



**Bath Cats and Dogs Home / Bath and District RSPCA Branch
Animal - Euthanasia 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

Subject to the above criteria 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

Bath Cats and Dogs Home has had an emphasis on non-destruction since the 1950's and our aim is to rehabilitate and rehome every animal that comes into our care. Alongside our commitment to rehabilitation we also operate an open intake policy which means we take in many dogs with behavioural problems that other centres wouldn't. Most dogs which arrive with undesirable behaviours, through the intervention of our team, do go on to overcome problems such as dog or people aggression and can be happily re-homed.

However, we also have a responsibility to the local community not to rehome a dog that we deem to be dangerous or to put members of our staff at unnecessary risk. As per our above policy if an animal is proven to be a danger to humans or other animals by reason of repeated and/or incurable aggressive behaviour we may as a last resort have to make the difficult decision to put that animal to sleep. We ensure if this happens it is done with dignity and respect.

First and foremost, Bath Cats and Dogs Home is passionate about caring for unwanted animals and for many we are their last chance; we will work tirelessly to rescue, re-home and rehabilitate animals that need our help.