

Pet Policy

Medway Development Company welcomes responsible pet ownership and will not unreasonably withhold permission for residents to keep pets. Our approach is to be pet friendly by default, whilst ensuring pets are managed responsibly and do not adversely impact neighbours, communal areas or building safety.

Policy Statement

Medway Development Company (MDC) recognises the positive role that pets play in supporting wellbeing, companionship and creating thriving communities.

MDC adopts a "Pet Friendly by Default" approach to pet ownership. We believe responsible pet ownership should be supported wherever possible and that residents should be able to enjoy their homes with their pets, provided they do so responsibly and with consideration for their neighbours.

Permission to keep a pet will not normally be withheld without good reason. MDC will consider each request fairly, balancing the needs of pet owners with the rights of other residents, the effective management of the building, and the welfare of the animal. This approach reflects current good practice across the housing sector and the Government's guidance encouraging landlords to consider requests to keep pets fairly and reasonably.

Pet-Friendly by Default Approach

MDC's starting position is that pets are welcome. The following will normally be permitted:

- Up to one dog in a shared ownership apartment.
- Up to two cats.
- One dog and one cat.
- Small domestic pets such as fish, rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs and caged birds.

Residents must complete a pet application form and obtain approval from MDC or the Managing Agent for any dog or cat, ensuring appropriate emergency, welfare and building management arrangements are in place.

Formal permission will only be required where:

- A resident wishes to keep more than the standard number of pets.
- The pet is unusual or exotic in nature.
- The animal falls outside the categories listed above.
- There are specific lease, insurance or building management considerations.

Requests will be considered promptly and permission will not be unreasonably withheld.

Circumstances Where MDC May Refuse a Request

Whilst MDC is pet friendly, MDC may refuse a request where there is a legitimate reason for doing so, including where:

- The pet is prohibited by law.
- The animal would be unsuitable for apartment living.
- The resident has a history of serious pet-related nuisance or breaches of lease obligations.
- The proposal would create significant health and safety concerns.
- The pet would be likely to cause unreasonable disturbance to other residents.
- The request conflicts with lease obligations, insurance requirements or legal restrictions affecting the building.

Any refusal will be supported by a clear written explanation.

If you'd like this information supplied in another format or translated, please let us know

via info@medwaydevelopment.co.uk.

[Date of Policy : 10th August 2026]