

## 1983 No. 380

## DOGS

**Dogs (Breeding Establishments and Guard Dog Kennels)  
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983**

*Made* . . . . . 22nd November 1983

*Coming into operation* . . . . . 19th December 1983

The Department of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 10(6), 13(6) and 15(1) of the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:

*Citation and commencement*

1. These regulations may be cited as the Dogs (Breeding Establishments and Guard Dog Kennels) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983 and shall come into operation on 19th December 1983.

*Interpretation*

2. In these regulations "the Order" means the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983.

*Registers*

3.—(1) A register of guard dog kennels shall contain the following particulars—

- (a) the name and address of the keeper of the guard dog kennels;
- (b) the address of the guard dog kennels;
- (c) the number of guard dogs kept in the business of the guard dog kennels;
- (d) the period for which the guard dog kennels are registered as specified in the certificate of registration issued under Article 10(3) of the Order.

(2) A register of breeding establishments shall contain the following particulars—

- (a) the name and address of the keeper of the breeding establishment;
- (b) the address of the breeding establishment;
- (c) the number of unsterilised bitches kept in the breeding establishment;
- (d) the period for which the breeding establishment is registered as specified in the certificate of registration issued under Article 13(3) of the Order.

(3) A register of guard dog kennels or a register of breeding establishments may be kept either by making entries in bound books or by recording the particulars in any other manner including a non-legible form so long as the recording is capable of being reproduced in a legible form for inspection.

*Application for registration*

4. Where under the provisions of the Order a person is required to register guard dog kennels or a breeding establishment the application for such registration shall give—

- (a) in the case of guard dog kennels—
  - (i) the name and address of the keeper of the guard dog kennels;

- (ii) the address of the guard dog kennels;
- (iii) the number of guard dogs kept in the business of the guard dog kennels; and
- (b) in the case of a breeding establishment—
  - (i) the name and address of the keeper of the breeding establishment;
  - (ii) the address of the breeding establishment;
  - (iii) the number of unsterilised bitches kept in the breeding establishment and owned by the keeper of the establishment;
  - (iv) the number of unsterilised bitches kept in the breeding establishment which are owned by a person other than the keeper of the establishment; and
  - (v) the name and address of the owner of any unsterilised bitches in the breeding establishment which are owned by a person other than the keeper of the establishment.

*Construction and operation*

5.—(1) Guard dog kennels shall be constructed and operated in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1.

(2) A breeding establishment shall be constructed and operated in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 2.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 22nd November 1983.

(L.S.)

*S. R. Armstrong*

Assistant Secretary

## SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 5(1)

**Construction and operation of guard dog kennels**

1. The premises of the guard dog kennels shall be of durable construction, shall be capable of being cleansed and disinfected and shall be of suitable size for the number of occupants and shall include exercising facilities.

2. The premises shall have an adequate water supply and adequate drainage.

3. The premises shall be adequately lighted, shall have adequate ventilation and be so constructed as to prevent the dogs therein being adversely affected by extremes of temperature.

4. Accommodation shall be constructed, and enclosed to the extent necessary to prevent the escape of any dog kept therein, and to afford maximum protection to the public.

5. Each dog shall be housed in a single kennel which shall include a sleeping area; and each kennel shall be of the minimum dimensions 3.04 m in length by 1.82 m in breadth by 1.35 m in height.

6. Dogs shall be supplied with food suitable to their needs and clean drinking water shall be provided for them at all times.

7. Adequate clean bedding shall be provided for each dog and shall be renewed when soiled.

8. Dogs shall be adequately exercised, and visited by the keeper of the guard dog kennels or an attendant at suitable intervals.

9. No dog shall be exposed continually to direct sunlight.

10. Dogs shall receive any necessary veterinary treatment, including vaccinations.

11. All reasonable precautions shall be taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious or contagious diseases among the dogs including the provision of adequate isolation facilities in which dogs found to be sick must be immediately placed and retained pending veterinary treatment.

12. All appropriate and necessary steps, consistent with the protection of persons, shall be taken to ensure the safe extrication of the dogs from the premises in the case of fire or other emergency.

13. The name, address and telephone number of the keeper of the guard dog kennels shall be kept constantly displayed in a prominent position on the outside of the guard dog kennels.

14. Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph 12 instructions as to action to be taken in the event of fire or other emergency, with particular reference to the safe extrication of the dogs kept there, shall be kept constantly displayed in a prominent position on the outside of the guard dog kennels.

15. A notice containing a warning that a guard dog is present shall be clearly exhibited at each entrance to the guard dog kennels.

**Construction and operation of breeding establishments**

1. The premises of the breeding establishment shall be of durable construction, shall be capable of being cleansed and disinfected and shall be of suitable size for the number of occupants and shall include exercising facilities.
2. The premises shall have an adequate water supply and adequate drainage.
3. The premises shall be adequately lighted, shall have adequate ventilation and be so constructed as to prevent the dogs therein being adversely affected by extremes of temperature.
4. Accommodation shall be constructed, and enclosed to the extent necessary to prevent the escape of any dog kept therein, and to afford maximum protection to the public.
5. Dogs shall be supplied with food suitable to their needs and clean drinking water shall be provided for them at all times.
6. Adequate clean bedding shall be provided for each dog and shall be renewed when soiled.
7. Dogs shall be adequately exercised, and visited by the keeper of the breeding establishment or an attendant at suitable intervals.
8. No dog shall be exposed continually to direct sunlight.
9. Dogs shall receive any necessary veterinary treatment, including vaccinations.
10. All reasonable precautions shall be taken to prevent and control the spread of infectious or contagious diseases among the dogs including the provision of adequate isolation facilities in which dogs found to be sick must be immediately placed pending veterinary treatment.
11. All appropriate and necessary steps, consistent with the protection of persons, shall be taken to ensure the safe extrication of the dogs from the premises in the case of fire or other emergency.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These regulations prescribe standards for the construction and operation of guard dog kennels and dog breeding establishments under the Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983.

The prescribed standards of construction of guard dog kennels and breeding establishments stipulate that premises must be of durable construction, capable of being cleansed and disinfected and of suitable size for the number of occupants. They also require the provision of secure escape proof accommodation, exercising facilities, adequate water supply, drainage, lighting and ventilation.

In the case of guard dog kennels, individual kennelling of minimum dimensions 3.04 m × 1.82 m × 1.35 m is required.

Standards for the operation of breeding establishments and guard dog kennels require the provision of suitable food, clean drinking water and clean bedding. Dogs must be adequately exercised, visited at suitable intervals and protected from continuous exposure to direct sunlight. Any necessary veterinary treatment must be provided and precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread of disease, including the provision of isolation facilities for sick dogs; and necessary steps (consistent with the protection of persons) must be taken to ensure the safe extrication of dogs in the event of fire or other emergency.

In the case of guard dog kennels, additional provision is made to require the display in a prominent position on the outside of the kennels of—

- (a) the name, address and telephone number of the keeper of the kennels; and
- (b) instructions as to action to be taken, in the event of fire or other emergency, with reference to the safe extrication of the dogs.

Provision is also made to require the posting of warning notices at entrances to guard dog kennels.

Provision is made in the regulations as to—

- (a) the information to be supplied on an application to a district council for registration in respect of guard dog kennels or a breeding establishment;
- (b) the particulars to be included in the register of guard dog kennels and the register of breeding establishments kept by district councils, and the form of such registers enabling them to be kept in non-legible form so long as the recording can be reproduced in legible form for inspection.