

Therapy Dogs Nationwide Animal Welfare Policy

As a charity, we have adopted the provision of the [2006 Animal Welfare Act](#) and RSPCA recommended standards, which apply to pets and those responsible for domestic animals. We have also adopted the [5 European conventions](#) on animal welfare.

We support animals that are at risk, or have been abused or maltreated, but not fit and healthy animals.

Animal Welfare Act

Section 9 of the Animal Welfare Act places a duty of care on people to ensure they take reasonable steps in all the circumstances to meet the welfare needs of their animals to the extent required by good practice.

In short it means those responsible for animals, must take positive steps to ensure they care for their animals properly and specifically provide for the five welfare needs, which are the need:

- For a suitable environment.
- For a suitable diet.
- To be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns.
- To be housed with, or apart, from other animals.
- To be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease.

Advice on how this should be achieved is available on the RSPCA [advice and welfare pages](#).

Version Control - Approval and Review

Version No	Approved By	Approval Date	Main Changes	Review Period
1.0	Board	Sept 23	Initial draft approved	Annually