



**ADCH**  
Association of Dogs and Cats Homes

together for  
dogs + cats

## Minimum Welfare and Operational Standards Consultation - 2022

### How do I complete my consultation response?

This document is not for the return of consultation responses, please read on below

There is a lot of information here to work through in 2022's Minimum Welfare and Operational Standards consultation, therefore this document has been produced for you to share with colleagues, download or print, have a discussion, and to facilitate your response from your rescue.

Please use the webform to send us your comments. On the webform, under each standard you will be given the opportunity to support or disagree, make comment or not. No question is obligatory in this consultation. You will also be able to display only cat or dog standards, if this is relevant and helpful for you. You can also 'save and return', this should send an email to your inbox with a link to return to your submission, if you have cookies enabled. When you do this you will be asked to open an account with JotForm – which is quick and easy – to make sure that you get your own saved work back.

If you find you have any questions on the consultation process, and about the meaning of the standards (but not repeat the consultation of the standard), you can ask them at [consultation@adch.org.uk](mailto:consultation@adch.org.uk). We will keep a running Q&A of answered queries in the Member only areas of the website (you will need to be logged in to view) and Facebook member only group. Please do ask if you need help finding these.

**This consultation is open from Monday 1 August 2022 to Wednesday 7 September 2022.** We hope to be able to provide you with a revised set of Minimum Welfare and Operational Standards on, or shortly after, 1 November 2022.

We welcome all suggestions for improvement to our wording, but please note that we cannot respond to individual comments from the consultation, which is going to over 150 fellow members. There will always be times when the unforeseeable happens, the one-offs, and the million-to-one occurrences that mean that on one occurrence, a standard may not be met in the order in which you would normally carry out. We need to concern ourselves with how you and your fellow members plan your operations and foreseeable obstacles, and we would ask you to consider this bigger picture when framing your responses.

### Why we are consulting ADCH members?

The Standards and Animal Welfare Committee review the Minimum Welfare and Operational Standards each year. This was not carried out during the pandemic, partly due to prioritising other support, and partly due to the expected implementation of the Scottish Licencing legislation.

Scottish licencing came into place in December 2021. Any rescue operating in Scotland must now meet all of the regulations during an inspection in order to be operating as a licenced rescue. The Committee have carried out a large exercise to map all of those regulations against our own standards, and a lot of the

standards are similar to ADCH's. However, there are some differences. These generally relate to the running of the rescue rather than the animal welfare, although sometimes extra detail is needed on these too.

ADCH Minimum Welfare and Operational Standards cannot fall below what is legally required of our Scottish members (currently), and what is likely to be required of other members in future years. We want to help our members ensure they are operating legally in the jurisdiction(s) they work in. We therefore need to incorporate those differences into our Standards. You will see below the Standards and guidance which are being adapted as part of the review against the Scottish Legislation.

### What are we consulting on?

Below are a series of proposed changes, relating to the standards themselves and/or the guidance notes, which we are now consulting all Full and Provisional members on. These are split into:

- Amendments made to align with the new Scottish legislation
- Amendments proposed by the Standards and Animal Welfare Committee, based on feedback from Members and Assessors since the previous revision

ADCH will be producing resources to help you meet new standards, particularly where these are being changed in order to meet the new Scottish legislation. These proposed amendments are unlikely to see any significant changes from the proposals here as they are essential to ADCH being in line with new legal requirements. However, we still welcome the views of members as to how we best incorporate these.

### How will the revised standards be implemented?

Members in Scotland are already obliged to meet the legal requirements. For those not affected by the new Scottish legislation directly, a suitable ADCH implementation date will be set, and this may include a period for transition. You will see noted against some standards that we are already planning to produce some resources which will help members meet this new standard, if required.

**We look forward to hearing your views.**

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# New Standards arising from the introduction of Scottish Legislation

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## New Standard A

Feed and (where appropriate) water intake must be monitored, and any problems recorded and addressed.

### Guidance

Staff and volunteers should be aware how to report concerns. Dogs must not remain not eating or not drinking for longer than 24 hours without veterinary advice being sought. Significant weight loss or gain must be assessed by a competent person. Where the underlying reason cannot be identified, and/or remedial measures have been unsuccessful, the animal must be assessed by a veterinarian.

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## New Standard B

The animals must not be left unattended in any situation or for any period likely to cause them distress, such as:

- In dog exercise paddocks not connected to their kennel
- Tethered unattended
- Animals kept in overflow crates

Cats kept in carriers beyond what is needed for transportation and containment in a veterinary practice

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## New Standard C

Any equipment and accessories being supplied with an animal must be suitable for the animal. Staff should explain how to use it.

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## New Standard D

Details of adopters and enquirers should be held in accordance with the latest government legislation, and the rescue's own data protection and retention policies.

### Guidance

The rescue should be able to evidence that they follow their data protection and retention policies

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## New Standard E

*ADCH will provide resources to help members meet this new standard*

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 in the rescue are met.

### Guidance

Training of people must be demonstrated to be carried out in the following areas:

- animal welfare, including recognising poor welfare,
- animal handling,
- animal behaviour,
- cleanliness and hygiene,
- feeding and food preparation,

- infection and disease control,
- recognition and first aid action for sick animals,
- new information on disease and inherited disease, legislation and behaviour.

People should hold a relevant qualification and/or be able to clearly evidence knowledge through experience, for example through on the job in-house training.

The training policy should be reviewed and updated on an annual basis and may include:

- annual appraisal,
- planned continued professional development,
- recognition of knowledge gaps,
- use of online courses and literature,
- if no staff are employed the member must demonstrate their own knowledge development.

The training policy must be applicable to any members of staff and volunteers and can be evidenced by engagement with courses, written or online learning, keeping up to date with any research or developments for specific species and the documentation of the annual appraisal. Evidence of staff and volunteer attendance or completion of the training should be provided. Training records for individual staff and volunteers should be retained

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## **New Standard F**

*ADCH will provide resources to help members meet this new standard*

The rescue should have written procedures, followed by all who are responsible for animal care, for:

- Feeding
- Cleaning
- Transportation
- Prevention and control of infection and disease spread
- Animal monitoring
- Death of an animal
- Escape of an animal
- In an emergency

### Guidance

If animals are kept in premises, other than domestic premises:

- (a) a written emergency plan must be in place, known and available to everyone on the premises, and
- (b) such a plan must be followed where necessary to ensure appropriate steps are taken to protect all animals on the premises (without risking human life) in case of fire, flooding, breakdowns of essential heating, ventilation and aeration or filtration systems or other emergencies.
- (c) Premises should be lockable

Any such emergency plan must include details of the emergency measures to be taken for the extrication of the animals should the premises become uninhabitable and an emergency telephone list that includes the fire service and police.

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## **New Standard G**

Where members of the public can view or come into contact with animals, suitable measures must be taken for the safety and welfare of the animals including staff supervision, signage and locked doors.

### Guidance

If animals are on public display, signs must be displayed on enclosures to deter members of the public from, for example, tapping on glass or poking fingers into cages. Clear signage must be in place at all

times outlining health and safety risk to customers and appropriate behaviour around animals on the premises relevant to the specific species. In addition to signs, other measures may be required, such as limiting access to some animal enclosures. Rescues must ensure that no animal is accessed or handled by the public without supervision of a staff member or volunteer. Signs should inform the public that they should not enter an enclosure or handle an animal without first speaking to a member of staff or volunteer

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### **New Standard H**

The maximum number of animals being cared for must be able to have their welfare and behavioural needs met by the number of people caring for them at all times.

#### Guidance

In addition to ensuring that housing for dogs and cats meets the specifications detailed in Annexes 1a and 1b, members should also ensure that the number of animals within their care is monitored and managed to ensure there are sufficient staff/volunteers and other resources to deliver the required welfare standards for all animals and to avoid overcrowding. Members should always consider animal throughput. If the number of animals taken into care increases, then the number departing must also increase or there will be overcrowding and an increase in length of stay which is a risk factor for animal health and welfare.

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## **New Standards arising from the Standards and Animal Welfare Committee**

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**New Standard I - this standard is proposed as a catch-all for existing legislation as well as laws that come into effect in the future. This has always been a membership requirement, but it is now proposed to move it into the ADCH Standards**

The rescue must adhere to all laws, including animal welfare legislation, in the jurisdictions in which it operates.

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**New Standard J - this new standard is to give clarity to our members using commercial premises**

Where rescues use third party facilities (such as commercial boarding) to house their animals, they should inspect them at least quarterly. A formal agreement should be held on the care provision given by the premises' staff, and staff and volunteers from the rescue. Premises should be licenced with the local authority.

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# Proposed Revised of ADCH Standards or Guidance, arising from the Scottish Legislation

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## Standard 3

*ADCH will provide resources to help members meet this revised wording. The Scottish legislation is more detailed than ADCH on intake assessment and regularity of welfare checks.*

The health and welfare of all animals shall be assessed **on intake** and monitored **at least daily**. Animals shall be examined by a veterinary professional or a suitably competent lay person as soon as possible. Animals with perceived health problems shall be seen by a veterinary surgeon as soon as possible **and monitored as advised by the veterinary surgeon**.

### Guidance

Dogs and cats should have a veterinary examination whilst in the care of the Member.

A system of recording abnormalities must be maintained.

A suitably competent lay person means someone with sufficient training and skills to be able to carry out such an assessment. Please see new standard A

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## Standard 5

*The Scottish legislation is more prescriptive than ADCH standards*

All animals shall be supplied with an adequate and balanced diet. Clean, potable (fit for human consumption) water shall be available for both cats and dogs at all times and changed daily.

Feed and drinking water provided to the animals must be unspoilt and free from contamination.

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## Standard 9

*The Scottish legislation provides additional guidance on specific requirements for the areas where food is prepared.*

Where feed is prepared on any premises, there must be hygienic facilities for its preparation, including a working surface, hot and cold running water and storage.

Where pre-prepared animal food is served the area shall be kept clean and vermin free at all times. Suitable precautions shall be taken to minimise risk of contamination by vermin.

### Guidance

There should be appropriate disinfectants available to clean the food preparation area immediately following its use. Human and animal food preparation should not take place in shared preparation areas at the same time or using shared utensils. Handwashing facilities should be available.

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## Standard 11

*ADCH will provide resources to help members meet this revised standard. As well as the Scottish legislation*



*being more prescriptive than ADCH standards; ADCH wishes to provide guidance to members on procedures and who to report notifiable diseases to, and what to do.*

Where any animal shows any sign of disease, injury or illness it shall be kept separate from the other animals and advice shall be sought from a veterinary surgeon. Any instructions for its treatment, which have been given by the veterinary surgeon, shall be strictly followed.

A documented procedure should be held covering the rescue's plans for infectious and potentially infectious animals.

#### Guidance

This should include agreed locations of isolation pens (if not on site) which should be accessible 24 hours a day, and arrangements for the animal's monitoring. Where infectious disease is present in premises, appropriate procedures to mitigate against further spread must be implemented. This includes use of protective clothing and footwear changed between enclosures; separate storage and use of equipment, thorough cleaning of utensils, and segregation of waste. The latest advice on notifiable diseases and their reporting can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/notifiable-diseases-in-animals>

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### **Standard 47**

*Scottish Legislation is more prescriptive about travel times and the use of an emergency plan. ADCH has duplicated the requirement for an emergency plan (see new standard F)*

Whilst animals are at the establishment there shall, whenever practical, be a competent **keyholder** in close proximity to the premises.

#### Guidance

Animals should, so far as is practicable, be visited at suitable intervals, taking care not to disturb them when sleeping. A suitable interval is taken to be not more than 4 hours between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Animals requiring veterinary supervision should be visited more frequently. **A designated, competent, keyholder should be aware of the rescue's emergency plan.**

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### **Standard 49**

*To bring into line with Scottish legislation regarding the releasing of wild animals that have been held in a rescue*

49. Adult feral cats shall not be kept in confinement any longer than necessary. They shall be provided with any necessary immediate care, neutered and ear-tipped, and then released into a suitable environment as soon as possible. A suitable environment means ideally back to where it was caught, if appropriate, **or where it can live outside and is not confined**

**An animal that has been under the care of the rescue must only be released into the wild in an area that is suitable for its species. It must only be released into the wild if it is able to feed and fend for itself**

#### Guidance

Ear tipping is required so that if the cat is recaptured or presented at the centre it can be easily identified that it has already been neutered. True feral cats (as opposed to strays) are highly unlikely to ever become socialised to humans and being kept in an enclosed shelter environment is likely to cause significant distress and it will be difficult or impossible to meet the animals' welfare needs. Feral cats should not be kept captive except for veterinary treatment. Only one off treatments are appropriate and long term treatment and confinement are not. For chronic conditions, euthanasia should be considered. It is possible for a colony of feral or semi-feral cats to live quite successfully in an animal shelter but it is essential that they have free access to the outside and thus can choose to leave the sanctuary should they

wish to do so. Confined 'feral gardens' are not appropriate except on a very short term basis while finding a suitable place for permanent relocation.

Relocation of cats to another site should only be considered as an absolute last resort when all other options to enable the cats to stay in their original site are exhausted and the cats are no longer safe to remain where they are. The rescue should take into account the availability of shelter, available territory, food and water at the proposed site, weather conditions at time of release, and landowner's permission.

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## **Standard 54**

*Updated guidance on how to appoint a suitable behaviourist.*

Each member organisation shall be able to seek the assistance of a suitably trained and experienced individual (internally or externally) who can evaluate and recommend appropriate positive behavioural modification programmes for dogs and cats that exhibit unwanted behaviour or rehabilitation requirements

### Guidance

The individual can be an employee, a volunteer or an external consultant. They should either hold a recognised qualification in training and behaviour, or be able to demonstrate through recommendation that they have sufficient experience and knowledge to provide advice. All behaviour modification programmes should be based on positive reinforcement and tailored to the individual requirements of the animal.

Suitable training and experience could be evidenced through full assessed membership of a Practitioner Organisation which is itself a member of the Animal Behaviour and Training Council. The ABTC website lists accredited practitioners (animal trainers through to veterinary behaviourists) <https://abtc.org.uk/>

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## **Standard 72**

*ADCH will provide resources to help members meet this revised standard. The Scottish legislation goes beyond the ADCH requirements, being more prescriptive into about information given to potential adopters and timing of health checks.*

The prospective new owner shall be given specific advice and relevant details about their particular new pet covering its future care, behavioural and welfare needs, veterinary history (physical and mental health) and ongoing requirements. Details of the animal's current diet, and a transitional feeding schedule should be provided if required.

### New guidance

All animals should be assessed as suitable for rehoming by a vet, either as part of their health check they should have on admission to the rescue or following any treatment that delays rehoming.

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## **Standard 73**

*ADCH will provide resources to help members meet this revised standard. The Scottish legislation has more health stipulations before rehoming can occur than ADCH Standards*

The new pet shall be vaccinated and treated for parasites (see disease control and vaccination above). Where necessary, dogs shall be bathed in warm water and groomed. All animals shall be fully examined before departure, if not by a veterinary surgeon then by a suitably skilled and competent person.



A record of the animal's health, breed (if applicable), believed age, and vaccinations shall be given to the new owner.

Any previous or ongoing health issues shall always be disclosed to the prospective owner. Where an animal is to be rehomed with an ongoing health issue, then this should be made clear to the new owner and discussion with a suitably qualified person (staff, volunteer or the rescue's vet), should take place prior to adoption. A written record of their health, and a supply of any required, non-preventative medication, already prescribed to the animal by the rescue's vet, should be given to the new owners.

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#### **Standard 74**

*The Scottish Regulations require licence holders (rescues) to take any animal back if required. ADCH Standards are proposed to include an option of placing the returned animal with another rescue such as an ADCH member, recognising that capacity can be a challenge for our smaller members.*

A suitably trained person should provide details to the new owners of the type of animal, and specific individual, that they wish to adopt. It shall be made clear to the new owner that they are welcome to contact the organisation if they wish advice or information on any issue with their new pet. The rescue should assist in placing any animal at the request of the new owner, either directly or by arrangement with another rescue.

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#### **Standard 75**

*ADCH will provide resources to help members meet this revised standard. Updated to bring into line with record retention requirements in each jurisdiction*

The organisation shall keep records for all animals for which it is responsible in line with its own policy (and a minimum three years in Scotland) including a description of all animals received into the establishment, noting date of arrival and departure, believed age, vet history, behavioural assessments, the name and address of the new owner/keeper and a record of what details the organisation passed onto the new owner. The organisation shall ensure new keepers' details are recorded on the microchip database. It is acceptable for details of the rescue centre to be recorded as well.

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# Proposed Revision of ADCH Standards or Guidance, arising from the Standards and Animal Welfare Committee

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## Standard 1

*More advice given on how to deal with foreign chips, as the incidence rate of finding a foreign chip increases.*

When animals are received, they shall be thoroughly scanned for a microchip using an ISO-compliant scanner or if the animal has other ID suitable checks shall be carried out. When a microchip, tag or tattoo is found then reasonable attempts shall be made to trace the registered owner or keeper of any lost animal.

### Guidance

Scanning several times increases the chance of finding a microchip. Considering increased international animal travel, this should include reference to Europetnet. If a microchip is found and the animal is not registered to the person who brought in the animal, then attempts should be made to contact the registered keeper. Microchip readers should be regularly checked to ensure they are functioning correctly

On discovery of a foreign microchip, consult with the rescue's vet on the requirements for testing of non-endemic diseases. Where possible testing should be carried out before coming into the rescue environment, where not possible in isolation and barrier nursed. Rescues should have a procedure of actions to take on discovering a foreign microchip.

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## Standard 2

*Updated for clarification*

Where no microchip is found, unless against veterinary advice, all animals shall be microchipped and registered with an appropriate [UK or Irish](#) database.

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## Standard 12

*It is a common misunderstanding that rescues consider themselves not compliant for not having their own isolation facilities. We wish to make it clear that vet facilities are compliant.*

Adequate isolation facilities for animals with infectious diseases shall be available. [This can be at the rescue's own centre, or a formal arrangement with a local provider such as a veterinary practice.](#)

*(The existing guidance has been moved into the wording of the standard)*

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## Standard 13

*Revised to clarify this is for rescue centres and large foster sites, for both species.*

[An animal first aid kit shall be available for use at any rescue centre or premises with more than 5 animals.](#)

### Guidance

The contents of this kit should be compiled with the aid of the centre's dedicated veterinarian to best

match the potential first aid needs of the [animals](#) under their care. In addition to this, the degree of animal first aid knowledge of the kit's end-users (the centre's staff and volunteers) should also be taken into account when considering how to stock it. The kit may include, but is not limited to, the following items: sterile dressings, cotton wool, medical tape, conforming gauze roll, antiseptic solution or individual-use alcohol wipes, sterile water for flushing and a large blanket

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### **Standard 31**

*Revised to include the provision on temporary screening as acceptable*

In kennels where dogs are housed separately and in the vicinity of other dogs, each dog shall be able to control their view of other dogs. [This may be by temporary or permanent means.](#)

#### Guidance

They should be able to retreat from view to avoid situations that they find fearful or frustrating or to move within view of other dogs if visual contact is being sought. Temporary screens, safely positioned, are adequate [and can be constructed using blankets/towels](#)

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### **Standard 41**

*To include the ability of cats to restrict their view from other species*

Where cats are housed in the vicinity of other cats, each cat shall be able to hide from every other cat. [They should also be able to restrict their view of/from other species.](#)

#### Guidance

[Ideally barriers between cats should be opaque.](#)

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### **Standard 48**

*Revision to clarify classifications of cat and kitten socialisation window*

Feral cats are wild animals and therefore there shall be no attempt to socialise or tame them. [No attempt should be made to tame feral kittens outside of their socialisation window of 2-7 weeks.](#)

#### Guidance

[Cats can be viewed as domesticated or semi-domesticated or feral. Feral cats are wild animals. The welfare of the individual cat should not be compromised by attempts to socialise a feral cat.](#)

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### **Standard 51**

*ADCH will provide resources to help members meet this revised standard. Additional safeguarding requirement for people and animals, and to include legal requirements for on-site veterinary clinics, as well as how to apply the standard to foster carers*

All veterinary products shall be stored, used and disposed of as required by the product datasheet and Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) legislation, or relevant local legislation.

[If a rescue has a veterinary clinic on site where drugs are stored before being prescribed, the clinic must be registered with the Veterinary Medicines Directorate \(VMD\).](#)

[Unnecessary access to medicines should be prevented by storing medicines in a lockable location.](#)

## Guidance

Fosterers should only have dispensed medications for use with the specific animal they are fostering, which should be stored in a lockable location and used under the guidance of the vet. A lockable location means a lockable cupboard, or a locked house or room.

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### **Standard 52**

*ADCH will provide a template procedure to help with compliance with this standard if needed. Requirements to avoid long journeys without a greater welfare benefit, and to bring into line with CFSG guidance*

With regard to transportation, steps shall be taken to ensure that:

- Dogs are suitably restrained (using a seat belt harness, dog cage or dog guard)
  - Cages are of adequate size, designed to provide good ventilation and firmly secured, out of direct sunlight and away from heating vents. **The dog must be able to stand, move around and lie down**
  - Not transported when the temperature poses risk to the animal.
  - On long journeys dogs shall be
    - offered food at regular intervals of not more than 8 hours and given water at intervals of not more than 4 hours or as frequently as individual needs require
    - given the opportunity to relieve themselves
  - Not left unattended in vehicles for unreasonable periods
  - Not left in a vehicle where the temperature may pose a risk.
  - Journeys over 6 hours should not be undertaken unless by exception. A 1 hour stop to enable toileting and water should be taken. After this a further 6 more hours with an 11-hour rest period before transport can commence again for a maximum of 2 days.
  - The dog should be assessed as fit to travel for over 6 hours with a vet check being undertaken before the decision to make the journey. Pregnant bitches in their second half of pregnancy should not be transported unless for veterinary purposes.
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### **Standard 53**

*ADCH will provide a template procedure to help with compliance with this standard if needed. Requirements to avoid long journeys without a greater welfare benefit, and to bring into line with CFSG guidance*

With regard to transportation, steps shall be taken to ensure that:

- Carriers are of adequate size, designed to provide good ventilation and firmly secured, out of direct sunlight and away from heating vents. **The cat must be able to stand, move around and lie down**
  - Not transported when the temperature poses risk to the animal.
  - On long journeys cats shall be
    - offered food at regular intervals of not more than 8 hours and given water at intervals of not more than 4 hours or as frequently as individual needs require.
    - offered a litter tray.
  - Not left unattended in vehicles for unreasonable periods
  - Not left in a vehicle where the temperature may pose a risk.
  - Journeys over 6 hours should not be undertaken unless by exception. A 1 hour stop to enable toileting and water should be taken. After this a further 6 more hours with an 11-hour rest period before transport can commence again for a maximum of 2 days.
  - The cat should be assessed as fit to travel for over 6 hours with a vet check being undertaken before the decision to make the journey. Pregnant queens in their last trimester of pregnancy should not be transported unless for veterinary purposes.
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## Standard 59

*Updated to include suitability of home and other residents in foster homes*

Each home which is used to provide foster care shall be visited, assessed and approved by a suitably knowledgeable member of the organisation's staff or volunteers before it is used for fostering animals to ensure home environment, **including other residents**, is suitable and foster carer **is** competent.

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## Standard 60

*ADCH will provide resources to help members meet this revised standard. Clarification of the suitability for dog foster homes to be in, or away, from the company of other animals, and prevent over-crowding*

**For dogs**, an assessment shall be made, **and** steps in place to avoid the risk of over-crowding and hoarding and agreement reached with the foster carer.

The foster home should provide a suitable environment based on each dog's assessment and individual needs and should take into consideration the dog's ability to cope with other animals in the home (owned and fostered)

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## Standard 61

*ADCH will provide resources to help members meet this revised standard. Clarification to avoid over-crowding in cat foster homes*

**For cats**, an assessment shall be made, **and** steps in place to avoid the risk of over-crowding and hoarding **and agreement reached with the foster carer**. Extreme care shall be taken when fostering cats together from the same household, as close confinement with each other may be stressful. Cats from different sources shall not be mixed. Cats shall also not be mixed with resident cats.

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## Standard 65

*Clarification to ensure that rescues without access to any vets who will carry out early neutering are not penalised in their assessments*

Healthy kittens shall be neutered before they become sexually mature (by 4 months) **where the rescue has access to a vet carrying these out**, and shall be neutered before they are rehomed wherever possible.

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## Other points of note

That is the end of the consultation questions. There are a few further points of note, which we have included below for transparency.

### Standards to be deleted

The following standards are to be deleted, as they are replicated in another standard, they are:

- 37. If an adult cat is feral, no attempt shall be made to habituate or tame it – it shall be neutered quickly and rehomed to a suitable environment, i.e. one where it can live outside and is not confined.  
*This is covered adequately in standards 48 and 49*
- A14. Suitable and appropriate bedding which allows the animal to be comfortable and which is capable of being easily cleaned and disinfected shall be provided. Bedding shall be sited out of draughts and shall be checked daily and maintained in a clean, parasite free and dry condition.  
*This standard is replicated in standard A7*

The following standard is to be deleted, as it has not been scoreable as part of the assessment process in the past and is not required:

- 46. ADCH members shall meet the specification as detailed in Annex 1a for dogs and 1b for cats.

### Standards now scoreable

The following standard has not been scoreable in the past on old versions of the assessment form. This will now be scored as part of the assessment process:

- C1. Members and applicants shall notify ADCH if they plan to import dogs and/or cats from outside the British Isles.