

Animal Welfare Laws

Now it's your
DUTY TO CARE



Client information regarding The Animal Welfare Act 2006

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The animal welfare act makes owners responsible for ensuring that their animal's welfare needs are met.

- From 6 April 2007 (and in Wales from 27 March), animal welfare law is being improved.
- Not only is it still against the law to be cruel to an animal, you must now ensure that all animals' welfare needs are met.

These include the need:

- For a suitable environment (place to live)
 - For a suitable diet
 - To exhibit normal behaviour patterns
 - To be housed with or apart from other animals (if applicable)
- To be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease
- The new law also increases the minimum age a person can buy an animal to 16 and prohibits giving animals as prizes to unaccompanied children under this age.
- Anyone who is cruel to an animal or does not provide for its welfare needs may be banned from owning animals, fined up to £20,000 and/or sent to prison.

**To find out how the new law affects you visit:
www.defra.gov.uk**