

# **JERSEY CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE WELFARE OF ANIMALS UNDER THE CARE OF PET GROOMERS**

## **THE CODE**

The Code of recommendations for the welfare of animals under the care of Pet Groomers is intended to ensure the welfare of animals in their care and to encourage those responsible for looking after these animals to adopt the highest standards of husbandry. It takes account of five basic needs, known as the “Five Freedoms”.

The Five Freedoms are:

### **1. FREEDOM FROM HUNGER AND THIRST**

- by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour;

### **2. FREEDOM FROM DISCOMFORT**

- by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area;

### **3. FREEDOM FROM PAIN, INJURY OR DISEASE**

- by prevention or by rapid diagnosis and treatment;

### **4. FREEDOM TO EXPRESS NORMAL BEHAVIOUR**

- by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animals’ own kind;

### **5. FREEDOM FROM FEAR AND DISTRESS**

- by ensuring conditions and treatment to avoid mental suffering.

## **WELFARE OF COMPANION ANIMALS**

1. Groomers should ensure the welfare of all animals in their care. Animals should be handled in a manner which promotes their confidence and co-operation and the health and safety of all involved.

2. Groomers should encourage owners to seek prompt veterinary attention for any animals in their care if signs of ill health are detected.

## **HOUSING**

### **Size**

3. The animal must be able to stand up, lie down and turn around without difficulty in confined accommodation which should only be used for brief time periods whilst awaiting grooming or collection.

### **Construction**

4. Building materials must be able to be easily and thoroughly cleaned and surface should be free from sharp edges which could cause injury.

## **Temperature**

5. Accommodation should be kept at a suitable temperature ideally in the range 10° - 26°C. Extremes of temperature should be avoided.

## **Lighting**

6. Premises must be well lit.

## **Ventilation**

7 Premises and accommodation must be well ventilated without excessive draughts.

## **Hygiene**

8. Premises, accommodation and equipment must be kept clean.

9. Clean and disinfect grooming equipment between animals.

10. Ensure grooming equipment is stored clean and kept in a good state of repair.

11. Facilities must be provided for proper storage and disposal of all waste.

## **Safety**

12. Premises must be made secure with particular attention paid to windows and doors, especially with regard to cats.

## **MANAGEMENT**

### **Disease control**

13. Animals must not be able to make direct contact with each other. If on arrival an animal is showing signs of disease it may not be accepted for grooming and the owner asked if the animal is receiving appropriate treatment.

14. Animals should be adequately supplied with fresh clean drinking water and observed at suitable intervals. Groomers should be familiar with the signs of heat stress and necessary immediate action to take when it is identified.

## **EMERGENCIES / FIRE PREVENTION**

15. Appropriate steps must be taken for the protection of animals in case of fire or other emergencies.

16. A proper emergency evacuation plan and fire warning procedure must be drawn up in consultation with the Fire Safety Officer and posted on the premises.

17. Fire fighting equipment must be provided in accordance with advice given by the Fire Safety Officer.

18. All electrical installations and appliances must be maintained in a safe condition. There should be a residual current circuit breaker system on all electrical equipment. Electric sockets within reach of water must be covered.

19. Heating appliances must not be sited in a location or manner where they may present a risk of fire, or risk to animals.

20. Precautions must be taken to prevent any accumulation of materials which may present a risk of fire.

21. There must be adequate means of raising the alarm in the event of fire or other emergency.

### **STAFF TRAINING**

22. Groomers will ensure that their staff are properly trained in:

- Grooming skills
- Product knowledge
- Animal handling
- Health and Safety rules

23. It is recommended the proprietor should have a recognised grooming qualification and adequate experience. All staff should be encouraged to study and train for a relevant qualification.

24. All staff must be made aware of this Code of Practice and its meaning.

### **LEGISLATION**

25. The following legislation is of relevance:

- Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 2004
- Animal Health (Jersey) Law 2016
- Veterinary Surgeons (Jersey) Law 1999
- Community Provisions (Welfare of Animals during Transport) (Jersey) Regulations 2013

**15-02 AWC (31/01/07) (legislation amended 19/10/17)**