

## R.S.P.C.A. TAMESIDE & GLOSSOP BRANCH

### WHO ARE WE?

The Tameside and Glossop Branch of the RSPCA, in common with all local branches is separate and independent from the parent charity, ie the National RSPCA. The easiest way to understand this structure is to think of it in terms of a Franchise.

There are 166 Branches of the RSPCA and every Branch is slightly different from its neighbours. They operate their own animal welfare programmes, which run "in tandem" with the National Society.

Each branch raises its own funds and manages its own affairs. The Tameside and Glossop Branch is run entirely by volunteers.

### WHAT DO WE DO?

The branch raises money to re-home animals brought in by RSPCA Inspectors and to operate a scheme which helps people on means tested benefits to afford the veterinary treatment which their animals may require.

Re-Homing Inspector Generated Animals - The Branch does not take unwanted animals from the public. We do pay for the boarding of animals brought in by our local RSPCA Inspectors, which may have been the subject of a cruelty case. We re-home these previously ill-treated animals to caring new owners whose suitability has been assessed by one of our team of volunteer home visitors

Assisted Treatment - Tameside residents are advised to contact the Greater Manchester Animal Hospital (GMAH) in the first instance (0300 123 0711) open consultations (no appointment needed): 7.30am – 4pm weekdays, or to ask their local veterinary surgeon if they operate the scheme. They must take along some proof that they are in receipt of benefit when they visit the surgery. Help is given in the form of vouchers issued by the branch. Please ask your vet if they accept these.

Glossop residents fall outside GMAH catchment area and are advised to contact their own veterinary surgeon to ask if they will accept our vouchers.

Assisted Neutering - Our assisted neutering scheme is operated to help reduce the number of unwanted animals in the area. (See above for details)

With the help and generosity of local veterinary surgeons we offer people on means tested benefit the opportunity to have their animal neutered by issuing vouchers to help with the cost.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**TO CONTACT THE BRANCH:** Tel: 07954122481

**IF YOU WISH TO REPORT CRUELTY TO AN ANIMAL** – Please contact the RSPCA's cruelty line on 0300 1234 999

**STRAY DOGS** – The RSPCA does not collect stray dogs. Please call your local Dog Warden: Tameside – 0161 342 8355 (office hrs) 0845 241 7253 (4pm-8am and weekends) & Glossop – 0845 129 7777

**INJURED STRAY ANIMALS** – The police (Greater Manchester Police Force Instructions) may call on the services of a veterinary surgeon. If you find an animal, which is injured, please telephone the police in the first instance.

**VETERINARY SURGEONS PRACTISING IN THIS AREA CAN BE FOUND IN THE YELLOW PAGES** – Ask them if they participate in the RSPCA's assisted neutering and treatment schemes.

**If you would like to offer a caring home please phone one of the following numbers to make an appointment:**  
**07954 122 481 – Dogs**  
**07764 514 095 – Cats**  
**[www.rspca-tameside-glossop.org.uk](http://www.rspca-tameside-glossop.org.uk)**



## Tameside & Glossop Branch

*(We receive no state aid and depend on voluntary contributions and bequests)*

**Registered Charity Number: 232260**  
**Established 1899**

**Email: [office@rspca-tameside-glossop.org.uk](mailto:office@rspca-tameside-glossop.org.uk)**  
**Website: [www.rspca-tameside-glossop.org.uk](http://www.rspca-tameside-glossop.org.uk)**



## Volunteer Fosterers' Abbreviated Guidelines

## FOSTERING

### Definition

Fostering is the temporary accommodation of animals, prior to transfer to other facilities or rehoming on behalf of the RSPCA, at a private house where they would live. Ownership is not signed over to the fosterer at any time. Both parties must enter into a formal RSPCA Fostering Agreement, which is provided on recruitment along with the following manuals: RSPCA policy and practices for fostering animals in private homes; Caring for Animals Safely (Health and Safety information sheet); Rehoming Policy and Practices; Pre-fostering assessment of the animal etc.

### Duration

No animal should be fostered for more than 3 months from the time it is deemed suitable for rehoming.

### Numbers of animals in any one household.

The number of animals, which a fosterer could care for will be assessed at the time of the pre-fostering home visit.

**Dogs** - the maximum number of dogs in a household, including those fostered, should ideally be no more than 3 as long as facilities are adequate. A litter of puppies under two months old would count as one adult dog.

**Cats** - the maximum number of cats in a household including those fostered should ideally be no more than 5 if facilities are adequate, however, more could be accommodated in suitable outdoor facilities should these meet the RSPCA's recommended standards. A litter of kittens under 2 months old would again count as 1.

***NB The branch does not recruit fosterers who care for animals from other organisations.***

### Access

The Branch has the right of access to the fostered animal as agreed in the fostering agreement.

The branch will ensure that any potential adopters of the fostered animal are either accompanied by the rehoming coordinator by appointment only or taken to meet the adopter at the boarding kennels.

### Duties

**The Branch** – will provide all food, equipment and veterinary treatment for the animal in foster care. The branch will inform the fosterer of any known health and behavioural characteristics.

The branch will support the fosterer at all times and a direct telephone number for contact with one of our rehoming coordinators will be provided to ensure that help is available when needed.

The branch is responsible for all fostered animals in their care and have arranged insurance cover for both fosterers and fostered animals in private homes. Full details of the insurance policy are available from the branch secretary.

**The Fosterer** – should ensure that they read our brief guidelines on caring for animals safely (provided on recruitment).



**Health and Safety** – fosterers should ensure that everyone in their household pays particular attention to hygiene at all times. Have up to date tetanus protection. A branch health and safety manual will be provided (on recruitment).

**Zoonotic diseases** – fosterers are strongly advised to carry zoonotic cards (provided by the branch on recruitment) to inform doctors that they may have been exposed to zoonotic infection or injury from an animal. Fosterers should promptly report the condition of any animal giving them cause for concern.

Fosterers should ensure that their own animals are fully vaccinated and that their household insurance is adequate and up to date.

### Out of Pocket Expenses

Volunteers can claim out of pocket expenses incurred in the course of their duties when taking animals to vets, pre- and post adoption home visiting, or fostering young/sick animals. Please ask the Coordinator for a claim form

### Training

The branch can arrange for volunteers to take part in any training courses provided by the National Society. If you wish to take part in any of the courses on offer, please let us know so that we can make enquiries as to when and where the next courses are to be run and book your place.

**For up to date information on the animals in our care, please visit the website at**  
**[www.rspca-tameside-glossop.org.uk](http://www.rspca-tameside-glossop.org.uk)**