

**CONDITIONS AND GUIDELINES APPLICABLE TO  
THE KEEPING OF POULTRY ON ALLOTMENT SITES**

**Supplementary note to Allotment Rule 7.2 & 7.3**

**General**

This Note should be read in conjunction with the main conditions set out by the Council's Animal Welfare Team.

Allotment Rule 7.3 only permits the keeping of hens/bantams; strictly NO cockerels.

No more than 12 birds are permitted per plotholder.

**The City Council reserves the right not to allow fowl on any allotment plot.**

**Accommodation**

The minimum **internal** floor space per bird is 4sq ft to a maximum floor space of 48 sq ft (i.e. an 8' x 6' shed will house 12 hens).

The minimum **external** floor space per bird is 2 sq ft to a maximum floor area of 24 sq ft (i.e. shed and external run will not cover more than 72 sq ft). Hens must have continuous daytime access to open air runs, which must be moved regularly to avoid 'fowl sick' or muddy conditions that could lead to ill health or discomfort.

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**Health**

Important indications of health are alertness, clear bright eyes, good posture, vigorous movements if unduly disturbed, active feeding and drinking and clean, healthy skin, shanks and feet. Attention should be paid to any departure from normal.

The early signs of ill health may include changes in food and water intake, in preening, in 'chatter' and in activity. There may also be a drop in egg production and changes in egg quality such as shell defects.