



NORTHERN IRELAND

Northern Ireland XL Bully Licence and Exemption Planner

A council-centred planner for the exemption certificate, mandatory annual dog licence, renewal date, neutering evidence, address and carers.

WHY THIS EXISTS

Northern Ireland adds an annual dog-licensing condition. A certificate without a current licence does not provide the complete compliance picture.

Start with the identity record

DOG NAME

EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE NUMBER

ISSUING COUNCIL

DOG LICENCE NUMBER

Use it in two ways

Digital: type into the blue fields, save a dated copy and share only the pages another person needs.

Print: use A4 at 100%, complete it during the real routine and replace superseded personal-data pages.



Working details

LICENCE EXPIRY DATE

RENEWAL / PAYMENT REFERENCE

COUNCIL DOG-CONTROL CONTACT

REVIEW DATE

Only tick what you physically checked

☐

Exemption certificate current

☐

Annual licence current

☐

Renewal reminders set

☐

Microchip details current

☐

Neutering evidence submitted

☐

Property secure

☐

Muzzle and lead checked

☐

Handlers over 16 briefed

ACTION I OWN NEXT



Use it before the decision becomes urgent

Each prompt explains the circumstance and the practical job this asset should do.

1

Licence expiry is within 60 days

Check the council process, documents and payment route and set a second reminder rather than waiting for a renewal notice.

2

The household changes council area

Contact the relevant councils and record how the exemption and annual licence records will be updated.

3

The licence is lost

Use the recorded council, number and payment reference to request the appropriate replacement.

4

A council officer requests evidence

Locate the exemption certificate and current licence and record the request and response deadline.

5

A temporary carer takes over

Give a redacted carer page with the public-handling and council emergency contacts, not the entire personal-data pack.

6

Neutering timing changes for a younger dog

Use the vet and council fields to record the applicable date and evidence submission; obtain individual advice rather than guessing.

7

A child under 12 is present

Create the adult-supervision and barrier plan before the 1 November 2026 condition begins.

8

A quarterly audit finds an expired detail

Stop treating the pack as complete, contact the council promptly and take legal advice if exemption validity may be affected.



Digital workflow

- 1 Save the form with the licence-expiry year in its filename.
- 2 Add reminders to two calendars controlled by different adults where possible.
- 3 Record online renewal and payment references immediately.
- 4 Keep a read-only backup separate from the working copy.

Print workflow

- 1 Print at 100% on A4.
- 2 Highlight the licence expiry and next action.
- 3 Display only the redacted emergency page; secure the full pack.
- 4 Replace the licence page each year and shred the old personal-data copy.

IMPORTANT BOUNDARY

A Northern Ireland dog licence lasts 12 months and must remain current for the exemption certificate to be valid. Confirm the current process with your council.

Official sources to check

nidirect - XL Bully dogs

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/xl-bully-dogs>

nidirect - dog licensing and microchipping

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/dog-licensing-and-microchipping>

MY NEXT REVIEW DATE

Review after any change, incident, official update or handover.