

Riding Establishment Licence – Riding Establishments Act 1964 & 1970 Guidance Notes.

What needs to be licensed?

Premises that keep horses for either or both of the following purposes:-

- Being let out on hire for riding
- Being used in providing instruction in riding in return for payment

Who may be granted a licence?

An individual over the age of eighteen who is not disqualified from keeping animals under the:-

- Riding Establishments Act 1964 & 1970
- Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963
- Protection of Animals(Amendment) Act 1954
- Pet Animals Act 1951

In additional, applicants must be able to satisfy Stafford Borough Council that they are suitable and properly qualifies to run a Riding Establishment themselves, or employ a manager who is suitable and properly qualified by holding one or more of the following qualifications:-

- British Horse Society Instructor's Certificate
- British Horse Society Assistant Instructor's Certificate
- Fellowship of the British Horse Society
- Fellowship of the Institute of the Horse

What is the fee for a Riding Establishment Licence?

The Council determines the licence fee annually. In addition to the annual fee the applicant is also liable for veterinary surgeon's cost of inspecting the premises.

General Requirements

The premises must be suitable and certain criteria must be complied with as follows:-

- Accommodation for horses must be of a suitable size and construction, clean, well lit, well ventilated and suitably drained.
- Stables must be of sufficient size to accommodate horse and handler.
- Stables floors must be slip resistant.
- Horses kept at grass are to have suitable pasture, water and shelter.
- A register must be kept of all stock under 3 years old.
- Provision must be made to control the spread of disease through treatment and medication.
- There must be adequate provision for storage of fodder and bedding.
- Tack room must be in good condition, clean and well lit.
- Tack must be in good condition, clean, well fitting and with sound stitching.
- Head gear must conform to British Standard **BS 6473** for horse and pony rider (protective skull caps for jockeys British Standard **BS4472**).
- Suitable fire fighting equipment, signs and warning notices (including 'NO SMOKING' signs) must be provided as required by the Fire Officer.
- The name, address and telephone number of the licence holder must be displayed in a prominent position on the outside of the premises.
- Instructions on the action to be taken in the event of a fire must be prominently displayed.
- Inexperienced riders must be adequately supervised.
- Veterinary medicines must be kept in a secure cupboard that can only be accessed by a responsible adult and all redundant medicines must be returned to the vet for safe disposal.
- The Licensee must carry out a risk assessment of the activities and facilities identifying any hazards and appropriate steps must be taken to protect the health and safety of any persons at the premises.

Insurance cover is required against injury to customers and to indemnify them against claims from damage or injury caused to others.

Further information may be obtained from:-

Stafford Borough Council, The Licensing Section, Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford, ST16 3AQ