

## **Scotland for Animals**

We believe that any new proposals should include the following:

Any individual or enterprise involved in the supply of animals on a commercial basis should be required to hold a licence.

The requirement of enhanced disclosure checks of applicants to identify any information which may impact on animals for whom they are responsible.

The requirement of Enhanced disclosure checks of employees with access to animals or any area where they are housed, handled, etc.

Requirement that a register be created and retained detailing the number and species of animals in "stock" or for sale and that details of any injury, illness or death be recorded. This should be available to officials on request.

Proper and regularly reviewed training and accreditation should be required for any officials involved in monitoring.

Increased provision for unannounced checks on premises or traders in order to monitor welfare. Should there be involvement of a qualified third party this should be in addition to, and not instead of, monitoring or inspection by officials.

Licences should be valid for no longer than twelve months.

Provision for the immediate revocation of any licence and a ban should monitoring reveal breaches.

Requirement that an agreed summary of species specific care information be provided to each purchaser.

Requirement to produce identification at point of sale, and that purchaser details and information regarding animals involved in transaction be registered, retained and available to officials.

An increase in tariffs for related breaches.

Any additional measures identified.

Fees should take into account not only costs incurred by authorities, but also the detrimental effects of animals being classed as commodities to be bred and exchanged for profit.

With regard to the sale of animals, in the course of our work we often encounter inability or reluctance on the part of authorities to properly address welfare concerns and/ or non-adherence to legislation. We agree that there is a need for consistency and proper guidance however there should also be provision for firmer action and an expectation that this action be taken when necessary.

Any proposals should be part of wider legislation to control the sale of "pet" animals. Both local and national authorities should have a mandatory duty to promote adoption and rescue via reputable, non-commercial organisations.