

**Table 1: The characteristics and relevant parameters of each cat shelter**

<b>Shelter</b>	<b>Median Body condition score (IQR)</b>	<b>Coat con- dition (shiny/ dull)</b>	<b>Nasal ocular dis- charge (present/ absent)</b>	<b>Feeding regime (regular / free feeding)</b>	<b>Veterinary input</b>	<b>Frequency of disinfection</b>	<b>Frequency of water change</b>	<b>Average number of carers</b>	<b>Average number of cats per litter box</b>	<b>Cleanliness</b>
1	3 (2-4)	shiny	absent	regular	regular	regular	regular	2	1.4	good
2	3 (2-4)	shiny	absent	regular	regular	regular	regular	2	1.0	good
3	3 (2-4)	shiny	absent	regular	regular	regular	regular	2	1.0	good
4	3 (1-4)	shiny	absent	regular	ad hoc	regular	regular	2	2.75	moderate
5	2(1-3)	shiny	absent	free feeding	ad hoc	irregular	regular	2	1.8	moderate
6	3(2-4)	shiny	absent	regular	ad hoc	regular	irregular	1	5	moderate
7	2 (2-3)	dull	present	free feeding	ad hoc	irregular	regular	1	1.8	poor
8	3 (2-3)	shiny	present	free feeding	ad hoc	regular	regular	2	3.3	good
9	3 (2-3)	shiny	present	free feeding	ad hoc	regular	regular	8	1.0	good
10	3 (1-3)	shiny	absent	regular	ad hoc	regular	regular	4	1.0	good
11	3 (2-3)	shiny	absent	regular	regular	regular	regular	1	3.8	good
12	3 (2-3)	dull	present	free feeding	ad hoc	irregular	regular	6	1.0	poor
13	3 (2-4)	shiny	absent	regular	regular	irregular	regular	4	1.0	good
14	2 (1-3)	shiny	absent	free feeding	ad hoc	regular	regular	4	1.0	moderate
15	2 (1-5)	shiny	absent	free feeding	ad hoc	regular	regular	1	1.0	good

16	3 (2-3)	shiny	absent	free feeding	regular	irregular	regular	2	1.5	good
17	3 (2-5)	shiny	absent	regular	ad hoc	regular	regular	2	3.25	good
18	3 (2-3)	shiny	absent	regular	ad hoc	irregular	regular	2	2.0	good
19	3 (2-5)	shiny	absent	free feeding	ad hoc	regular	regular	3	1.71	good
20	3 (2-5)	shiny	present	regular	ad hoc	irregular	regular	1	1.53	good
21	3 (2-5)	shiny	absent	regular	ad hoc	irregular	regular	2	10.0	good
22	3 (2-4)	shiny	absent	regular	regular	irregular	regular	1	3.0	good
23	2 (1-4)	shiny	absent	regular	ad hoc	regular	regular	2	1.0	good
24	3 (2-4)	shiny	absent	free feeding	regular	regular	regular	2	2.57	good

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Body condition score: 1= very thin, 2 = thin, 3 =normal, 4 = overweight, 5= obese. IQR, interquartile range.

Cleanliness: Good = no visible debris on floor, no smell of cat urine; moderate = some visible debris on floor, mild smell of cat urine; poor = substantial debris and visible mould with strong smell of cat urine

**Appendix 1**

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## Invitation Letter (English)

9 Dear Sir/Madam,

1 I am currently studying “International Animal welfare, Ethics and Law” at the University of  
0  
1 Edinburgh, UK. To complete my degree, I am conducting a project looking at the relationship  
1 between resources and cat health/welfare.

2  
1 I would like to invite you and your organisation to participate in the project. All data  
3  
1 collected will be kept strictly confidential, and details remain anonymous. A consent form  
4  
1 will need to be signed.

5  
1 In brief, the project will be conducted in two phases. The first phase involves a short  
6  
1 interview (face to face or via telephone/email/whatsapp). Data to be collected include  
7  
1 information on number of cats, the area of the premises, number of full time staff/ volunteers,  
8  
1 managerial (food/litter supply, etc) and record keeping practices, etc.

9  
2  
0 The second phase of the project involves an on-site visit. A number of cats will be chosen at  
2 random, and observed for body condition score and for signs of respiratory tract infection.

1  
2 You can withdraw from the project at any time.

2  
3 Your help will be much appreciated.

2  
4 For more information, please contact me via text messages/whatsapp/email or telephone. I  
2 can explain in more detail and arrange to sign a consent form.

5

2

6

I can be contacted at

2

7

Text/Phone-64616826

2

8

Email-[iawelcatproject2017@gmail.com](mailto:iawelcatproject2017@gmail.com)