



If you want to keep a domestic pet* in your Service Family Accommodation (SFA) you must seek permission. You can do this when applying for SFA using the e-1132, or if you are currently in SFA, by emailing or writing to the Housing Allocations Service Centre (HASC). You need to seek further permission (on an individual basis) if you want to bring more pets into your home. The MOD has the right to revoke consent for you to keep pets should you break any of the rules set out in JSP 464 Chapter 7. However, pet owners (especially dog and cat owners) in SFA also have other responsibilities:

GARDEN/OUTSIDE

You are responsible for keeping your pet(s) under control at all times – and not causing a nuisance to neighbours.

You should keep your garden clean and tidy, and free from animal mess.

You should ensure that larger pets, such as dogs, do not damage the garden, gates or fences – or cause damage by excessive digging.

As well as keeping dogs off sports pitches and away from play parks, you should ensure that you clean up animal mess when taking your dog for a walk.

NOISE AND NUISANCE

You should keep noise and nuisance to a minimum, even if the pet is left on their own during the day.

Your pet must not make any noise that can be heard outside the property during the evening, night or early morning.

MAINTENANCE/VISITS

You should ensure that your pet is kept out of the way during maintenance/repair work, or visits from DIO.

As well as ensuring a safe working environment for staff, this may also protect the pet from injury.

SAFETY

Keep your pets safe and away from things like the cooker/hob, your gas fire and candles/tea lights.

They could not only injure themselves, they could place your family at risk by causing a fire.

LOOKING AFTER YOUR PETS

Check your pet regularly for pests and parasites, undertaking regular flea treatments as required – as well as arranging appropriate vaccinations and veterinary treatment if needed.

You should look after the welfare of your pet, especially if you leave it alone in the house during the day.

HYGIENE

You should ensure that carpets, floor coverings, fixtures and fittings are kept clean, and that any stains are treated immediately so they do not cause long term damage.

You should also keep your carpets free of infestations throughout your occupancy.

Hygiene and Moving Out

When you move out of your SFA you will need to ensure your home is suitably cleaned so that it meets the Move Out standard – and provide proof that you have taken action to ensure it is free of any evidence of pets being kept in the property. You should ensure that the carpets, floor coverings, fixtures and fittings are left clean and free of infestation - and that you make good any garden areas have been damaged by your pets. You are required to provide evidence at the Move Out that the floor coverings and/or soft furnishings (in the case of cats and dogs) have had an appropriate pesticide and/or deodorising treatment applied. If you choose to use the Pre-Payment Cleaning Scheme you should inform them that you have kept pets in the property. Finally, if an infestation re-occurs shortly after you have left the property, you may be liable for further charges so the problem can be addressed.

* Domestic pets include dogs, cats, rabbits, other small caged animals or birds. DIO will consider any sensible written requests to keep animals that are not classed as a domestic pet, such as chickens, or larger numbers of pets – subject to the suitability of the property and impact on neighbours. However, any potentially dangerous or exotic animals, larger animals such as horses, or farm animals such as goats/pigs/sheep would not be approved.