



# Northumberland County Council

The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) Regulations 2018

## Application for a licence to Sell Animals as Pets

Please complete all the questions in the form. If you have nothing to record, please state "Not applicable" or "None"

1. Type of Application						
1.1	Type of Application	New		Renewal		If new go to section 2
1.2	Existing licence number					

2. Type of Business		
2.1	Pet Shop	
2.2	Home Sales	
2.3	Internet Sales	
2.4	Wholesales	
2.5	Third Party Sales	
2.6	Hobby Sales (Pet Fairs)	
2.7	Sale of animals to the public as pets by means of a fixed or minimum donation	
2.8	Other please state	

3. Agent						
3.1	Are you an agent acting on behalf of the applicant? (Put "no" if you are applying on your own behalf or on behalf of a business you own or work for).	Yes		No		If yes go to section 3.2 If no go to section 4

Further information about the Agent		
3.2	Name	
3.3	Address	
3.4	Email	
3.5	Main telephone number	
3.6	Other telephone number	

<b>4. Applicant Type</b>						
4.1	Applying as an individual	Yes		No		If yes go to section 5
4.2	Applying as a business or organisation, including a sole trader	Yes		No		If yes go to section 6

<b>5. Applicant Details - Individual</b>						
5.1	Full Name (Including Title)					
5.2	Address					
5.3	Email					
5.4	Main telephone number					
5.5	Other telephone number					
5.6	Date of birth					
5.7	Do you have any training certificates or qualifications?	Yes		No		If no, go to section 5.11
5.8	Please provide details of training certificates and qualifications					
5.9	Please provide details of relevant experience					

<b>6. Applicant - Business</b>						
6.1	Is your company registered with companies house?	Yes		No		If no go to section 6.3
6.2	Registration Number					
6.3	Business Name					
6.4	Is your business registered outside the UK					
6.5	VAT Number					
6.6	Legal status of the business					
6.7	Name of Business Owner					

6.8	Name of Applicant	
6.9	Your position in the business	
6.10	The country where your head office is located	
<b>Business Address – This should be your official address – The address required of you by law to receive all communication</b>		
6.11	Building name or number	
6.12	Street	
6.13	District	
6.14	City or Town	
6.15	County or administrative area	
6.16	Post Code	
6.17	Country	

<b>7. Premises to be licensed</b>			
7.1	Name of premises/trading name		
7.2	Address of premises		
7.3	Telephone number of premises		
7.4	Email address		
7.5	Do you have planning permission for this business use?	Yes	No

<b>8. Accommodation and facilities</b>	
8.1	Number and size of rooms to be used
8.2	Heating arrangements

8.3	Method of ventilation of premises	
8.4	Lighting arrangements (natural & artificial)	
8.5	Water supply	
8.6	Facilities for food storage & preparation	
8.7	Arrangements for disposal of excreta, bedding and other waste material	
8.8	Isolation facilities for the control of infectious diseases	
8.9	Fire precautions/equipment and arrangements in the case of fire	
8.10	Do you keep and maintain a register of animals?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
8.11	When the premises is closed what arrangements are in place to ensure the welfare of animals?	

<b>9. Animals to be sold</b>							
Please provide details of the animals to be sold – numbers for each species to detailed separately							
	<b>Type</b>			<b>Maximum Number</b>	<b>Details of accommodation</b>	<b>Size of accommodation: incl: H x W x L + floor area</b>	<b>Age at which to be sold</b>
9.1	Dogs / puppies	Yes	No				
9.2	Cats /kittens	Yes	No				
9.3	Chipmunks	Yes	No				
9.4	Rabbits & cavies	Yes	No				
9.5	Hamsters	Yes	No				
9.6	Rats, mice & gerbils	Yes	No				
9.7	Larger domesticated mammals, e.g. goats, pot-bellied pigs	Yes	No				
9.8	Primates e.g. marmosets	Yes	No				

<b>9. Animals to be sold</b>							
Please provide details of the animals to be sold – numbers for each species to detailed separately							
	<b>Type</b>			<b>Maximum Number</b>	<b>Details of accommodation</b>	<b>Size of accommodation: incl: H x W x L + floor area</b>	<b>Age at which to be sold</b>
9.9	Parrots, parakeets and macaws	Yes	No				
9.2	Pigeons	Yes	No				
9.3	Other large birds (please specify)	Yes	No				
9.4	Budgerigars, finches and other small birds	Yes	No				
9.5	Tortoises	Yes	No				
9.6	Snakes and lizards	Yes	No				
9.7	Tropical fish	Yes	No				
9.8	Marine fish	Yes	No				

<b>9. Animals to be sold</b>							
Please provide details of the animals to be sold – numbers for each species to detailed separately							
	<b>Type</b>			<b>Maximum Number</b>	<b>Details of accommodation</b>	<b>Size of accommodation: incl: H x W x L + floor area</b>	<b>Age at which to be sold</b>
9.9	Cold Water Fish	Yes	No				
9.2	Any other species (please specify)	Yes	No				

<b>10. Veterinary surgeon</b>	
10.1	Name of usual veterinary surgeon
10.2	Company name
10.3	Address
10.4	Telephone number
10.5	Email address

<b>11 Emergency key holder</b>						
11.1	Do you have an emergency key holder?	Yes		No		If no go to section 12
11.2	Full Name					
11.3	Position/job title					
11.4	Address					
11.5	Daytime telephone number					
11.6	Evening/other telephone number					
11.7	Email address					
11.8	Add another person?	Yes		No		If yes complete Annex 1

<b>12. Disqualifications and convictions</b>					
12.1	Has the applicant, or any person who will have control or management of the establishment, ever been disqualified from:				
	Keeping a pet shop?	Yes		No	
	Keeping a dog?	Yes		No	
	Keeping an animal boarding establishment?	Yes		No	
	Keeping a riding establishment?	Yes		No	
	Having custody of animals?	Yes		No	
12.2	Has the applicant, or any person who will have control or management of the establishment, been convicted of any offences under the Animal Welfare Act 2006?	Yes		No	



12.3	Has the applicant, or any person who will have control or management of the establishment, ever had a licence refused, revoked or cancelled?	Yes		No	
12.4	If yes to any of these questions, please provide details,				

13. Additional details	
<b>Please check the statutory licence conditions and guidance notes for any additional information which may be relevant to the application</b>	
13.1	

14. Payment						
14.1	<p>Payment must be made at the time of making the application.</p> <p>The fees are as follows:</p> <p>£225.00 - Renewal application</p> <p>£275.00 - New application</p> <p>£ 83.00 - Re-inspection fee</p> <p>£ 88.00 - Additional host inspection fee</p> <p>£252.00 - Additional licensing activity fee</p> <p>Payment can be made using the link below:</p> <p><a href="https://paymentportal.northumberland.gov.uk/Payment/NCC/Misc/">https://paymentportal.northumberland.gov.uk/Payment/NCC/Misc/</a></p>					
14.2	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Payment Made</td> <td>Yes</td> <td></td> <td>No</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Payment Made	Yes		No	
Payment Made	Yes		No			
14.3	<p><b>Veterinary Fee</b></p> <p>All new applications require a veterinary inspection from one of our appointed vets, vet fees will be invoiced to the applicant once the inspection is complete. The applicant(s) is required to pay the veterinary fee in full before the grant of the licence.</p> <p>Renewal Applications - The Licensing Authority reserves the right to appoint a veterinary inspection from one of our appointed vets should they deem this necessary. Vet fees will be invoiced to the applicant once the inspection is complete. The applicant(s) is required to pay the veterinary fee in full before the grant of the licence.</p>					

16. Additional Information	
<b>Please attach the following information to your application and tick to confirm it has been enclosed</b>	
16.1	Operating procedures (see Part A, General Condition 9.0)
16.2	Emergency procedures (see Part A, General Condition 10.0)

16. Additional Information		
16.3	Relevant qualifications/experience for Selling Animals as Pets (see Part A, General Condition 4.0)	
16.4	Training/continued professional development (CPD) records (see Part A, General Condition 4.0)	
16.5	Insurance policy ( <b>must be submitted with both new and renewal application</b> )	
16.6	Plan of Premises (please provide measurements in metric)	
16.7	For <b>RENEWAL</b> applications only – All policies/procedures will be checked at the inspection therefore you do not need to re-submit these with your application	

17. Declaration		
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This section must be completed by the applicant. If you are an agent please ensure this section is completed by the applicant.

17.1	I/We have read the statutory licence conditions and guidance notes ( <b>Selling Animals as Pets</b> ) prior to making this application.	
17.2	I/We are aware that I/We will be liable for any and all veterinary charges in association with this application	
17.3	I/We agree to allow an inspector and/or vet authorised by the Council to inspect the premises which are the subject of this application before any licence is granted.	
	I/We enclose the receipt for payment of the appropriate application fee/s.	
17.4	I/We declare that the details contained in the application form and any attached documentation are correct to the best of my/our knowledge and belief/s. I/We have read and understood the conditions of licence and will abide by them.	

18. Signatures		
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**This section must be completed by the applicant. If you are an agent please ensure this section is completed by the applicant.**

18.1	Signed	
18.2	Full Name	
18.3	Capacity	
18.4	Date	

**If any person knowingly or recklessly makes a false statement or omits any material particulars in giving information, they shall be guilty of an offence.**

Please return the completed application form, payment and supporting documents to:

Northumberland County Council  
Licensing Department  
West Hartford Fire Station  
West Hartford Business Park  
Cramlington  
Northumberland  
NE23 3JP

If you have any queries please contact the licensing section by telephone on 0345 600 6400 or by email at [licensing01@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:licensing01@northumberland.gov.uk)



# Northumberland County Council

## Selling Animals as Pets

**Please read the full DEFRA Guidance notes for all conditions required to sell animals as pets enclosed with this information**

### Pre-inspection information

#### **Veterinary Inspection**

- All **NEW** applications require a veterinary inspection from one of our appointed vets. The vet will carry out an inspection alongside one of our licensing officers and provide a written report as to the suitability of the premises and welfare conditions.

#### **Notes:**

- Sufficient numbers of people who are competent for the purpose must be available to provide a level of care that ensures that the welfare needs of all the animals are met.
- Animals must be kept at all times in an environment suitable to their species and condition (including health status and age) with respect to—
  - their behavioural needs,
  - its situation, space, air quality, cleanliness and temperature,
  - the water quality (where relevant),
  - noise levels,
  - light levels,
  - ventilation.
- Animals must be provided with suitable enrichment for species.
- Appropriate isolation facilities must be available for the care of sick, injured or potentially infectious animals.
- The licence holder must register with an appropriate veterinarian
- A designated key holder with access to all animal areas within a reasonable travel distance must be available to attend in an emergency.

#### **Procedures/policies required:**

- A written staff training policy to include annual appraisal, planned continued professional development, recognition of knowledge gaps, use of online courses and literature, research or developments for specific species. Should no staff be employed the licence holder should demonstrate their own knowledge development.
- Feeding regimes
- Cleaning regimes
- Transportation
- The prevention of, and control of the spread of, disease
- Monitoring and ensuring the health and welfare of all the animals
- The death or escape of an animal (including the storage of dead animals).
- Written procedure covering the care of the animals following the suspension or revocation of the licence or during and following an emergency
- A fire risk assessment and documented fire procedure is required
- A written emergency plan
- There must be a written policy in place for dealing with extremes of temperature and weather conditions (both hot and cold).

### Records:

- A written record of training, knowledge and experience must be kept
- A documented system of recording observations for illness, injury or abnormal behaviour of the animals and any actions taken.
- A register must be maintained for all the animals or, in the case of fish, all the groups of fish, on the premises. The register where they are kept for sale must include:
  - The full name of the supplier of the animal,
  - The animal's sex (where known)
  - (except in the case of fish) the animal's age (where known)
  - The date of birth of the animal or, if the animal was acquired by the licence holder, the date of its acquisition.
  - The date of sale of the animal by the licence holder, and
  - The date of the animal's death (if applicable)
- **Any advertisement for the sale of an animal must-**
  - Include the number of the licence holder's licence
  - Specify the local authority that issued the licence
  - Include a recognisable photograph of the animal being advertised
  - (except in the case of fish) display the age of the animal being advertised
  - State the country of residence of the animal from which it is being sold, and
  - State the country of origin of the animal.

### Pet Advice:

- The licence holder and all staff must ensure that any equipment and accessories being sold with an animal are suitable for the animal.
- The licence holder and all staff must ensure that the prospective owner is provided with information on the appropriate care of the animal including in relation to:
  - Feeding
  - Housing
  - Handling
  - Husbandry
  - The life expectancy of its species
  - The provision of suitable accessories, and
  - Veterinary care

### Star ratings:

As part of the new regulations each premises will receive a star rating following their formal inspection. In order to achieve the best star rating possible each premises will need to have covered all of the standard conditions and have all consents, policies and procedures in place.

In order to meet the highest possible rating for both the high and low risk categories in the rating matrix certain extra conditions will need to be met. The higher standards are classified in to two types: **required** and **optional** and are outlined below. **Higher standards that appear in blue text are required**, whereas **those that appear in red text are optional**. To qualify as meeting the higher standards, the business needs to achieve all of the required higher standards as well as a minimum of 50% of the optional higher standards.

## **General**

### **REQUIRED HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. Businesses selling animals exclusively to other businesses must meet the requirements for cage sizes and stocking densities in the species-specific minimum standards.
2. A documented health checklist should be completed daily and must cover physical, psychological, and behavioural issues and any abnormality recorded.

### **OPTIONAL HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. There must be a member of permanent, full-time staff with an OFQUAL Level 3 qualification that is appropriate to the species kept.
2. Ventilation must be managed, fixed or portable air system to ensure appropriate temperatures are maintained in all weather. This can be an air conditioning unit or use of removable fans.

## **DOGS**

### **REQUIRED HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. There must be adequate staffing to undertake more regular checks than required by the minimum standard.
2. The floor area must be at least 1.5 times larger than the minimum required.
3. Dogs must be provided with a design and layout that provides them with choice. Separate areas for different activities should be provided. This can be achieved by, for example, inclusion of raised platforms.
4. There must be a travel plan that sets out how animals are managed for long journeys over 4 hours.
5. The last interaction session must take place within one hour before the end of the working day.

### **OPTIONAL HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. Ventilation must be a managed, fixed or portable air system to ensure appropriate temperatures are maintained in all weather. This can be an air conditioning unit or use of removable fans.
2. There must be a routine monthly visit to check health and welfare by the veterinary practice and the veterinary record held.
3. A person that is competent in providing for the welfare of the animals must be on the premises at all times.

## **CATS**

### **REQUIRED HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. There must be adequate staffing to undertake more frequent checks than required by the minimum standard.
2. The floor area must be 1.5 times larger than the minimum required.
3. Cats must be provided with a design and layout that provides them with choice. Separate areas for different activities should be provided. This can be

achieved by, for example, including a choice of raised platforms or hiding places.

4. A privacy area for cats where they are not visible to people or cats in neighbouring pens must be provided for toileting.
5. Cats must have a feeding plan which splits meals into small portions throughout the day.
6. Where the individual cat will benefit, they must every day be given some food through scatter feeding or other appropriate feeding device. Cats must still get the majority of their daily food allowance in a feeding dish. If this is not done the reason must be documented, for example, due to veterinary advice.
7. A written programme must be available setting out a variety of enrichment both inside and outside, including training, grooming, socialisation and play.
8. The last interaction session must take place within one hour of the end of the working day.

### **OPTIONAL HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. Ventilation must be managed, fixed or portable air system to ensure appropriate temperatures are maintained in all weather. This can be an air conditioning unit or use of removable fans.
2. A noise management plan must be in place (for example, physical barriers, cat unity design, location of noise producing equipment) with demonstration of effectiveness.
3. A privacy area for cats where they are not visible to people or cats in neighbouring pens must be provided for toileting.
4. There must be a routine monthly visit to check health and welfare by the veterinary practice and veterinary records kept.
5. A person that is competent in providing for the welfare of the animals must be on the premises at all times.

### **RABBITS**

#### **REQUIRED HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. Where rabbits are housed, they should have permanent access to a separate sleeping area.
2. Litter trays must be provided that are impermeable, easy to clean and disinfect or be disposable. Litter trays must be deep cleaned at least weekly.
3. Containers must open from the top to facilitate removal of the animal. Containers must be lined with newspaper or bedding to absorb urine.
4. Hay must be provided in a hay receptacle or feeder at an appropriate height, which keeps it off the floor and reduces the risk of contamination of the hay.
5. Foraged foods (that have been foraged in uncontaminated areas and correctly identified) must be fed to the rabbits. Commercially available dried forages including willow can also be used to supplement the diet and provide a low-risk alternative to foraged foods.
6. Dietary enrichment must be used. For example, nuggets can be scattered around the enclosure, fed in puzzle feeders or hidden in paper bags or cardboard tubes. Where puzzle feeders or dispensers are used, rabbits must be monitored to ensure they can access the food.

## **OPTIONAL HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. For open topped cages, rabbits that are physically able to use platforms must be provided with access to a platform or multiple platforms. For closed top cages, rabbits must be able to access these easily and be able to sit on them fully without touching the cage roof. Care should be taken with open top enclosures to ensure sufficient height to prevent escapes or access by predators. If platforms are provided in closed top cages, rabbits must be able to access these easily and be able to sit on them fully without touching the cage roof.
2. Rabbits must be provided with access to growing grass to graze on, which can be in planted grass trays. Alternatively, rabbits can be provided with 2 different types of hay.
3. Water must be provided for rabbits in multiple bottles or bowls. During hot weather, both a bottle and a bowl must be provided (unless kittens are present, in which case only bottles are suitable).

## **GUINEA PIGS REQUIRED HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. Where guinea pigs are housed in hutches, they must have permanent attached access to a secure pen.
2. Carriers must open from the top to facilitate removal of the animal. Containers must be lined with newspaper or bedding to absorb urine.
3. Foraged foods (that have been foraged in uncontaminated areas and correctly identified) must be fed to the rabbits. Commercially available dried forages including willow can also be used to supplement the diet and provide a low-risk alternative to foraged foods.
4. Water may be provided in a clean gravity fill drinking bottle (which must be of a suitable size for the individual), automatic drinkers, or in bowls.
5. Any changes to drinking receptacles must be made gradually and drinking monitored to ensure animals are drinking normally.
6. Dietary enrichment must be used. For example, nuggets can be scattered around the enclosure, fed in puzzle feeders or hidden in paper bags or cardboard tubes. Where puzzle feeders or dispensers are used, guinea pigs must be monitored to ensure they can access the food.
7. Where guinea pigs have to be housed singly, they must be provided with extra sources of enrichment. A plan must be in place for singly housed guinea pigs.

## **OPTIONAL HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. Guinea pigs must be provided with access to growing grass to graze on. This can be achieved by placing planted grass trays in their exercise area. There must be enough grass for all guinea pigs housed to graze simultaneously. Alternatively, guinea pigs can be provided with fresh vegetables high in vitamin C every day.

## **FERRETS REQUIRED HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. Carriers must open from the top to facilitate removal of the animal; cardboard carriers are not advised as they are easily chewed and can become damp. Carriers can be lined with newspaper and some bedding material, for example, good quality dust-free hay or shredded paper can be provided for comfort.
2. Dietary enrichment must be used. For example, nuggets can be scattered around the enclosure, fed in puzzle feeders or hidden in paper bags or cardboard tubes. Where puzzle feeders or dispensers are used, ferrets must be monitored to ensure they can access the food.
3. Where ferrets have to be housed singly, they must be provided with extra sources of enrichment. A plan must be in place for all singly housed ferrets.

### **OPTIONAL HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. Treat foods must include cooked meat scraps and hard boiled eggs. Treats can be given in moderation as appropriate to the individual ferret.

## **SMALL RODENTS REQUIRED HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. See the minimum enclosure sizes that must be followed.
2. Light reducing shelters for rats, mice and hamsters (such as, but not limited to, a box or red tinted acrylic) must be provided. However, these must be monitored daily for signs of chewing and removed or replaced as necessary.
3. Small rodents must be provided with a choice of different nesting materials.
4. After cleaning, some used unsoiled litter and nesting material must be transferred back to help keep scents familiar for the rodents.
5. Where social species of small rodents have to be housed singly, they must be provided with extra sources of enrichment. A plan must be in place for singly housed small rodents (only those of a social species).

### **OPTIONAL HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. Small rodents that are physically able to use platforms must be provided with access to a platform (singly housed) or multiple platforms. Animals must be able to access these easily and be able to sit (ideally stand) up on it fully without touching the cage roof.
2. When work is occurring near, or nocturnal animals are checked at night, dim red light or dim white light must be used to minimise disturbance. Light level must be sufficient enough for observing or undertaking required tasks.
3. A written programme must be available setting out a variety of appropriate enrichment provided.

## **NON-DOMESTIC MAMALS Optional**

1. A written programme must be available setting out a variety of appropriate enrichment provided



## **BIRDS REQUIRED HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. The enclosure size must allow the bird to have variety and choice in its environment.
2. Birds must be displayed for sale in aviaries that are 4 times the birds flying wingspan or larger in size for the length, depth and height for an individual bird and 20% increase for each successive bird for multiple occupancy.
3. A variety of substrates, including a variety of perches for arboreal birds must be provided. Perches of a variable thickness and materials must be provided.
4. Output of UVB bulbs must be monitored with a UV meter and recorded. Species specific requirements must be documented and available for inspection.
5. Specialist nutritional advice must be sought where appropriate.
6. Birds must not be housed or sold with their wings clipped. Wings are kept complete, and flight is actively encouraged.
7. All birds of prey, or other trained birds where appropriate, must have daily periods of flight; either in aviaries or flown outdoors by a competent person.
8. Birds must not be removed from their parents (for 'hand rearing') until their eyes have been opened for more than one week to avoid risk of mal imprinting on humans as adult birds.
9. Adult non-colonial birds must be managed in large flights, to allow birds space to escape from each other if required to prevent behavioural problems. Sufficient staff to manage the population must be provided as needed.

## **OPTIONAL HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. All cages must have direct access to a flight aviary.
2. Furniture must be changed on a regular basis to provide novelty and enclosures designed to provide choice for the animals within.
3. The licence holder must have signage identifying potentially aggressive birds including clearly labelled aviaries and cages.

## **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS REQUIRED HIGHER STANDARDS**

1. The output of UVB lamps must be monitored with a UV meter and recorded on a weekly basis. Species specific requirements must be documented and available for inspection.
2. Specific written protocols for the quarantine or prevention of release of chytridomycosis and potentially other biological agents must be available for inspection where amphibians are maintained.
3. For thermostatically stable vivaria, temperature assessment must be increased to 3 times weekly to document maximum and minimum temperatures.
4. Where applicable, a minimum of 2 hides or sheltered areas must be provided and located in different areas of the thermogradient.
5. A dedicated area of isolation or quarantine must be available with associated protocols and policies in place to ensure biosecurity of the premises.

## OPTIONAL HIGHER STANDARDS

1. Large established or permanent reptilian vivaria with water features must have water filtration systems to ensure hygiene is maintained.
2. For species that require brumation, designated facilities must be available and a related policy regarding temperature and other husbandry requirements available for inspection.
3. Suitable thermogradient, humidity and UVB index (where applicable) for the species must be displayed on each vivarium.
4. Sizing of vivaria and associated environmental parameters must meet or exceed those outlined in the higher standards (table K-02).
5. Moist, non-powdered nitrile gloves (or similar) must be used to handle amphibians.

## FISH

### REQUIRED HIGHER STANDARDS

1. Water quality must be assessed 3 times weekly, and records kept of test results. In instances when water quality parameters are not met, the remedial action taken to restore acceptable parameters should be recorded.
2. There must be evidence that UV systems are maintained regularly.
3. Businesses must have:
  - Documented procedures that control and manage the buying and selling of fish.
  - Internal controls in place to detect irregular transactions.
  - A well-maintained accounting system with a full audit trail.

### OPTIONAL HIGHER STANDARDS

1. A suitable temperature range for the fish must be displayed on each standalone system and on each centralised system.
2. For premises with no natural light, there must be automated systems or procedures (or both) to ensure gradual change in light levels.

Scoring Matrix		Welfare Standards		
		Minor Failings (existing business that are falling to meet minimum standards)	Minimum Standards (as laid down in the schedules & guidance)	Higher Standards (as laid down in the guidance)
Risk	Low Risk	<b>1 Star</b> 1 yr. licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period	<b>3 Star</b> 2 yr. licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period	<b>5 Star</b> 3 yr. licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period
	High Risk	<b>1 Star</b> 1 yr. licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period	<b>2 Star</b> 1 yr. licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period	<b>4 Star</b> 2 yr. licence Min 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period

