

## Animal Activities Licences

### Star ratings

As part of The Animal Welfare (Licencing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018, each premises will receive a star rating following their formal inspection. In order to achieve the best star rating possible each premises will need to have covered all of the standard conditions and have all consents, policies and procedures in place.

If all the required minimum conditions are met then a 3 star 2 year licence can be achieved, however if you are found to have minor failings during your inspection then a 1 star 1 year licence will be issued. Establishments licenced to Hire out Horses will still require an annual inspection by a vet.

Any new businesses are automatically classed as high risk due to them not having any compliance history, therefore they cannot achieve a 5 star 3 year licence. New businesses are also not permitted to have any minor failings, therefore if any of the minimum conditions are not met then a licence will not be issued.

In order to meet the highest possible rating for both the high and low risk categories in the rating matrix certain extra conditions will need to be met. The higher standards are classified into two types: **required** and **optional** and are outlined in the guidance specific to each animal activity licence. **Higher standards that appear in blue text are required**, whereas **those that appear in red text are optional**.

To qualify as meeting the higher standards, the business needs to achieve all of the **required higher standards** as well as a minimum of 50% of the **optional higher standards**.

The risk rating matrix set out below illustrates how the star-ratings are awarded according to the risk rating and the welfare standards achieved by a licenced business.

The star-ratings do not apply to licences issued for the activity of Keeping or Training Animals for Exhibition.

Scoring Matrix		Welfare Standards		
		Minor Failings (existing business that is failing to meet minimum standards)	Minimum Standards (as laid down in the schedules and guidance)	Higher Standards (as laid down in the guidance)
Risk	Low Risk	<b>1 Star</b> 1 Year Licence Min. 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period	<b>3 Star</b> 2 Year Licence Min. 1 unannounced visit within 24 month period	<b>5 Star</b> 3 Year Licence Min. 1 unannounced visit within 36 month period
	High Risk	<b>1 Star</b> 1 Year Licence Min. 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period	<b>2 Star</b> 1 Year Licence Min. 1 unannounced visit within 12 month period	<b>4 Star</b> 2 Year Licence Min. 1 unannounced visit within 24 month period