

Pet Shop Consultation Feedback

Introduction

Following the initial draft of the Animals policy, officers invited all pet shops within Lincoln to participate in a face to face consultation exercise.

There are 8 shops in total.

6 responded to our request.

A summary of the responses are provided below. The consultation focussed on three areas and aimed to develop an understanding of any business impacts;

Animal Welfare Aspects

Pet Shop Licensing Aspects

Additional Comments

Area	Negative	Positive
Welfare	<p>Some pet shops struggle to stock some species using only captive bred species</p> <p>Captive breeding is an issue for fish stocks – sustainably farmed should be considered</p> <p>Captive bread and issues regarding refreshing the gene pool</p>	<p>Support for education – many pet shops work with schools</p> <p>Broad support for efforts around puppies, kittens and primates – No shops intend to stock these items</p> <p>Many shops meet or exceed standards</p> <p>Shops asked us to consider restricting sales of rabbits at Easter</p> <p>Some shops may sell products that contain some parts of animals. For example some cat toys may be made with rabbit fur</p> <p>There should be tougher requirements on training for staff</p> <p>Some shops have excellent controls in place</p>
Pet Shop Licensing	<p>The policy does not seek to address unlicensed online sales, which we know a</p>	<p>Traders wanted us to be robust in managing licenses</p>

	significant market exists for	<p>Some shops requested a mid-year inspection</p> <p>Shops requested it is ensured that inspections look at all areas in premise</p> <p>DAWs – keep owner on site</p> <p>Shops were interested in a rating or star system</p> <p>Some shops wanted a way to keep inventories live and to share them online in some way</p>
Additional Comments	<p>Again the need for online sales to be tackled</p> <p>Ensure that vets that come to inspect have the right knowledge</p> <p>Crackdown on private sellers in our communities</p>	

The above responses led to change in the policy wherever possible and we look forward to continuing to work closely with the industry.