



Pet Pledge

Terms and Conditions

Please fully read these terms and conditions before signing the Pet Pledge application form.

Registering with Pet Pledge constitutes your acceptance of these terms. Acceptance onto Pet Pledge will be confirmed by post or email if you have applied online.

1. **'Pet Pledge'** is owned and run by the USPCA Registered Charity Number NIC 102755
2. All rehoming decisions are based on the USPCA's rehoming policy
3. For the purposes of these terms any person who has applied to join Pet Pledge is known as the applicant. References in these terms to 'you' as 'the applicant'. Any person (registered owner of the pet) accepted onto the scheme is known as a 'Pet Pledge' member.
4. For the purpose of the Pet Pledge Terms and Conditions, any person who has been assigned responsibility to manage the applicant's affairs in the event of their death or incapacitation is referred to as the 'responsible person'. This covers any individual who has legal responsibility for the applicant's assets / estate.
5. The USPCA reserves the right to modify these terms at any time.

Eligibility for Pet Pledge:

6. Pet Pledge is available for residents of Northern Ireland only.
7. The Pet Pledge scheme does rehome pet in cases where the scheme member is deemed incapable to look after their companion animal.
8. Pet Pledge is a reassurance for pets and their owners. For the purposes of Pet Pledge the definition of a pet covers any animal sharing the applicant's life as a companion animal.
9. A pet will only be registered with Pet Pledge if an application form is completed by the applicant and accepted by the USPCA. The applicant must submit an application form for each pet they wish to register with Pet Pledge. If the applicant wishes to register more than 4 pets they should call the USPCA Development Manager. Acceptance as a Pet Pledge member will be confirmed by post.

Rehoming:

10. By registering with Pet Pledge. The Pet Pledge member gives permission for the USPCA to take full responsibility of their pet. Pet(s) will be rehomed through the USPCA Rehoming Service.
11. The Responsible Person and the USPCA should work together to make arrangements for the interim care and collection of the pet. While every effort will be made to ensure minimal waiting time, we ask that the Pet Pledge member considers making arrangements with the responsible person to look after the pets whilst preparations are being made to bring the pet into the USPCA care.
12. If there is any equipment to be used for the welfare of the pet at the time of the admission to the USPCA, these should be included in the Will or noted in the documentation and passed over for the care of the pet. For e.g. A dog bed, collar, lead, toys.

Rehoming a Pet Pledge animal:

13. The pet's health, behaviour and welfare will be assessed on arrival by the USPCA veterinary team.
14. No pet will be rehomed without reasonable steps to make sure they will have a good quality of life. Once the right match is found for a pet in our care, a home visit will be carried out by the rehoming officer.
15. While every effort is made to accommodate Pet Pledge Members' requests, there may be some instances where this is not possible, where the request to rehome pets together is preventing them from being placed in a new home which could subsequently impact health or quality of life of one or both pets.
16. Pet Pledge is a rehoming scheme and the USPCA cannot accept requests for indefinite care of a pet by the USPCA.
17. Under the Pet for plan promise, the USPCA will do everything possible to rehome a pet providing they are rehomeable and coping well.
18. Where there are concerns about a pet's rehomeability, an initial assessment would be required at the point of application.
19. Any pets with terminal illness and long-term conditions will be taken in and rehomed, providing the conditions are manageable with treatment and will be subject to veterinary advice.
20. Pets with a minor disease transmissible to humans or other animals may still be rehomed to any home where it does not place others at risk and only on veterinary advice. In general, this means that pets with an infectious disease can only be rehomed to a single animal household.

Care of the pet while at the USPCA Animal Hospital:

21. The welfare interests of pets within the Pet Pledge scheme are always our foremost priority.
22. Providing friends/family have not taken ownership of the pet and ownership has been officially transferred to the USPCA, all decisions regarding the welfare of the pet lies with the USPCA. Any final decisions regarding the welfare of the pet whilst under the care of the USPCA are at the sole discretion of the USPCA.
23. In rare circumstances, and in the interests of the pet's welfare or if the pet is not rehomeable as per clause 15 of these Terms, euthanasia may be considered. These decisions are subject to veterinary, and in some cases behaviourist, advice and are based on health, behaviour and current legislative guidance (where relevant).
24. Applicants cannot specify pet euthanasia as a request on their death; we will not comply unless it is in the interests of the pet's welfare (based on veterinary, and in some cases behaviourist, advice concerning the pet's health and/or behaviour, and current legislative guidance) or if the Pet is not rehomeable as per clause 15 of these Terms.
25. It may be possible for the Pet Pledge Member's friends or family to visit the pet within the Scheme whilst it is in USPCA care, although this will be at the sole discretion of USPCA rehoming officer based on the best interests of the pet.

Pet Pledge Applications:

26. The Applicant is obliged to fully and truthfully disclose all medical, health and behavioural details relating to their pet in the Pet Pledge application.
27. Where the Applicant wishes to leave their pet to the USPCA under the Pet Pledge Scheme, only in the event that a nominated individual is unable to take them i.e. in the event of secondary death, such instructions should be submitted with the Pet Pledge application form. This should be acknowledged in the Will.
28. When applying for Pet Pledge the Member should keep any ID documents and legal proof of ownership including, but not limited to, microchip numbers, licences and an Article 10 certificate if necessary; with their registration pack. They should consider including any photos that will help with identification of their Pet on collection. The USPCA also recommend that cats are microchipped by the Member to aid identification on collection of the Cat.
29. Should any Pet Pledge application indicate potential welfare issues we will contact you to discuss how we can support you through our other charitable services.
30. We reserve the right in our sole discretion to refuse any applications to Pet Pledge. Any decision regarding the acceptance of an application ultimately lies with The USPCA. Decisions are made under these terms and on the basis of what is in the best interests of the Scheme and the charity as a whole. We aim to treat all Applicants fairly. Any information provided on applying will be taken into consideration.