



USPCA

PROTECTING ALL ANIMALS ESTD 1836

**Providing for your pet's
future without you**



Pet Pledge

Have you ever asked yourself “who will care for my companion animal should I pass on or move into residential care?”

If you identify with this concern please share it with the USPCA. A respected animal charity whose Pet Pledge can find your cherished pet a home for life.

Pet Pledge gives owners peace of mind knowing that, should the worst happen the USPCA will be on hand to care for your pet and will find them a loving home with a considerate keeper.

Pet Pledge will give you not only reassurance but will also take away a concern for friends and family during what is already a distressing time.

Your companion animal has given you their unconditional love in exchange for your promise of compassion and care – you can continue to keep this pledge after you’re gone from its life by enrolling your pet/s in USPCA Pet Pledge.

‘It was obvious for us to plan for our pet’s future to ensure they will be cared for when we are gone. USPCA Pet Pledge gives us the peace of mind and reassurance that the USPCA will step in and look after them in our absence. We trust the USPCA to give our pets the care and love they deserve’

Barry & Geraldine Winters



How to enrol in USPCA Pet Pledge?

Enrolling in Pet Pledge is simple; your solicitor can update your Will by inserting the suggested clause which is included in this information leaflet.

This simple change will ensure your executors are fully aware of your wish to pass the legal responsibility of caring for your companion animal to the USPCA.

You should also register with the USPCA for Pet Pledge by completing our simple application form.

Once you register with USPCA Pet Pledge you should advise family, friends and executor of your Will where your pet pledge documentation is kept.

Should anything happen to you, your pet will be taken to the USPCA Animal Hospital where the veterinary team will give it a health assessment as the first step in a care plan for its stay in our rehoming facility. Completing the application is very important as it provides much of the information we need regarding your animal's likes and dislikes and helps ensure he/she settles.

Before we re-home any pet a meeting is set up with the adopter and a home check carried out with a follow up visit to ensure a successful transition.

Just like you we want to see much loved pets settled in their new homes as soon and seamlessly as possible. If, in the event of your death, you've arranged alternative care with a friend or family member, don't be concerned, your pet can remain with them as agreed; regard Pet Pledge as your safety net.

Pet Pledge Frequently Asked Questions

1. How much does Pet Pledge Cost?

Pet Pledge is free; however, we would encourage you to make a donation to the USPCA or remember the charity in your Will. The USPCA does not receive any funding from Government and relies on voluntary donations to maintain its services.

2. What happens when I die? – How does the USPCA find out?

Once you have included the 'Pet Pledge' clause in your Will your executor should know to contact us should anything happen. We will arrange to collect your pet(s) and bring them to the USPCA animal hospital.

Following a full health check by the Veterinary team your pet(s) will be made available for rehoming to a caring owner whose lifestyle and circumstances are compatible with the needs and personality of your pet.

3. What happens if I am taken into Residential care?

In case of long term residential care, if your family or next of kin contacts the USPCA we will arrange for the appropriate rehoming paperwork to be completed. Once the pet is admitted to the USPCA animal Hospital, a full health check will be carried out and the pet will be made available for rehoming.

4. Can I use different wording than what is provided in this information leaflet?

As long as your wishes are clearly stated in your Will and you have named the USPCA and registered charity number NIC 102755, your executor should have all the information they need, but it is always a good idea to check this with your legal advisor and we recommend using the wording provided.

5. What if I get a new pet?

To register a new pet onto Pet Pledge you will need to submit a form for your new pet. Contact us on our advice line on 028 3025 1000 and we can help you with this.

6. Are there any animals you won't take?

Pet Pledge is for companion animals such as dogs and cats or other small pets.

7. How many Pets can I register?

There is no limit to the number of pets you can register under Pet Pledge. If you intend to register 4 or more animals under Pet Pledge, please contact us in advance to discuss your requirements as capacity may need to be taken into consideration.

8. Can you rehome my pets together?

If this is your wish please mention this in your Will and in your application form, although we cannot guarantee this we will do our best to honour your wishes.

9. Do you vet prospective new owners?

It is USPCA policy that before anyone adopts an animal from us we interview them. In addition a home check may be required and post adoption visit made to ensure the pet is settling in.

10. My pet is registered with Pet Pledge and I am no longer able to care for it, can you help?

If you are in this situation, call the USPCA on 028 3025 1000 and we will assess and respond sympathetically to your situation.

Pet Pledge – Next Steps

- Make an appointment with your solicitor / legal advisor and use the Pet Pledge clause wording recommended in this document. Please also consider including a gift in your Will to the USPCA.
- Complete a Pet Pledge application form for each pet you wish to enrol and return to us.
- Make sure you advise family, friends and executor of your Will of your wishes.
- Carry your Pet Pledge wallet card and have peace of mind that you are providing for your pet's future without you.

USPCA Pet Pledge Clause for your Solicitor / Legal Advisor

If you wish to register your pet(s) for USPCA Pet Pledge we recommend a clause is included in your Will which authorises your Trustees to carry out your wishes in a timely manner providing continuity of care for your pet. Your Solicitor may use the following suggested wording.

Pet Pledge

“In the event that any pet animal/s of mine survives me and I have made no other provision for their care, I direct my Trustees to notify the Ulster Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Unit 6 Carnbane Industrial Estate (East), Newry, Co Down, BT 35 6QH (registered charity number NIC102755), as soon as practicable after my death and to request the USPCA both to relieve them of responsibility for the animal/s and to endeavour to place them in a suitable home as soon as practicable, the USPCA having absolute discretion to deal with the animal/s as it sees fit, and I direct that (the USPCA having accepted such a request) the animal/s shall not form part of my residuary estate.”

If you have any further questions or need more information, the USPCA is always here to help you.

Contact Colleen Tinnelly, USPCA Development Manager on 028 3025 1000, email ctinnelly@uspca.co.uk or review online at www.uspca.co.uk