

Useful Contact Numbers:

Cannock Police (non urgent calls) **0300 1234 455**
RSPCA (24 hour cruelty advice line) **0300 1234 999**
Blue Cross UK (Veterinary Hospital & adoption centres) **01933 822651**

This leaflet has been approved by tenants



This leaflet can be provided in Braille, on audio cassette tape/disk,
and **large print** on request to
Cannock Chase Council on 01543 462621.

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Cannock, WS11 1BG

Tel: 01543 462621

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Keeping pets in your Council Tenancy

As a Council tenant, if you are a pet owner, the Council expects you to comply with certain requirements in accordance with the terms and conditions of your Tenancy Agreement.

As a Council Landlord our Policy states that you are not allowed to keep a dog in a communal flat or a flat that has a communal garden or a shared garden with your neighbour.

Keeping a Dog

- For tenants signing up for a new tenancy, the Neighbourhoods Officer will discuss proposals with you in relation to keeping a pet/dog at the property. You will be asked to sign and complete a Pets Disclaimer Form to ensure that you have been advised and understood that you cannot keep a dog in a communal flat or a flat that has a communal or shared garden area.
- If your flat has direct access to an enclosed garden, you should seek permission from the Landlord by writing to the Housing Services, Neighbourhoods Team.
- If permission is granted, this can be withdrawn at any time. All pets must be kept under control. If the dog causes a nuisance, annoyance, health and safety hazard or danger to other people.
- You must clear up any animal mess from your garden, communal areas and public spaces immediately. Please note you can be fined if your dog fouls on public open land.
- You need to consider the terms and conditions of your tenancy agreement before you get a dog/pet as you may need to seek permission first by writing to the Landlord.
- Where you keep a pet you agree to provide and maintain suitable fencing, caging or other form of enclosure to prevent any pets living at your home from straying into neighbouring or communal land.

- You agree not to keep a dog if you live in a flat without written consent, unless a dog is provided to support your independent living (e.g. such as a guide dog or hearing dog).
- You agree not to keep any animal in your home which is classified as dangerous under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976.
- You agree to comply with and to ensure anyone living with you complies with the provisions of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991. You also agree to ensure that your visitors comply with the provisions of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 when visiting you.

What action can the Housing Department take if your pet is not kept under control and is causing a nuisance?

If we do receive a complaint, **we will carry out an investigation, which will include working with Partners such as Environmental Health and the RSPCA.** If it has been confirmed that your pet(s) are causing nuisance or annoyance to your neighbour, we may ask you to remove it from your home and we may not allow you to keep another pet.

If you fail to keep your dog under proper control, or your dog is considered to be aggressive and/or causing upset or distress to anyone, then the Council may lodge a complaint with the Magistrates Court. This may include dogs roaming, attacking other animals, barking or jumping at fences, etc. The Court may then make an Order for the dog to be controlled or destroyed. If your dog is judged to be dangerous, it will be reported to the Police and may be seized and destroyed.

Animal Welfare

We will also consider whether you are looking after your pet properly. We will report you to the RSPCA if you do not care for your pet. If you do not comply with these conditions which may result in legal action being taken against you.