

## Bury, Oldham & District Branch Re-homing Policy



### Acceptance of Animals

A standard acceptance form will be filled out for any animal coming into branch care.

The branch will ensure, as far as is possible, that all animals are accepted in line with the RSPCA Animal Acceptance Priority List. The branch will give priority to animals generated by the inspectorate. Where space is not immediately available for an inspectorate generated animal, names will be kept on a waiting list.

### **The branch waiting list is for inspectorate animals only.**

The branch will ensure that no animals are accepted that are known to be a threat to human safety e.g. a dog which is known to have bitten a human. Otherwise, the branch has no restrictions on the type or age of animals that it will accept.

Abandoned animals taken by a member of the public to a vet, and which have been given an RSPCA log number, will be accepted by the branch, provided space is available at the animal centre.

When space is available the branch will accept unwanted animals from members of the public. Each case will be considered on an individual basis.

On arrival a health check is carried out by members of staff on all animals. The branch vet also checks each animal during the week following acceptance. A 10-day assessment is carried out on all animals and all are treated for fleas and worms.

### **Animals are vaccinated in line with RSPCA requirements:**

- Cats: Feligen RCP. Cats can also be vaccinated with Leucogen for Leukaemia but this is not always so because of budgets.

- Dogs: Vang 7 and Nobivac KC

All cats are tested for FIV/FelV and if the result is positive will be PTS. If a queen is found to be positive for FIV/FelV her kittens will also be PTS.

All animals are microchipped on admittance unless against veterinary advice.

### **Rehoming**

No public are allowed to enter the kennel areas, all dogs will be brought out to the public when they have been viewed by the photo board.

All the family must meet the animal to be adopted and if the animal is a dog the family must walk the dog on at least 2 occasions prior to re-homing. Any existing pets (cats and dogs) must be brought into the centre to meet the branch animal.

To promote responsible pet ownership, if there are any cats or dogs already living with the potential adopter, these must be fully vaccinated and neutered before the adoption. The branch will not hold any animal until these conditions are met.

If the potential adopter lives in rented accommodation a copy of the tenancy agreement must be shown to prove animals are permitted on the property.

## The branch places the following restrictions on re-homing animals:

- No cat under the age of 9 months should be rehomed on a main road.
- Dogs and cats (other than house cats) should not be re-homed to flats above the second floor. Up to the second floor, each case will be considered on an individual basis.
- Unless a cat has already lived as a house cat no branch cat or kitten will be classed as a house cat.
- Kittens and puppies cannot be left for more than 4 hours.

A deposit must be paid in order to reserve an animal (£30 deposit for dogs and £25 deposit for cats). The deposit will be deducted from the adoption fee at the time of adoption.

Deposits are non refundable.

Unless there are any overriding veterinary reasons all animals are neutered before re-homing.

Animals must have a final vet check within seven days of adoption and a further health check by a member of staff on the day of adoption.

A standard RSPCA adoption form is filled out for every adoption and all would-be adopters must establish proof of their identity and residence. Pedigree documents will not be passed onto new adopters.

All cats and dogs must leave the animal centre with a suitable collar and tag, cats must have a snap able safety collar and must be transported in a suitable pet carrier.

The adoption fees for animals re-homed by the branch are outlined below;

- Dog: £100
- Cat: £50

Pre-adoption home visits are carried out on all animals re-homed by the branch. Where an individual or family has adopted an animal from the branch to the same address within the last twelve months a home visit may not be required. Post adoption visits are carried out on the majority of re-homed animals.

The branch will not take on the cost of any illnesses the animal later develops unless identified during initial health checks and agreed by the branch and the new owner prior to re-homing.

