

**Bath  
Cats & Dogs  
Home**



## **Bath Cats and Dogs Home / Bath and District RSPCA Branch**

### **Animal Non Destruction Policy**

*The RSPCA Bath and District Branch, known as Bath Cats and Dogs Home, is an unincorporated charitable organisation and a separately registered branch of the RSPCA carrying out direct animal welfare and rehoming work in Bath and the surrounding area (Registered Charity Number 205594)'*

#### **Our Policy, which has been unchanged for over 50 years, is as follows;-**

We accept that we cannot help every animal in distress, but those that we admit to BCDH are entitled to the same standard of care that we would demand of a domestic home.

It follows, therefore, that an animal will not be destroyed except for the following reasons;-

1. On veterinary advice for reasons of ill health or accident
2. If an animal is proven to be a danger to humans or other animals by reason of repeated and incurable vicious behaviour
3. For any exceptional reason and only after reference to a meeting of the Executive (Trustees) Committee

Difficulty in homing or length of stay shall not constitute acceptable reasons for destruction of an animal.

A record is to be kept of all animals destroyed under these rules

#### **Supporting comments to the above from the Branch Trustees**

We have had a Non Destruction policy in place since the home was established in 1937. The number of 'difficult' animals coming into our care has increased over the years often as a result of other re-homing centres / council pounds modifying their policies in respect of the animals that they will take and how long they will keep them. To address this challenge we have invested in a team of specialist behaviourists who work with many of our animals to improve their chance of finding a settled home. We also have developed 'quiet' areas where long stay and highly stressed dogs can have a more protected environment. Despite all of our best efforts there are exceptional circumstances where an animal in our care has such a poor quality of life that the trustees will, as a very last resort, consider acting under point 3 of our Non Destruction Policy above.