

The County Administrative Board's

Supervision under the Animal Welfare Act



The County Administrative Board is responsible for overseeing how the county's animal keepers comply with animal welfare legislation.

More info: www.lansstyrelsen.se/jamtland.



When does the inspection of animal keeping take place?

The inspection takes place mainly after a report regarding animal keeping has been received, as well as during normal inspections. Normal inspection constitutes the regular inspections carried out for certain types of animal keeping. This control also takes place in connection with the inspection of animal transport vehicles or when applying for permits and authorisation for certain types of activities.



Inspection following reports

When a report is received by the County Administrative Board regarding deficiencies in the keeping of animals, we assess how serious the report seems to be. In the case of a report that we consider serious, an animal welfare officer goes out to inspect if the report was justified. The inspection will not be announced. A report is deemed to be justified if deficiencies are found during the inspection. This also applies if the County Administrative Board identifies deficiencies which were not included in the report. For some reports, the animal keeper firstly receives an information letter. The letter indicates what the report relates to and information on applicable

rules, as well as an instruction for the animal keeper to contact the County Administrative Board. The person reporting deficiencies in animal keeping has the right to remain anonymous.

Normal inspection

The County Administrative Board conducts regular inspections of many types of animal keeping. These inspections fall under normal inspection. The selection of which animal keeper to inspect is either made on the basis of risk, through random selection or by choosing an area/form of animal keeping to inspect in advance.

Certain inspections may be announced in advance

Inspections can be unannounced or notified in advance. In the case of normal inspection of animal keepers, the County Administrative Board announces inspections in advance. A preannouncement can also be made during certain follow-up inspections or if one or more previous attempts at inspection have taken place and the keeper has not been home.

What happens during an inspection?

- » The animal welfare officer inspects the animal keeping together with the animal keeper or their representative. The inspection is carried out using a nationally designed checklist which covers the rules laid down in animal welfare legislation. Documentation can also be done with a camera and measuring instruments.

- » Together with the animal keeper, the animal welfare officer goes through what has been noted in the inspection. The animal keeper receives a verbal report, both the positive points and the deficiencies.
- » If there are deficiencies, the animal keeper must indicate when these will be remedied.
- » If there are doubts, the animal welfare officer will contact the animal keeper afterwards to inform them of their assessment.
- » Information on what happens after the inspection is provided.
- » Within about two weeks after the inspection, the County Administrative Board sends a written inspection report to the keeper. This indicates what has been inspected, the content of the verbal report during the inspection, and any deficiencies and related measures the animal keeper intends to take.
- » If you have any questions, you should contact the County Administrative Board, or if you have other information to provide regarding the inspection and inspection report.

What happens in the event of deficiencies?

The County Administrative Board may implement different measures depending on how serious the deficiencies are. We may reach an agreement with the animal



keeper on when the deficiencies shall be remedied. Certain minor shortcomings may be followed up through, for example, submitted photographs or proof. In the case of other deficiencies, it may be necessary to conduct a follow-up inspection. If the deficiencies have not been remedied, an injunction or prohibition may be imposed. An injunction or prohibition is a legally binding decision. The County Administrative Board is also able to make direct decisions on the imposition of an injunction or prohibition when faced with deficiencies.

In serious cases, a decision may be made to take the animals into custody and to impose a ban on owning or taking care of animals.

The opportunity to provide a statement before a decision

Before the County Administrative Board makes its decision, the animal keeper receives a notification with the opportunity to submit a statement. Attached to the notification are documents and information that will form the basis for the County Administrative Board's eventual decision. This may include inspection reports, veterinary certificates or analysis results.

We can also make decisions directly without notification. This is if the decision cannot be postponed or if it is feared that it would otherwise become considerably more difficult to implement the decision.

Cross-compliance conditions

Certain parts of the animal welfare inspection are covered by cross-compliance conditions. Cross-compliance conditions are specific rules that must be followed if the animal keeper has applied for different types of agricultural support. A deficiency which also constitutes a lack of cross-compliance may involve a deduction from agricultural subsidies applied for by the keeper. Before a decision on deduction is made, the animal keeper will be informed about this and be given the opportunity to make a statement.

Does it cost anything?

In the event of legitimate reports and during follow-up inspections of identified deficiencies, a fee is charged. The fee is SEK 800 per hour and is imposed for travel time, preparations, inspection and supplementary work. If several inspections are carried out on the same trip, the travel time is divided between these. Billing of travel time may not exceed two hours per inspection. A decision and fee specification is sent to the animal keeper following inspection. An invoice is sent separately.

A fixed fee is charged for the inspection of animal transport vehicles.

No fee is charged for unjustified reports or if the initial inspection was a normal inspection of the animal keeping.

Contact us

To submit reports, questions or statements, contact:

Telephone: An animal welfare officer is available at our service number 010-225 30 30 weekdays from 9.00–12.00.

E-mail: djurskydd.jamtland@lansstyrelsen.se.

For questions about cross-compliance and payment of agricultural support, please call Swedish Board of Agriculture (Jordbruksverket) 0771-67 00 00.

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