Environmental enrichment:
 - (a) must use stimuli that recognise the physiological status and special needs of differing ages and species,
 - (b) must aim to facilitate good psychological health, and
 - (c) may include stimuli set out in Appendix 1.
- (10) Environmental enrichment activities:
 - (a) must be rotated regularly,

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (b) must not be limited to periods of exercise, and
 - (c) may use activities such as those listed in Appendix 2.
- (11) The person in charge of the facility must ensure that every dog and cat receives daily socialisation, including direct handling or group exercise as listed in Appendix 1.
- (12) The person in charge of the facility must ensure that every dog or cat, puppy or kitten receives at least 5 minutes of direct handling daily from one week of age.
- (13) The person in charge of the facility must ensure socialisation of mixed litters or species is supervised and only undertaken with compatible animals of appropriate age, temperament and vaccination status.

30 Food and water requirements

- (1) Staff must ensure that clean and fresh water is available to dogs and cats at all times.
- (2) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that each day, dogs and cats are provided with a balanced and complete diet in accordance with the relevant written procedure which allows them to maintain good health and growth, recognising the physiological status and special needs of differing ages and species.
- (3) Cats must not be fed a purely vegetarian diet.
- (4) Staff must offer food to dogs and cats that are less than four months of age a minimum of three times a day from three weeks of age.
- (5) Staff must offer food to dogs and cats that are more than four months of age a minimum of two times a day.
- (6) Staff must supervise dogs and cats that are co-housed during feeding to ensure that each dog or cat is eating their own share.
- (7) Staff must remove and promptly dispose of uneaten, spoiled or stale food or water.
- (8) Staff must remove and clean food and water containers:
- (a) immediately, if the container becomes contaminated with a substance that may be harmful to the animal, and
 - (b) otherwise, on a daily basis.
- (9) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that:
- (a) food is prepared in an area that is clean and hygienic, and
 - (b) food is stored in such a way as to prevent its deterioration or contamination.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (10) The person in charge of the facility must ensure food and water containers are:
 - (a) made from material that is non-toxic to the animal,
 - (b) designed to allow the animal easy access to its food, and
 - (c) readily accessible to the dog or cat, and positioned to avoid spillage or contamination by urine or faeces.
- (11) The person in charge of the facility must ensure sick dogs and cats are fed in accordance with veterinary advice.

31 Cleanliness and hygiene requirements

- (1) The person in charge of the facility must ensure staff clean and disinfect dog and cat housing at least once daily, with hospital-grade disinfectant, to minimise the risk of transmission of infectious disease.
- (2) Staff must promptly and hygienically dispose of all faeces, bedding, used or uncontaminated litter and all uneaten food removed from cat or dog housing in accordance with the requirements of the law.
- (3) During cleaning, staff must
 - (a) remove, or otherwise separate, all dogs and cats from the area being cleaned to protect the animals from becoming wet, and
 - (b) ensure the safe and humane handling of animals that pose a risk to the safety of other animals.
- (4) Staff must not allow dogs and cats to remain in extended contact with wet floors.
- (5) Staff must clean and disinfect housing, bedding, food and water containers and litter trays before a new dog or cat is introduced to them or before whelping or kitting.
- (6) Staff must minimise the risk of transferring disease from one animal to another by thoroughly washing and sanitising their hands between handling animals.
- (7) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that cleaning and disinfection chemicals and materials used in the facility are:
 - (a) non-toxic to dogs and cats,
 - (b) chosen on the basis of their suitability, safety and effectiveness,
 - (c) used in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions, and
 - (d) removed or rinsed away prior to an animal being returned to the cage.
- (8) The person in charge of the facility must ensure staff:

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (a) clean exercise enclosures daily, and
 - (b) if the exercise enclosure has a concrete floor disinfect the concrete floor at least once weekly.
- (9) The person in charge of the facility must ensure staff clean collection drains in a facility daily.
- (10) The person in charge of a pet shop must ensure staff clean and disinfect preparation and storage areas in a facility and utensils and equipment used in the preparation and provision of food daily.
- (11) Staff must inspect litter trays daily and remove any solid waste immediately.
- (12) Staff must change, wash and disinfect litter trays:
- (a) immediately, if the litter trays become saturated with urine or covered in faeces, and
 - (b) otherwise, at least once daily.
- (13) If members of the public are allowed to touch any animals, staff must not allow a person to touch an animal if there will be an unacceptable risk of harm to the animal because the person:
- (a) has handled any animals that day,
 - (b) has any animals at home and whether those animals' vaccinations are current.
- (14) The person in charge of the facility must ensure that hand-cleaning facilities are readily available at the facility and the members of the public thoroughly wash their hands before and after touching any animals.

32 Requirements when transporting dogs or cats

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure dogs and cats are in good health and assessed as fit for any intended journey.
- (2) The person in charge of the facility may transport an animal assessed to be not fit for an intended journey:
- (a) under veterinary advice, or
 - (b) to a veterinary practitioner for treatment.
- (3) During the transportation of dogs and cats to or from a facility, the person in charge in relation to the dogs or cats must:
- (a) prevent injury, harm or distress by ensuring all cats are visually and physically separated from dogs, and incompatible dogs and cats of the same species are separated, so as to prevent injury, harm or distress,

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (b) monitor the condition of the dogs and cats and take any necessary action to protect them from injury, harm or distress,
 - (c) every two hours, provide all dogs and cats with an opportunity to drink water, eat, stretch, urinate and defecate.
- (4) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that containers used for transporting dogs and cats:
- (a) are of a size that enables a dog or cat to lie down flat, turn around, stand erect and stretch with adequate clearance, and
 - (b) are made of robust material, are escape-proof and sufficiently able to be secured.
- (5) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that containers and vehicles used regularly for the purpose of transporting dogs or cats to or from the facility:
- (a) have adequate ventilation, shade and temperature control sufficient to avoid harm and distress,
 - (b) are designed to protect animals from injury through being free from protrusions or sharp areas in the carrying area,
 - (c) are designed to protect animals from injury by having non-slip floors,
 - (d) provide sufficient light to enable a dog or cat to be inspected during the journey, and
 - (e) are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after use to minimise the risk of the transmission of infectious disease between consignments of dogs or cats.
- (6) The person in charge in relation to the animals must ensure dogs and cats are not be transported in the boot of a car.
- (7) The person in charge in relation to the animals must not leave a dog or cat unattended in a vehicle.
- (8) The minimum exercise requirement of these standards applies to transported dogs.

Part 6 Health standards for dogs and cats

33 Monitoring health status of dogs and cats

- (1) When a dog or a cat arrives at a facility, the person in charge of the facility must ensure staff physically examine the animal to assess the physical and psychological health status of the animal.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (2) The person in charge of the facility must ensure:
 - (a) staff physically inspect all dogs and cats at least twice daily to monitor the health and well-being of the dogs and cats in accordance with the written procedure on health assessment, and
 - (b) record in the Animal Directory:
 - (i) all adverse observations where a dog or a cat is showing any obvious signs of injury, illness or distress, or
 - (ii) if dog or a cat is not:
 - A. eating,
 - B. drinking (in the case of kittens and puppies suckling or drinking milk),
 - C. defecating,
 - D. urinating,
 - E. behaving normally, including behavioural changes that may signify a deterioration in the physiological health status of the dog or cat, as determined by using the written procedure on health assessment,
 - F. able to move about freely, and
 - G. displaying a normal covering of fur.
- (3) Staff must promptly report to the person in charge of the facility any changes in physical or psychological health status of an animal for appropriate action.

34 Arrangements with veterinary practitioner

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure:
 - (a) arrangements are in place between the facility and a veterinary practitioner to provide veterinary treatment to dogs and cats in the facility and to provide advice on the care and welfare of those dogs and cats and on disease and parasite prevention measures; and
 - (b) staff act upon all advice provided by the veterinary practitioner.
- (2) Veterinary services must be available at all times.
- (3) The contact details for the veterinary practitioner must be posted in a location which enables staff and visitors to the facility to see them.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

35 Veterinary treatment of dogs and cats

- (1) Staff must ensure that first aid and veterinary treatment is promptly provided to a dog or cat which appears to have a physical or psychological medical condition, including but not limited to any of the following signs or symptoms:
 - (a) runny nose,
 - (b) runny, discharging or inflamed eyes,
 - (c) repeated sneezing,
 - (d) coughing,
 - (e) vomiting,
 - (f) severe diarrhoea, especially if bloodstained,
 - (g) lameness,
 - (h) bleeding or swelling of body parts (other than the vulva of a female on heat),
 - (i) difficulty or inability to stand, walk, urinate or defecate,
 - (j) loss of appetite,
 - (k) weight loss, particularly if severe or sudden,
 - (l) apparent pain,
 - (m) fits, staggering or convulsions,
 - (n) patchy hair loss,
 - (o) bloating of the abdomen,
 - (p) red or brown coloured urine,
 - (q) depression,
 - (r) fever,
 - (s) presence of external parasites,
 - (t) uncharacteristic aggression towards humans or other animals, avoidance of contact with humans or other animals, freezing or hiding behaviours,
 - (u) uncharacteristic persistent vocalisation, pacing or circling,
 - (v) any other serious physical or behavioural abnormality.
- (2) When assessing whether a dog or cat requires first aid or veterinary treatment, staff must follow the relevant written.
- (3) The person in charge of the facility must ensure veterinary advice is obtained in the event of unexplained deaths.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (4) At the time a cat or dog is accepted by the facility for breeding, the person in charge of the facility must obtain written authority from a dog or cat's owner or nominee for the facility to obtain veterinary treatment for the animal.

36 Vaccination

The person in charge of the facility must ensure:

- (a) dogs are vaccinated against distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, and canine cough in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, unless a veterinary practitioner gives written approval for the dog to not be vaccinated.
- (b) cats are to be vaccinated against feline infectious enteritis and feline respiratory disease in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, unless a veterinary practitioner gives written approval for the cat to not be vaccinated.
- (c) kittens and puppies are vaccinated against common infectious diseases in accordance with best practice clinical guidelines, and in consultation with a veterinary practitioner.
- (d) newly acquired dogs and cats are not mixed with existing stock for a minimum of 48 hours.

37 Control of parasites

The person in charge of the facility must ensure staff provide routine and preventative treatments to dogs and cats to control internal and external parasites in accordance with manufacturers' instructions and the relevant written procedure.

38 Isolation of infectious dogs and cats

The person in charge of a facility must ensure dogs and cats which are known by staff to be, or are suspected to be, suffering from an infectious disease are isolated from other dogs and cats unless a veterinary practitioner provides a written assurance that it is appropriate to house those dogs and cats with other dogs and cats.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

Part 7 Transfer of ownership

39 Requirements for dogs and cats to be sold

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must not allow a dog or cat to be sold to a person who is less than 18 years of age.
- (2) Staff must not allow a puppy or a kitten to be sold before the animal is 8 weeks of age.
- (3) The person in charge of a facility must not allow a dog or a cat to be sold unless:
 - (a) the dog or cat has been microchipped and breeder details entered on the Register of Companion Animals,
 - (b) the dog or cat has received at least one veterinary practitioner examination,
 - (c) the dog or cat has been vaccinated in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, unless with the written approval of a veterinary practitioner, and
 - (d) the dog or cat has been treated to remove internal and external parasites in accordance with the relevant written procedure.
- (4) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that no dog or cat suspected of being sick, injured or physically or psychologically diseased is sold, unless a veterinary practitioner gives their written consent to the sale.
- (5) The person in charge of a facility must ensure the animal is suitably contained or restrained before leaving the facility with a new owner.
- (6) For the purpose of this clause, an animal is suitably contained or restrained if the container or restraint protects the dog or cat from injury, other animals, extreme temperatures and excessive stress.

40 Guarantee and returns

- (1) In this clause, the *guarantee* means the assurance given by the proprietor of the facility that if within three days of the date of delivery of a dog or cat to the purchaser, the dog or cat is not acceptable to the purchaser for any reason, the breeder will take the dog or cat back and refund 50% of the purchase price of the animal.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (2) The person in charge of the facility must provide a written copy of this guarantee to the purchaser at the point of sale.
- (3) If the person in charge of the facility advertises and sells a cat or dog using any form of electronic communication, they must include the guarantee in the advertisement.
- (4) If a dog or cat dies or is euthanased as a result of a physical defect or disease that is traceable to the point of sale and is verified by a veterinary practitioner, the person in charge of the facility must refund the purchase price or offer a replacement animal with the same guarantee.
- (5) If a dog or cat dies or is euthanased and the reason for death or euthanasia is as a result of a confirmed heritable defect, the parents and any offspring from those parents still held by the facility must be managed for that heritable defect, under the direction of a veterinary practitioner.

41 Consideration of conditions at proposed new home

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must implement policies to ensure that prospective buyers are matched to suitable dogs and cats, in accordance with the relevant written procedure.
- (2) The policies must require staff to:
 - (a) consider the number of animals already owned by the prospective owner so as to avoid hoarding of animals,
 - (b) be satisfied that the animal is physically and psychologically well, and
 - (c) be satisfied that it is within the capacity of the prospective owner to care for the animal.

42 Information and advice to new owners

- (1) At the time of sale of a dog or cat, the person in charge of the facility must ensure staff offer the new owner accurate written information about the care of the dog or cat, at no charge in accordance with the relevant written procedure.
- (2) Information required to be provided to new owners includes, but is not limited to:
 - (a) general care requirements of the species, including appropriate diet and feeding regimes,
 - (b) usual life span of breeds or species,
 - (c) minimum requirements for humane shelter and accommodation,

CONSULTATION DRAFT

- (d) minimum requirements for the security of the dog or cat,
 - (e) minimum requirements for social contact with humans and other animals of the same species,
 - (f) minimum requirements for disease and parasite control/prevention,
 - (g) how to identify and appropriately manage common physical and psychological diseases,
 - (h) procedures for seeking emergency treatment for the dog or cat, and the value of establishing a relationship with a veterinary practitioner, or animal behaviourist or other experienced persons,
 - (i) the estimated costs associated with providing food and shelter for the dog or cat,
 - (j) routine veterinary treatment which may be required for the animal,
Note: Routine veterinary treatment includes vaccination or parasite control.
 - (k) maximum time a dog or cat can be left unattended,
 - (l) the expected behaviours of the species or breed,
Note: Expected behaviours for a species or breed may include digging or scratching.
 - (m) information about the legal requirements for pet ownership, and the penalties for non-compliance,
 - (n) the need for ongoing vaccinations,
 - (o) the desirability and advantages of desexing dogs and cats,
 - (p) minimum requirements for exercise,
 - (q) costs associated with registering the dog or cat,
 - (r) other information which is reasonable that the purchaser must be made aware of.
- (3) The person in charge of a facility must ensure all dogs and cats being sold are accompanied with a:
- (a) **Breeder health declaration**, that includes details of any known physical abnormality at the time of sale and how that abnormality may affect the short- and long-term health and welfare of the dog or cat, and
 - (b) a vaccination certificate detailing the dog or cat's vaccination history, and any other preventative and veterinary treatments provided.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

Part 8 Breeding and rearing

43 Special requirements for mating dogs and cats

The person in charge of the facility must ensure:

- (a) bitches and queens are not mated during their first oestrous cycle,
- (b) a dog or cat is physically and psychologically healthy, free of disease at the time of being mated,
- (c) during mating, breeding pairs are isolated from the remaining breeding population, and monitored by the person in charge of the facility,
- (d) a female dog or cat that is being unduly harassed during mating must be removed from the male,
- (e) breeding mates are not be closely related to one another,

Note: Examples of closely related animals are father and daughter, brother and sister, grandfather and granddaughter.

- (f) an animal known or suspected of having a heritable disease or defect is not used for breeding, and
- (g) dogs and cats known or suspected to be suffering from an infectious disease are not used for breeding or accepted for breeding under lease unless a veterinary practitioner provides their written approval for the animal to be used for breeding.

44 Frequency of breeding

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that:
 - (a) bitches do not have more than two litters in any two year period, and do not have any more than six litters in her lifetime,
 - (b) queens do not have more than three litters in any two year period, and do have any more than six litters in her lifetime.
- (2) If a bitch or queen is five years of age and has not reached six litters, the person in charge of a facility must ensure that the bitch or queen is examined by a veterinarian to ensure the animal's suitability for continued breeding
- (3) The person in charge of a facility must arrange for a bitch or queen to be desexed when the bitch or queen has had six litters.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

45 Special requirements for pregnant dogs and cats

The person in charge of the facility must ensure mother dogs in the latter stages of pregnancy are provided with additional access to water and a balanced and complete diet at frequent intervals, in accordance with the relevant written procedure.

46 Special requirements for birthing

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that within seven days of the expected whelping or kitting date, a pregnant bitch or queen is separated from the remaining breeding population and moved to a specific whelping or kitting housing area and provided with a suitable whelping or kitting box that is lined with clean bedding that is changed daily.
- (2) The person in charge of the facility must ensure that a sufficiently trained staff member is available to attend and care for whelping bitches and kitting queens during all hours, and to undertake emergency actions as necessary.
- (3) During birthing, the person in charge of the facility must ensure bitches and queens are monitored by staff on a regular basis to ensure that the birth proceeds in a normal manner.
- (4) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that a bitch or queen must be immediately examined by a veterinary practitioner and appropriate action taken if:
 - (a) there is evidence that whelping or kitting has commenced and there is no progress within two hours, or
 - (b) abnormalities are observed in the whelping or kitting, or
 - (c) there are concerns for the welfare of a bitch or queen in the birthing process.
- (5) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that after birth is complete, a bitch or queen and her litter are monitored 6 hourly until the puppies or kittens are feeding and maternal acceptance has been firmly established.
- (6) Within 24 hours of delivery of a litter, the person in charge of a facility must ensure the mother and young are examined by a sufficiently trained staff member and health checked by a veterinary practitioner if there are concerns for the welfare of the bitch or queen or the offspring, and the birthing area cleaned and disinfected.
- (7) Dogs and cats that are separated from the remaining breeding population must be provided with additional attention and socialisation to animal carers.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

47 Special requirements for lactating bitches and queens

The person in charge of the facility must ensure:

- (a) lactating mothers are provided with additional access to water and a balanced and complete diet on an ad libitum basis, in accordance with the relevant written procedure .
- (b) lactating mothers are housed in such a manner that they are able to escape their young.
- (c) kittens and puppies are not separated from their litter or their lactating mother until they are eight weeks of age to facilitate socialisation, except in the best interests of the puppy or kitten, or their mother.

48 Artificial rearing

A person in charge of a facility must ensure that adequate resources are available for the artificial rearing of puppies and kittens. Orphaned or pre-weaned puppies and kittens must be fed under the direction of a veterinary practitioner.

49 Weaning puppies and kittens

The person in charge of the facility must ensure:

- (a) solid food must be offered to puppies and kittens from three weeks of age, in accordance with the relevant written procedure,
- (b) puppies and kittens are monitored when first offered solid food to ensure that the food is acceptable and palatable, and if necessary, solid food may require moistening or softening to increase palatability,
- (c) puppies and kittens are weighed weekly and individual weights recorded in the Animal Directory, in order to monitor that puppies and kittens are achieving a steady weight gain every week, and
- (d) all breeding females must have a general health check by a veterinary practitioner within 8 weeks post-partum.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

Part 9 Humane destruction

50 Separate area required for humane destruction

Staff must ensure that the humane destruction of a dog or a cat is carried out in an area that is separated from dog and cat housing and is not carried out in view of any other dogs and cats.

51 Method of humane destruction

The person in charge of a facility must ensure that the humane destruction of a dog or a cat is carried out by the intravenous administration of an overdose of pentobarbitone sodium unless there are compelling reasons to use another method to humanely destroy the animal.

52 Who may perform humane destruction

- (1) The person in charge of a facility must ensure that the humane destruction of a dog or a cat is only carried out by a veterinary practitioner, except in emergency situations.
- (2) In emergency situations, if the veterinary practitioner cannot attend the facility, the animal may be humanely destroyed under the direction of the veterinary practitioner.
- (3) The person in charge of a facility that humanely destroys an animal must make a record of the date, animal, method used to humanely destroy the animal, and reasons for emergency humane destruction, in the Animal Directory.

53 Humane destruction recommended by veterinary practitioner

The person in charge of a facility must ensure that an animal is humanely destroyed if:

- (a) treatment to restore the physical and psychological health of an animal while in the facility is impractical or has been unsuccessful, and
- (b) a veterinary practitioner has recommended that the animal be destroyed.

CONSULTATION DRAFT

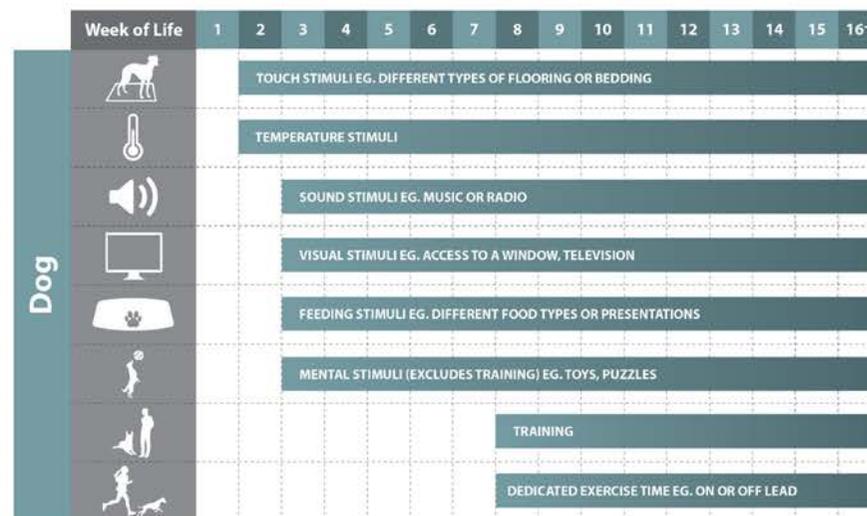
Appendix 1 Socialisation and enrichment for dogs and cats

Socialisation



Critical Period

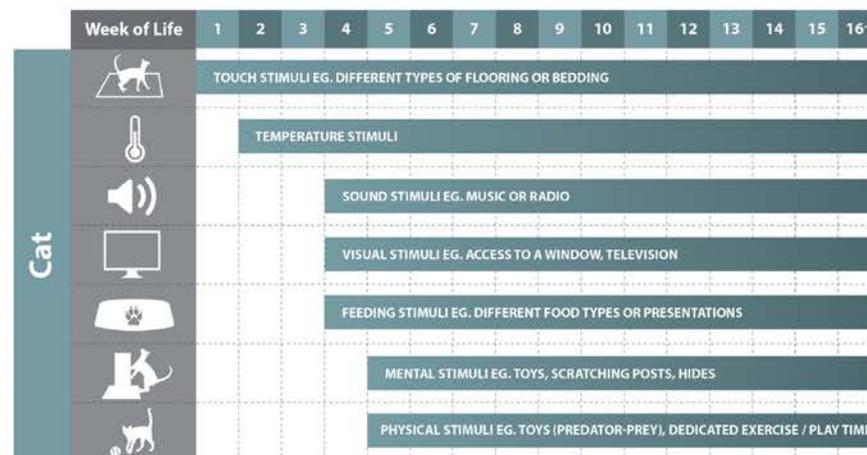
Enrichment



All enrichment types on a rotating basis



Critical Period



*Animals of appropriate temperament and vaccination/disease status

CONSULTATION DRAFT

Appendix 2 Suggested enrichment activities

Enrichment examples	
Stimuli Type	Examples
Sensory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tactile • Thermal • Auditory • Visual • Olfactory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional types of substrate / bedding (such as newspaper, grass, astro-turf, carpet, tiles), stimulation during handling (such as manipulation of ears, feet, muzzle etc.) • For example, placing an unrestrained puppy or kitten feet down on a damp towel that has been cooled in the fridge for 5 minutes, for 3-5 seconds (do not attempt to prevent animal from moving away). • Music, radio, television • Television, access to a window, introduction of novelty inanimate objects • Scent enrichment (eg catnip)
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interaction with people – direct (handling, playing) or indirect (during cleaning) • Interaction with conspecifics • Interaction with other animals