

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

### **Animal- Non Destruction Policy**

#### **Our Policy 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/or incurable aggressive behaviour
3. For any exceptional reason and only after reference to 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.