

Residents who own a primate such as a Marmoset or Lemur in Bassetlaw are being reminded of new laws which are coming into force.

The government is introducing new legislation under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 to ensure the welfare of primates in private ownership.

From 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026 it will become a legal requirement for individuals to hold a licence to own a primate including Marmosets, Tamarins, Capuchins, Squirrel monkeys, Macaques, and Lemurs.

The licence sets out a number of conditions to guarantee the welfare of the animal including providing a suitable environment, diet, and protection from pain, suffering, injury and disease.

Only individuals can apply, zoos and ASPA scientific licences are exempt from these requirements.

**To apply for a licence contact the council's licensing department at [Licensing@bassetlaw.gov.uk](mailto:Licensing@bassetlaw.gov.uk)**

**For full guidance visit [Licensing process for keeping primates - GOV.UK](#).**



**Updated: 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2026**