

DETERMINATION NO. 163 OF 1993

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Section 22 of the Animal Welfare Act 1992 provides that the Minister may approve codes of practice relating to animal welfare.

The Code of Practice for Animal Boarding Establishments was prepared by a joint working party of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee with representatives from boarding establishments within the Australian Capital Territory.

The ACT Animal Welfare Advisory Committee endorsed the Code of Practice for adoption in the ACT in November 1993.

The provisions of the Code are detailed in the Attachment.

Attachment B

The purpose of the Code is to ensure the minimum standard for the care and management of dogs and cats held at animal boarding establishments in the Australian Capital Territory.

Section 2 discusses the responsibilities of the manager of a boarding establishment with respect to the provisions of their establishment.

Section 3 explains the location and construction of animal boarding establishments, subject to approval by the relevant ACT Government authorities. Areas covered by this Section detail the construction, size, drainage, temperature controls, noise, lighting, ventilation, bedding and security.

Section 4 details procedures for the hygiene of animals within the boarding establishments both in the housing areas and exercise pens including information on cleaning and disinfection, pest control and waste management.

Section 5 discusses the management of a boarding establishment and sets guidelines on operational matters, record keeping and staffing responsibilities.

Section 6 is concerned with the health care of animals held at boarding establishments. It outlines requirements for vaccination certificates to be presented and daily health checks to be carried out. It also identifies when a veterinarian should be requested to administer treatment to a sick or injured animal. Procedures for the isolation of infected animals are stated as well as when euthanasia should be recommended for a seriously ill or injured animal.

Section 7 details a feeding guide for various animals held at a boarding establishment. It outlines the recommended daily intake of food for normal adult dogs and cats of varying body weights.

Section 8 outlines the need for exercise and the minimum requirements of exercise per day for animals held within a boarding establishment.

Section 9 defines the requirements of a vehicle transporting animals to and from the boarding establishment.

Section 10 suggests that the managers of a boarding establishment should design a policy for unclaimed or unwanted animals left within their establishment.

Acknowledgement is given to the contributing source from which the Code of Practice has been based.