



## **HIGH PROFILE BREED LIST REMOVAL CRITERIA** **GUIDANCE FOR BREED REPRESENTATIVE(S)**

### **Definition of a High Profile Breed**

'High Profile Breed – A breed from time to time designated by the General Committee as requiring particular monitoring by reason of visible condition(s) which may cause health or welfare concerns. The list of designated high profile breeds is kept under regular review and is published from time to time in the Kennel Gazette.!

### **Removal Criteria**

The following is a list of required and recommended actions necessary to make an application for removal from the High Profile Breed List. Further assistance will be available from the Kennel Club High Profile Breed Co-ordinator. [charlotte.mcnamara@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:charlotte.mcnamara@thekennelclub.org.uk)

The aim of this criteria is to offer support and advice to breed representatives in making the breed health improvements necessary for removal from the high profile breed list.

### **Required**

#### **Health Schemes**

1. On-going health scheme in place for the continued health testing and data collection in relation to any visible conditions of concern specified for the breed.
2. A significant proportion of the accessible\* population health tested for any visual conditions of concern as specified for the breed. Health testing must be conducted and verified by a Veterinary Surgeon. Data collected should be published on breed health websites or in breed publications.
3. Veterinary protocol and guidance to Veterinary surgeons health testing dogs to ensure consistency. This requirement refers to schemes created by breed health committees and not BVA/KC recognised schemes which have their own established protocols.
4. Breed Representative(s) appointed to be responsible for administering health scheme(s) on an on-going basis.

#### **Breed Health Plan and Reporting**

5. Breed Representative(s) appointed to be responsible for producing an annual breed health plan and reporting to the Kennel Club via the Breed Health Coordinator. The breed health plan should outline the current uptake of health scheme(s), objectives for health monitoring over a twelve month period and achievements of the previous twelve months.
6. As part of the breed health plan evidence of veterinary health screening must be submitted. Where adopted health schemes do not utilise approved KC/BVA screening schemes then a Veterinary report must be submitted on the progress made in addressing health concerns and general overview on the health scheme in place. If the Vet has assessed dogs as part of the health scheme(s) a summary of the number of dogs tested and their findings should be included as part of the Veterinary report.
7. A summary of any of the "Recommended" actions being implemented by the breed.

### **Judges Education**

8. An overview of the Judges Education Programme and how it highlights health and welfare as a primary concern and outlines visual health concerns that should be penalised. A summary of the number of Judges Education events run and how many attended.

### **Kennel Club Health Monitoring**

9. A significant number of the dogs consistently passing veterinary checks at general and group championship shows.
10. Data from Judges and Observers health monitoring forms indicates the majority of the entry displayed no health or welfare concern and there are not any new trends developing that would cause a health or welfare problem.

### **Recommended**

11. Breed health testing or DNA testing for hereditary conditions that can cause health and welfare concerns. Ideally, making use of an official KC DNA testing scheme, which can be requested via the Breed Health Coordinator.
  12. Breed health website and links to Breed Club websites outlining the health scheme(s) and how to participate. Information on health concerns for the breed and contact details for further information and advice.
  13. Communication strategy for publicising breed health scheme(s) to increase the number of dogs health tested. Owners of all KC registered dogs should be encouraged to participate in all health testing. This should emphasise the importance of gathering information on all dogs within a breed; pet dogs as well as those participating in any KC discipline e.g. Shows, Agility etc.
  14. Photographic evidence of dogs to demonstrate the healthy examples of the breed over a period of years.
- *Accessible population can be defined as dogs that the Breed Clubs, Breed Councils and Breed Health Groups have access to through members. The average entry at General Championship Show level may be reflective of the accessible population. The number of Kennel Club Registrations each year will be taken into considered but will not be compared to the number of dogs health tested.*

### **Timescales**

The Kennel Club's High Profile Breeds Coordinator will be working with all breeds to offer advice and support on the content of any presentation for removal from the list. Any removal application will first be considered by the Breed Standards & Conformation Sub-Group which will make a recommendation on the application for consideration by the Dog Health Group which will in turn make its recommendation for consideration to the General Committee.

Once a breed has been removed from the high profile breed list the necessity for best of breed veterinary health checks at general and group championships will cease. The point(s) of concern for the breed will however remain on Breed Watch as a reminder to judges and other of the issues faced by the breed.