



Pet ownership fact sheet

This fact sheet provides a summary of our pet's policy and should be read in conjunction with our pet application form.

Applying to keep a pet.

Please obtain our permission before you keep a pet in your home. If you are being considered for one of our homes and already have a pet, we will complete the application process prior to any offer of accommodation or purchase of a lease. We recognise the benefits a pet can bring, so we will always consider any request. Unfortunately, we cannot always grant permission due to the design of some of our schemes.

We will always approve applications for assistance dogs. We carefully consider applications where a medical practitioner has recommended a dog for therapeutic reasons.

We will only consider permission to keep a dog within a scheme, with shared communal areas, where we are confident that responsible pet ownership is demonstrated, in respect of the use of our shared areas and the impact on neighbouring properties.

We will consider granting permission for an outdoor cat if your home has its own individual entrance. If you access your home through a shared communal area, we will only consider a request for a 'house cat'. This is because we do not want cats to roam freely in communal corridors.

If you live in one of our extra care housing schemes, we will only consider granting approval for a dog or a cat where the application is emphatically supported by Lincolnshire County Council Adult Social Care and the needs of the pet are included within any care plan.

We will also need to check you have arrangements in place so that there is a named person, who can care for your pet, in the event of your planned, or unplanned absence from your home.

A home visit may be carried out as part of our assessment, and we will make our decision within 28 days of receiving your completed application.

We will ask you to complete our pet permission application form which will provides information about the pet and its care.

If permission is granted to you, this will normally be limited to one dog or one cat.

Reviewing your application

We will consider each request on its individual merits. To help us make our decision we will consider:

- Your accommodation and the facilities available to you.
- Whether you have access to a garden, or a nearby open space.
- The breed, size and temperament of a dog, in relation to the accommodation you occupy or are being considered for.
- If you have somebody who can care for your pet in the event of your planned or unplanned absence from your home.
- How often you will leave a dog alone and if the pet may cause a nuisance to other residents by barking or damage your home through chewing or scratching.
- Your ability to pay for vet care, vaccinations, treatments.

We may refer to a specialist website or agency for advice on good practice on keeping specific pets. However, as responsible pet owners, residents would be expected to have researched this, and included relevant details within their application.

We may withdraw consent if a nuisance is caused.