

ARGYLL ANIMAL AID

ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY

Argyll Animal Aid is a charity formed round 1990 when there was no local organisation rescuing and rehoming unwanted, neglected and lost or found animals.

Whilst the majority of animals being dealt with are domestic pets, those that come in from the wild are not turned away. Those wild animals Argyll Animal Aid are unable to cope with will usually be passed on to those organisations who are used to dealing with them.

The Charity will only euthenize any animal on veterinary advice.

Domestic pets (ie dogs, cats, rabbits, ferrets etc)

These will be accommodated by the Charity as space allows. If possible they will be left in their own homes, advertised on our website and social media outlets and rehomed without having to come into Charity accommodation.

To prevent future problems with previous owners, wherever possible a Relinquishing Form will be completed by those handing the animal/s over to the Charity.

Whilst in the Charity's care the animal will be treated for parasites whenever necessary and also be treated by a qualified vet for any illness which might be present or develop after coming in.

All animals will be vet checked where necessary before rehoming.

All prospective new owners will be checked for suitability.

All known details about the animal/s will be given to the new owner and a rehoming agreement between the Charity and the new owner will be signed by both parties.

If it is thought necessary for the animal to be boarded, a suitable animal boarding establishment should be used.

Feral Cats

Where possible adults cats will be trapped and taken to a vet for a general check and for spaying/neutering, with an ear tipped for future recognition and returned to site. Feral Cats trapped from a colony will be tested for FIV and Fel.V viruses.

Pregnant females will be cared for until they have had their kittens. The kittens will be rehomed by us as pet cats and the mother spayed and returned to site.

Injured ferals will be taken to a vet and assessed for treatment. If treatment would have a good outcome the cat should be treated before being neutered etc and then released back to the place it came from. If treatment would not have an outcome compatible with release, and the vet so advises, the cat should be euthenized.

Autumn Juvenile Hedgehogs

To ensure its survival until Spring, a hedgehog under 700g found in late autumn should come in and be cared for until winter frosts are over and then released.

Injured Wildlife

If possible any injured wild animal/bird should be passed on to an appropriate agency with more experience at dealing with the species. Any injured wild animal/bird cared for by the Charity should be released into safe environment as soon as treatment allows. Any which might not survive without human intervention in the wild should be euthanized if the vet so advises.

This is not an exhaustive list and may be added to if necessary.

Signed *J Sutherland* dated *March 2017*

Chairperson on behalf of Argyll Animal Aid