



proudly
supporting



Who'll be there
when you're not?



Home for Life



“Home for Life gives any responsible pet owner peace of mind that their pet will be well looked after by perhaps the most well known charity in the world.”

Roy Kemp

We will. That's a promise.

In the event of your death your pet deserves a home that's as loving and caring as the one they have right now, no matter what.

That's why we set up our Home for Life scheme. It means that if you're no longer here to look after your pet, we'll take them in and do everything we can to find them a safe and loving home.

In this guide, we'll take you through the simple steps needed to apply for Home for Life and ensure your pet is cared for.

If you have any questions about Home for Life after reading this booklet, please don't hesitate to call us using the contact details on the back.



Every pet tells a story.

Your pet is unique, and may have very different needs from any one of the 47,000* animals we rehome every year. Home for Life is here to ensure your pet's needs are met, just like Charlie's were in this touching story...

A second chance for Charlie.

Charlie's owner John was the only family he'd ever known, so when John passed away, Charlie was alone and without his best friend. He was also blind, and subsequent health problems meant that he required an emergency operation.

Thankfully, John had registered Charlie onto Home for Life.

Our dedicated staff at RSPCA Chesterfield branch worked tirelessly to keep Charlie's spirits up; playing with him every day and making sure he had lots of toys. They gave him all the love and care he needed to recover.

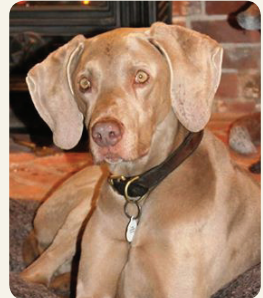
When the time came, they worked hard to find him a new home, and their efforts didn't go unnoticed. "We saw Charlie on the RSPCA website and just knew he was 'the one'," said Charlie's new owner Nicolette. Nicolette and her husband Richard drove for over eight hours to meet him, and went through a thorough vetting process including a home visit.


Finally, Charlie was ready to meet their two dogs Tess and Bear. He's now happily settled with his new family. "All three dogs are brilliant together and we even caught Tess resting her head on him last night," said Nicolette.

Charlie has his whole life ahead of him and is a prime example of what Home for Life can offer.

"Happy endings like this inspire us in ways we cannot express. Thank you Charlie, for touching so many lives with your sweetness. You're very missed by your RSPCA friends, but we're all so proud of you. And thank you to Charlie's former owner John for leaving a gift in his Will to the RSPCA, to help even more animals in need."

RSPCA Chesterfield Branch Team





“It’s always been a worry for me as to what will happen to my pets when I’m gone. When I heard about the RSPCA’s Home for Life scheme, I knew it was the answer.”

Joyce Hutley

How to give your pet a Home for Life.

And ensure other animals are cared for too.

We recommend you make or update your Will with instructions to rehome your pet through Home for Life (the suggested clause is included at the back of this guide). This ensures that your Executor is fully aware of your requirements, as your Will is the only official document they must refer to when dealing with your estate.

By formally acknowledging the RSPCA in your Will, and returning the completed application form, you're doing everything possible to safeguard your pet's future. If, or when, the time comes, you can rest assured that they'll be left in the hands of a dedicated team who promise to love and care for your pet as their own.

But thousands more animals are not so lucky.

While you're making or updating your Will, please consider including a gift to the RSPCA at the same time. More than half our work is funded by gifts in Wills. They're a vital source of support; helping us to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome animals that may have been subject to horrific cruelty and neglect.

Applying to Home for Life: your step-by-step guide.

1. Complete the application form and send to Thy Will Be Done. You can do this by:
 - a) Printing off the form and, once completed, sending it by post to Thy Will Be Done, 6 The Mill Building, Chatsworth Road, Worthing BN11 1LY or by;
 - b) Printing off the form and, once completed, scanning it and then sending it by email as an attachment to admin@thywill.co.uk or by;
 - c) downloading the form and completing it electronically and once completed, saving it sending it by email, as an attachment, to admin@thywill.co.uk;
2. Complete a Home for Life application form for each pet you'd like to register;
3. To ensure that someone you trust knows where your Will is kept, Thy Will Be Done recommends taking out Priority Client Cover (see details here)- <https://thywill.es/priority-client-cover-insurance-wills> - which guarantees that not only is your Will safely stored but us also easily accessible when the time comes and, if you have elected Thy Will Be Done as your executors also, this cover will, in addition, provide the probate services of Thy Will Be Done for 33% less than the standard fee.
4. That's it! You can enjoy the rest of your life with your pet, safe in the knowledge they will be lovingly cared for when you're gone.

“It was obviously right to plan for Thomas Tompkins’s future to ensure he will be kept safe and happy. I trust the RSPCA to give him the care and love he deserves. When I was writing my Will, it seemed natural to include a gift to the RSPCA to help carry on their important work.”

Delyth Chappell



Peace of mind for you. Love and care for your pet.

Once you've done everything you need to apply, we'll be in touch to let you know if there are any queries. If, or when, the time comes for us to take responsibility for your pet, we will be notified by the Executor of your Will, or a friend or family member, and will organise to take them in. We'll make sure your pet has all the necessary health checks and will do our best to find them a loving new home.

We understand every animal is different, and some pets can take longer to rehome than others. However, we promise that as long as your pet is healthy and coping well, he or she will stay with us for as long as they need.

Why should I include the Home for Life Will wording?

We strongly recommend you include the suggested wording in your Will as this means that any arrangements in relation to your pet will formally recognise the RSPCA. It also ensures that, in the event of your death, your Executor will be fully aware of your wishes. This is because your Will is the only official document that they must refer to when dealing with your estate.

What if I can't afford to make or update my Will?

Some legal advisers do offer a reduced rate for the preparation of a Will, and it may be worthwhile comparing several local firms. Alternatively, you may wish to speak with your local Citizens Advice to see whether they can be of any assistance. You can reach them on: **020 7833 2181** or at: www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Can I use different wording in my Will?

As long as your wishes are clearly stated in your Will and you have included our charity name and registered charity number, your Executor should have all the information they need, but it's always a good idea to check with your legal adviser.

Can you rehome my pets together?

If you require pets to be rehomed together let us know using the application form provided. Although we cannot guarantee that this will be possible, we would, of course, do everything we can to keep your pets happy.

What if I get a new pet?

To make sure we're there to take in your pet and find them a loving new home, you'll need to submit an application form to register them onto the scheme. Please call us on: **0300 123 0239** to let us know and we will send out a form for you to complete and return.

How much does it cost?

The Home for Life scheme is free. However, we simply wouldn't exist without public donations, and without kind gifts left to us in our supporters' Wills. That's why we ask you to consider leaving a gift in your Will, so we can continue our vital work protecting animals from cruelty.

Are there any pets you won't take?

Cats and dogs are most commonly registered with Home for Life but we also take in other species of animals. If you're looking to place exotic or larger pets, spaces may be limited so please let us know and we can advise.

In rare instances, it may not be possible to rehome a pet under the Home for Life scheme, for instance if they pose a risk to humans or other animals. For more information, please see the Terms and Conditions.

Is there a limit to the number of pets you can take?

No, there isn't a maximum number of pets. However, if you're looking to send more than five applications at once, then please contact us to discuss your requirements as capacity needs to be taken into consideration.

What if my family offer to take my pet?

The Home for Life scheme is there for when no other provisions have been made. If you later decide that you'd prefer someone else to take care of your pet, please let us know.

How long will you look after my pet for?

Healthy pets will stay with us for as long as they need. However, the animal's welfare is paramount and, as pets cope differently in different environments, they may stay with foster carers while we find them a new home.

“My husband is now in a care home, we have no family or anyone who would take our cats, so it is such a relief to know that, in the event of my death, they will be cared for.”

Christine Smith





We know you wouldn't trust your best friend to just anyone. We want you to have the peace of mind that comes with knowing your pet will be loved and cared for by people who love animals as much as you do. If you have any questions or need more information, our team is always here to help.

0300 123 0239

homeforlife@rspca.org.uk

www.rspca.org.uk/homeforlife



can be contacted **FREE** on **0800 668 11 64**

Or by email: **admin@thywill.co.uk**

Or by post: **6 The Mill Building, Chatsworth Road,
Worthing BN11 1LY**

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Wilberforce Way, Southwater, Horsham RH13 9RS
www.rspca.org.uk facebook.com/RSPCA twitter.com/RSPCA_official

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