

4<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Committee members,

May I just take this opportunity to reassure you, the committee, that the proposed plans for Dover Doodles is one that can benefit, rather than it being a nuisance to my local community and neighbours?

As you may or may not know, I am a breeder of 3 litters a year. I accidentally came across rehoming when I was asked to help out with a dog in 2014. From there I was asked for other dogs that needed rehoming, and so I did. I didn't realise there was such a demand for privately sold dogs. With the support and training I gave, it made people feel safe knowing that they have a good dog, and could see where their furry friends had gone .

The new owners were asked to post pictures in my Facebook group, so the previous owners could see where they've gone. This alone makes the business "rehoming with a difference". Obviously advertising publically I ran into trouble, as I didn't know I needed a licence. With my hands in the air and a very big sorry, I looked into rehoming. £10k later, I have now adapted my property to accommodate for breeding and rehoming.

The nature of this business does not involve rescue or abused dogs, and for this reason, it makes me completely different to other organisations and charities. The rehomed dogs will be brought privately by me, re trained within my pack at home, then resold to a new family to include a home check, any training at the new home with children or other pets and a contract to make sure they come back to me in the unlikely event of them needing to be rehomed again.

I understand that running this type of business from home can be noisy; however, I am very good at managing the noise as you can see from the lack of complaints I have received so far. My dogs are not left in kennels to bark, they are allowed to roam the garden at different time intervals during the day. They get walked up my local hills where they can also run off lead to help tire them out.

Being a responsible breeder, I do request that puppies come back to me should they need rehoming at a later date. I have been advised that I need to have a licence for this as I'm a business. I have also been asked to have a PET SHOP licence to sell my own dogs that are returned, and this would be classed as rehoming.

I would be rehoming 1-2 dogs a week maximum in my quiet breeding times and 1-2 monthly when I have litters. I have been asked by the council to apply for a boarders licence while the rehomed dogs are waiting to be sold on my property. I have no intention of becoming a massive shelter or organisation, or boarding establishment, all the time I live at this property. I can assure you that I will not be open to the general public for this service where there would be a large increase in traffic to my property.

I own 5 dogs altogether, and have adequate room for an additional 5 dogs for rehoming. If my conservatory is being used for puppies/second litter then there will be less rehomed dogs on my property, as what I do indoors with the litters comes first.

I am happy for the licences to be in my name only, which they are anyway, and promise to take this business with me if I sell my property. There will not be any dog business running from this property once I move.

With all this in mind, I hope you give me the chance to carry on the good work that I have started, and I promise to abide by all rules set out.

Yours Sincerely

Marcia Staples  
Owner of Dover Doodles