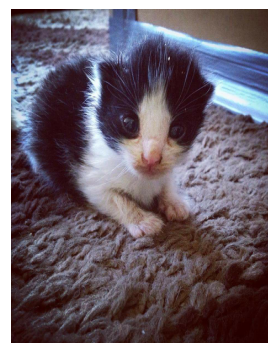
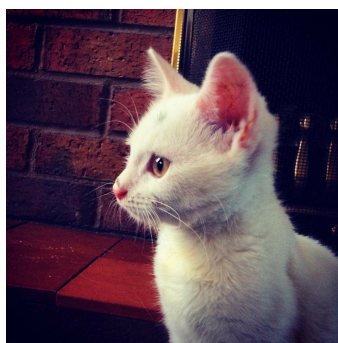
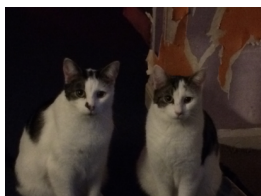


## Annual General Meeting RSPCA Aberconwy Branch



**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021, 18:30**  
Ty Llywelyn, Ffordd Yr Orsedd, Llandudno LL30 1LA

**AGENDA****ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING****TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021 – 18:30****Ty Llywelyn Community Centre, Ffordd Yr Orsedd, Llandudno LL30 1LA.**

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Apologies for absence
- 3) Approval of minutes of 2018 AGM
- 4) Matter Arising
- 5) Presentation of examined accounts for year ending 2019 and 2020
- 6) Appointment of branch auditor/independent examiner
- 7) Committee's report
- 8) Election of Committee
- 9) Consideration of resolutions
- 10) Group Inspectorate Report
- 11) Bryn Y Maen Animal Centre Report
- 12) Presentation by Sally Hyman about Llys Nini Branch
- 13) Closing remarks

## Notice calling an annual general meeting of the RSPCA Aberconwy Branch

Registered charity no: 224340

<b>To</b>	all members of Royal Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Aberconwy Branch the Regional Chair the Assistant Director- Branches and Partnerships the Operations Manager- Branches the Branch Partnership Manager		
<b>From</b>	the Branch Chair	<b>Name</b>	Donna Hutton
<b>Address</b>	6 Broad Street Llandudno Junction LL31 9HG	<b>Tel no</b>	01492 584061
		<b>Email</b>	AGM@rspca-aberconwy.org.uk

You are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 18:30 at Ty Llywelyn, Ffordd Yr Orsedd, Llandudno LL30 1LA. Alternatively the meeting will be streamed online for those members preferring to join via video conferencing. If you would be interested in this option, please contact AGM@rspca-aberconwy.org.uk for guidance as to how to access the meeting online.

### Agenda

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Opening address and welcome                         | 8. Committee election                |
| 2. Apologies for absence                               | 9. Consideration of resolutions      |
| 3. Approval of minutes of last AGM                     | 10. Group Inspectorate Report        |
| 4. Matters arising                                     | 11. Bryn y Maen Animal Centre Report |
| 5. To receive the accounts for the last financial year | 12. Closing remarks                  |
| 6. Appointment of auditor/independent examiner         | ,                                    |
| 7. To receive the committee's report                   |                                      |

Due to the COVID pandemic the branch was unable to hold an AGM in 2020. Therefore, financial accounts for both 2019 and 2020 will be available at the AGM or can be requested by members by emailing AGM@rspca-aberconwy.org.uk to request a digital copy.

Resolutions and nominations for the committee election must be received by the branch secretary by 16<sup>th</sup> October 2021. A nomination form can be requested by emailing AGM@rspca-aberconwy.org.uk.

*Please note:* The only branch members entitled to propose resolutions, speak, vote and be counted in the quorum at the meeting are those whose names were entered in the list of branch members more than three months before the date of the meeting.

**Name** Donna Hutton - **Branch Chair**

**Date** 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

## **RSPCA Aberconwy Branch Committee**

### **Honorary Officers:**

Chair	Paula Greenhalgh
Deputy Chair	Joan Critchett
Secretary	Dawn Owens
Treasurer	Jonathan Francis
Regional Board Representative	Paula Greenhalgh
Clinic Director	Paula Greenhalgh
Friends of Bryn y Maen	Joan Critchett

### **Committee/Trustees during 2019 and 2020**

Johnathan Francis	Donna Hutton
Mike Bird	Fiona Trappe
Sue Broadhurst	Sheila Francis
Wendy Ashurst	Zoe Meakins
Dawn Owens	Paula Greenhalgh
Norman Critchett	Joan Critchett



**Minutes of the RSPCA Aberconwy Branch Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 19:30 at Queens Road Community Centre, Craig Y Don, Llandudno**

**Opening address and welcome:**

The chair opened the meeting by welcoming all those who had attended.

**Apologies:**

Coralie Farren, Victoria Williams, Jim Mason and Chris Cater.

**Present:**

Branch Committee members: Paula Greenhalgh, Jonathan Francis, Dawn Owen, Mike Bird, Joan Critchett, Norman Critchett, Ann Goff, Susan Broadhurst

**National Society:** Carl Lloyd (Branch Support Specialist) Leanne Hardy (Chief Inspector), Victoria Williams (Animal Centre Manager).

**Branches:**

Irene Train, Sylvia Moss and Kieren Barlow (**Colwyn and Clwyd Branch**)  
Alun Rees and Ann Rees (**West Gwynedd Branch**)

**Approval of minutes from last year AGM:**

The chair read the minutes from last year's AGM. Approved by Mike Bird and Seconded by Norman Critchett.

**Matters Arising:**

No matters arising.

**Appointment of auditors:**

Treasurer Jonathan Francis reported the accounts and proposed we continue using Pratt Accountants and that Mr Pratt's services had been an advantage to the branch. This was approved by Paula Greenhalgh and seconded by Mike Bird. The treasurer stated that the door to door collections had helped greatly and thanked all the branches in North Wales for their shared joint commitment to funding the Mobile Clinic.

**Trustees report:**

The Chair read the committee's report for the branch's activities in 2018

**Election of Trustees Committee:**

Voting papers were handed out to the members eligible to vote. A block vote was taken and all the trustees were re-elected.

**Group Inspectorate Report:**

Chief Inspector Leanne Hardy thanked everyone who had helped and supported the Inspectors and read through her report for the Group's activities in 2018.

**Bryn Y Maen Report:**

Animal Centre Manager Victoria Williams thanked the Branch for its continued support and read through her report covering the activities at Bryn y Maen Animal Centre in 2018.

**Meeting closed at 21:00**

**Animal Grooming Presentation:**

Emma Thomas provided a demonstration and presentation on grooming based on her experience with her local grooming business.

**RSPCA  
ABERCONWY BRANCH**

**A C C O U N T S**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

**J PRATT & CO LTD, CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS**

BASFORD HOUSE, 29 AUGUSTA STREET, LLANDUDNO

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (01492) 870575/876828

FAX NO: (01492) 871049

EMAIL: [johnpratt@btconnect.com](mailto:johnpratt@btconnect.com)

WEBSITE: [www.johnprattandco.co.uk](http://www.johnprattandco.co.uk)



## RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH

### Independent Examiners' Report to the Committee Members of RSPCA Aberconwy Branch

We report on the accounts of the Branch for the year ended 31st December 2019, which are set out on pages 2 to 8.

#### Respective responsibilities of the Committee and Examiners

As Committee Members you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that an independent examination is needed. It is our responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act as amended and to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to our attention.

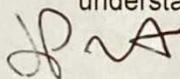
#### Basis of Independent Examiners' report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as committee members concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### Independent Examiners' Statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act: and
  - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

  
J PRATT & CO LTD  
CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS  
BASFORD HOUSE  
29 AUGUSTA STREET  
LLANDUDNO  
LL30 2AE

15/6/2020  
.....  
Date



**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019**

		2019 Unrestricted Fund	2018 Unrestricted Fund
	Note	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES:</b>			
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS:</b>			
Voluntary income	2	74307	137992
Activities for generating funds	3	44542	37054
Investment income	4	20658	24666
<b>INCOME RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>	5	140470	124380
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<u>279977</u>	<u>324092</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED:</b>			
<b>COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS</b>	6	18511	12152
<b>CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>	7	291855	288538
<b>GOVERNANCE COSTS</b>	9	940	940
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<u>311306</u>	<u>301630</u>
Net incoming resources		(31329)	22462
LESS/ADD: (Loss)/Profit on investment unrealised	10	(13706)	(17590)
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<u>(45035)</u>	<u>4872</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 1ST JANUARY 2019</b>		<u>579906</u>	<u>575034</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2019</b>		<u>534871</u>	<u>579906</u>



RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2019

		2019		2018	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS:</b>					
Tangible assets	11		157078		168713
Investments	12		215607		229313
			<u>372685</u>		<u>398026</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>					
Bank accounts & cash in hand			172622		191604
Debtors	13		11302		8112
			<u>183924</u>		<u>199716</u>
Creditors falling due within one year	14		(21738)		(17834)
			<u>162186</u>		<u>181882</u>
			<u>534871</u>		<u>579908</u>
<b>FUNDS:</b>					
Unrestricted	15		190178		210260
Designated	15		344693		369648
			<u>534871</u>		<u>579908</u>

Approved

  
.....

Date

19<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2020  
.....

## RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019

#### **1. Accounting policies**

##### **1.1 Basis of preparation of accounts**

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014. The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

##### **1.2 Tangible fixed assets for use by the branch and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets for use by the branch are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Shop & clinic fixtures and fittings	20% reducing balance method
Mobile clinic	25% reducing balance method

Depreciation is not provided on the freehold property or the property improvements as in the opinion of the branch committee the present value of the buildings is not less than shown in the accounts.

##### **1.3 Investments**

Investments are stated at market value at the Balance Sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposal throughout the year.

##### **1.4 Income**

Voluntary income and donations are accounted for as received by the branch.

##### **1.5 VAT**

Value Added Tax is recoverable by the branch on its clinic and shop operations and is reflected in the relevant income and costs in the statement of financial activities.

##### **1.6 Fund raising costs**

Fund raising expenditure comprises costs incurred in inviting people and organisations to contribute financially to the branches work. This includes the cost of advertising for donations and the staging of special fund raising events.



**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019**

**2. Voluntary Income**

	2019 £	2018 £
Mobile grants	40000	38175
Contributions new mobile	-	12441
Legacy	2355	52515
Donations and collections	31833	34723
Subscriptions	119	138
	<u>74307</u>	<u>137992</u>

**3. Activities for generating funds**

	2019 £	2018 £
Shop sales	<u>44542</u>	<u>37054</u>

**4. Investment income**

	2019 £	2018 £
Interest on Government Securities	15597	21715
Bank interest	203	116
Net flat income	4858	2835
	<u>20658</u>	<u>24666</u>

**5. Income from charitable activities**

	2019 £	2018 £
Animal clinic income	77138	72114
Mobile clinic income	63332	52266
	<u>140470</u>	<u>124380</u>

**6. Cost of generating funds**

	2019 £	2018 £
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs		
Shop operating costs	18222	11253
Support costs	289	899
	<u>18511</u>	<u>12152</u>



**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019**

**7. Charitable activities expenditure**

	2019 £	2018 £
<u>Animal clinic</u>		
Clinic wages	81137	79089
Drugs	58734	44959
RSPCA Trading	936	2181
Pet cremation services	2860	2774
Prospect House	4632	4425
Abaxis Trading	1293	5005
Verifac Labels	463	986
Insurance	484	471
Locum vets	3726	-
Blood test & labs	4232	5493
Burtons med quip	177	302
Rates, Water & Power	2096	1857
Stationery, Postage & Internet	2013	1770
Safe solutions	336	187
Sundries	966	1692
HR Consultant	1020	-
Repairs	959	539
Prof fees	1670	200
Vet Animal Clinic	5672	6237
Fostering	6980	13919
Neutering	1956	5715
Bank charges	1617	1235
VET inspection dictorate	-	350
Safe custody	25	-
Depreciation	69	86
Support costs	2021	3595
Verifac Software Support	451	623
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	186525	183690
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Mobile clinic expenses</u>		
Rocket House	21271	-
Laptop & Printers	1962	-
Hall hire	1930	516
Drugs	20229	42162
Lab tests	2127	2107
Stationery, Stamps & Mob	748	227
Wages	39657	39476
Sundries	624	603
Mobile running costs – Fuel, Tax, Repairs	3282	3659
Insurance	484	471
Ground rent	5	5
Depreciation	11566	15421
Professional fees	1445	200
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	105330	104847
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	291855	288537
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019**

**8. Allocation of support costs**

	Allocated to Charitable Activities £	Allocated To Fundraising £	2019 £	2018 £
Cost of meetings	271	39	310	-
Accountancy fees	-	-	-	2494
Branch contribution	1750	250	2000	2000
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	2021	289	2310	4494
	-----	-----	-----	-----

Support costs are allocated on the basis of full-time equivalent staff numbers.

**9. Governance costs**

	2019 £	2018 £
Independent examiner's fee	940	940
	-----	-----

**10. Investments**

	2019 £	2018 £
Market value at 1st January 2019	229313	246903
Net investment (losses)/gains	(13706)	(17590)
	-----	-----
Market value at 31st December 2019	215607	229313
	-----	-----

**11. Tangible fixed assets for use by the branch**

	Freehold Property £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Mobile Clinic £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2019	122104	9899	86424	218427
Additions	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
At 31 December 2019	122104	9899	86424	218427
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2019	-	9554	40160	49714
Charge for year	-	69	11566	11635
	-----	-----	-----	-----
At 31 December 2019	-	9623	51726	61349
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net book values				
At 31 December 2019	122104	274	34698	157078
	-----	-----	-----	-----
At 31 December 2018	122104	345	46264	168713
	-----	-----	-----	-----



**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019**

**12. Investments**

	2019 £	2018 £
Treasury Stock	215607	229313
	-----	-----

**13. Debtors**

	2019 £	2018 £
VAT	-	214
Income Tax	-	-
Donations - Mobile clinic	11302	7898
	-----	-----
	11302	8112
	-----	-----

**14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2019 £	2018 £
VAT	16201	-
Creditors	2357	15164
Accruals	3180	2670
	-----	-----
	21738	17834
	-----	-----

**15. Analysis of net assets between the funds**

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Total £
Tangible Fixed Assets	157078	-	157078
Investments	-	215607	215607
Net Current Assets	33100	129086	162186
	-----	-----	-----
	190178	344693	534871
	-----	-----	-----

The assets in the designated fund have been set aside to meet the future funding of the Animal Welfare Clinic, 6 Broad Street, Llandudno Junction.

## **RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**

### **Independent Examiners' Report to the Committee Members of RSPCA Aberconwy Branch**

We report on the accounts of the Branch for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 2 to 8.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the Committee and Examiners**

As Committee Members you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that an independent examination is needed. It is our responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act as amended and to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to our attention.

#### **Basis of Independent Examiners' report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as committee members concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **Independent Examiners' Statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act: and
  - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J PRATT & CO LTD  
CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS  
BASFORD HOUSE  
29 AUGUSTA STREET  
LLANDUDNO  
LL30 2AE

.....  
Date

**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

		2020 Unrestricted Fund	2019 Unrestricted Fund
	Note	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES:</b>			
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS:</b>			
Voluntary income	2	124518	74307
Activities for generating funds	3	20599	44542
Investment income	4	19411	20658
<b>INCOME RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>	5	37470	140470
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		201998	279977
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED:</b>			
<b>COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS</b>	6	7442	18511
<b>CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>	7	217934	291855
<b>GOVERNANCE COSTS</b>	9	940	940
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		226316	311306
Net incoming resources		(24318)	(31329)
LESS/ADD: (Loss)/Profit on investment unrealised	10	(13901)	(13706)
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		(38219)	(45035)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 1ST JANUARY 2020</b>		534871	579906
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020</b>		496652	534871

**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

		2020		2019	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS:</b>					
Tangible assets	11		148348		157078
Investments	12		201706		215607
			-----		-----
			350054		372685
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>					
Bank accounts & cash in hand			137376		172622
Debtors	13		14302		11302
			-----		-----
			151678		183924
Creditors falling due within one year	14		(5080)		(21738)
			-----		-----
			146598		162186
			-----		-----
			496652		534871
			-----		-----
<b>FUNDS:</b>					
Unrestricted	15		192636		190178
Designated	15		304016		344693
			-----		-----
			496652		534871
			-----		-----

Approved .....

Date .....

## **RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**

### **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

#### **1. Accounting policies**

##### **1.1 Basis of preparation of accounts**

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014. The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

##### **1.2 Tangible fixed assets for use by the branch and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets for use by the branch are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Shop & clinic fixtures and fittings	20% reducing balance method
Mobile clinic	25% reducing balance method

Depreciation is not provided on the freehold property or the property improvements as in the opinion of the branch committee the present value of the buildings is not less than shown in the accounts.

##### **1.3 Investments**

Investments are stated at market value at the Balance Sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposal throughout the year.

##### **1.4 Income**

Voluntary income and donations are accounted for as received by the branch.

##### **1.5 VAT**

Value Added Tax is recoverable by the branch on its clinic and shop operations and is reflected in the relevant income and costs in the statement of financial activities.

##### **1.6 Fund raising costs**

Fund raising expenditure comprises costs incurred in inviting people and organisations to contribute financially to the branches work. This includes the cost of advertising for donations and the staging of special fund-raising events.



**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

**2. Voluntary Income**

	2020 £	2019 £
CCBC Grants	26000	-
Furlough	32967	-
Mobile grants	40000	40000
Legacy	-	2355
Donations and collections	25251	31833
Subscriptions	300	119
	-----	-----
	124518	74307
	-----	-----

**3. Activities for generating funds**

	2020 £	2019 £
Shop sales	20599	44542
	-----	-----

**4. Investment income**

	2020 £	2019 £
Interest on Government Securities	15623	15597
Bank interest	76	203
Net flat income	3712	4858
	-----	-----
	19411	20658
	-----	-----

**5. Income from charitable activities**

	2020 £	2019 £
Animal clinic income	30120	77138
Mobile clinic income	7350	63332
	-----	-----
	37470	140470
	-----	-----

**6. Cost of generating funds**

	2020 £	2019 £
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs		
Shop operating costs	4993	18222
Support costs	2449	289
	-----	-----
	7442	18511
	-----	-----

**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

**7. Charitable activities expenditure**

	2020	2019
	£	£
<u>Animal clinic</u>		
Redundancy	9606	-
Clinic wages	75582	81137
Drugs	26654	58734
RSPCA Trading	1120	936
Pet cremation services	848	2860
Prospect House	1200	4632
Abaxis Trading	2294	1293
Verifac Labels	450	463
Insurance	1204	484
Locum vets	758	3726
Blood test & labs	1556	4232
Burtons med quip	213	177
Rates, Water & Power	1545	2096
Stationery, Postage & Internet	1277	2013
Safe solutions	683	336
Sundries	455	966
HR Consultant	1080	1020
Repairs	817	959
Prof fees	440	1670
Vet Animal Clinic	7091	5672
Fostering	940	6980
Neutering	2701	1956
Bank charges	1348	1617
Safe custody	25	25
Depreciation	55	69
Support costs	14696	2021
Verifac Software Support	451	451
	-----	-----
	155089	186525
	-----	-----
 <u>Mobile clinic expenses</u>		
Rocket House – Note 16	10411	21271
Laptop & Printers	2031	1962
Hall hire	861	1930
Drugs	7880	20229
Lab tests	-	2127
Stationery, Stamps & Mob	716	748
Wages	21463	39657
Sundries	393	624
Mobile running costs – Fuel, Tax, Repairs	3177	3282
Insurance	576	484
Ground rent	-	5
Depreciation	8675	11566
Professional fees	440	1445
HR Consultant	720	-
Locum Vets	5120	-
Repairs	382	-
	-----	-----
	62845	105330
	-----	-----
	217934	291855
	-----	-----

**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

**8. Allocation of support costs**

	Allocated to Charitable Activities £	Allocated To Fundraising £	2020 £	2019 £
Cost of meetings	-	-	-	310
Branch contribution	14696	2449	17145	2000
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	14696	2449	17145	2310
	-----	-----	-----	-----

Support costs are allocated on the basis of full-time equivalent staff numbers.

**9. Governance costs**

	2020 £	2019 £
Independent examiner's fee	940	940
	-----	-----

**10. Investments**

	2020 £	2019 £
Market value at 1st January 2020	215607	229313
Net investment (losses)/gains	(13901)	(13706)
	-----	-----
Market value at 31st December 2020	201706	215607
	-----	-----

**11. Tangible fixed assets for use by the branch**

	Freehold Property £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Mobile Clinic £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2020	122104	9899	86424	218427
Additions	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
At 31 December 2020	122104	9899	86424	218427
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2020	-	9623	51726	61349
Charge for year	-	55	8675	8730
	-----	-----	-----	-----
At 31 December 2020	-	9678	60401	70079
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net book values				
At 31 December 2020	122104	221	26023	148348
	-----	-----	-----	-----
At 31 December 2019	122104	274	34698	157076
	-----	-----	-----	-----

**RSPCA - ABERCONWY BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

**12. Investments**

	2020 £	2019 £
Treasury Stock	201706	215607
	-----	-----

**13. Debtors**

	2020 £	2019 £
CCBC Grants	3000	-
Donations - Mobile clinic	11302	11302
	-----	-----
	14302	11302
	-----	-----

**14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2020 £	2019 £
VAT	537	16201
Creditors	1833	2357
Accruals	2710	3180
	-----	-----
	5080	21738
	-----	-----

**15. Analysis of net assets between the funds**

	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	148348	-	148348
Investments	-	201706	201706
Net Current Assets	44288	102309	146597
	-----	-----	-----
	192636	304015	496651
	-----	-----	-----

**16. Analysis of Rocket House Expenditure**

	2020 £	2019 £
Building work	1721	20021
Rates	388	-
Phone	165	-
Website	308	-
Vets Society	24	-
Gavin – Accommodation	1500	-
Office Rent	6305	1250
	-----	-----
	10411	21271
	-----	-----

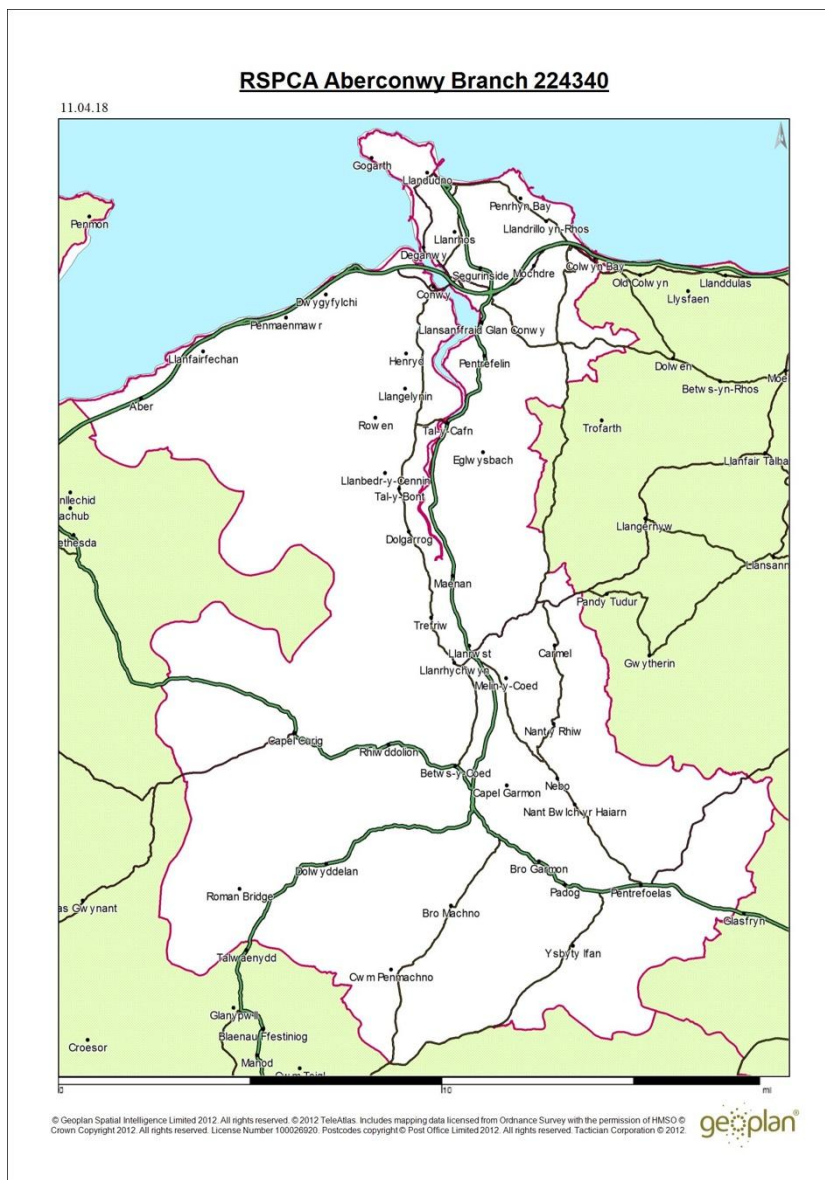
The assets in the designated fund have been set aside to meet the future funding of the Animal Welfare Clinic, 6 Broad Street, Llandudno Junction.

## Trustee Report 2019/2020

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the years ending 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The RSPCA Aberconwy Branch is an unincorporated charitable association and a separately registered branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (the Society), carrying out its direct animal welfare work throughout its territory from Llandudno in the North and Cwm Penmachno in the South, and from Llanfairfechan in the West and Bryn y Maen to the East.





The charity is controlled by its governing document and constitutes an unincorporated charity. The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Aberconwy Branch is run to help prevent cruelty and to aid sick and injured animals within its local area. As part of the Wales, we also support financial initiatives within Wales in consultation with the Branch Committee.

The trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives and activities for the year, to ensure they remain focused on our charitable aims, and continue to deliver benefits to the public. **We have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.**

### **Achievements and Performance**

What a nice change it is for all of us to actually meet in person! It would be somewhat of an understatement to say it's been an eventful couple of years since we last were able to hold an AGM so I'll do my best to cover some of the main activities of the branch during that period.

#### **2019**

#### **Llandudno Junction Welfare Clinic**

Our clinic in Llandudno Junction represents the front line of our animal welfare work. Pet owners on means tested benefits or low income are able to access subsidised veterinary services to help ensure their pets get the treatment they need. The clinic is only possible thanks to the team of staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to keep its doors open, so huge thanks goes to Pam, Kelly, Nan, Jan, Alison, Ann and all the people that made the clinic possible this year.

In 2019, the clinic held 3 weekly surgeries (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) seeing a total of 2,494 animals (1756 dogs, 698 cats, 15 rabbits and 25 others). In addition, the branch also neutered 219 animals (41 dogs, 172 cats, 1 rabbit and 1 other) and microchipped 24 animals (16 dogs and 8 cats).

In addition to our in-house services at the clinic, the branch also offers support to local animal owners who find themselves either in urgent need of surgical treatment for their pets or simply need help neutering their animals. To address this need, the branch also runs a Welfare Assistance Voucher Scheme that contributes towards the cost of treatment for eligible pet owners. In 2019, 46 of these vouchers were issued ranging from £30 to £150.

**North Wales Mobile Clinic**

The mobile clinic has continued to expand and now visits 8 venues across 5 branch areas in North Wales. Jim, Jan and the team of volunteers have allowed the 5 branches to place this valuable service precisely where it is needed, helping those animals most in need of veterinary services that are potentially the least able to access it. The running of such a far reaching mobile service like this is not cheap and would today be beyond the reach of a single branch, so a special thanks must also go out to the various trustees of West Gwynedd, Anglesey, Clwyd & Colwyn and Wrexham Branch that jointly operate this service and commit funds to make it possible. Thank you!

In 2019, Aberconwy Branch had one venue in its branch area (Llandudno Rugby Club) which treated more than 400 animals at its once a week venue. If you'd like to learn more about the mobile clinic, please visit [www.rspcamobileclinic.org.uk](http://www.rspcamobileclinic.org.uk).

**Rehoming**

Although our capacity to house animals is limited, the team also managed to take into care 30 cats throughout the year. Through the development of our fostering team, Kelly was able to provide critical spaces for these cats helping them to adjust to their new environment and receive the treatment they needed before ultimately finding their forever homes. Happily, all 30 found new homes which again was only possible due the dedication of the clinic and fostering teams. In total the branch spent £6,980 on its fostering programme (veterinary treatment, food, accommodation etc) equating to approximately £230 per cat.

**Regional Collaboration**

The branch also continues to support collaborative working both through the first of its kind inter-branch mobile clinic and its ongoing contribution to the Regional Wales Board. A few of the projects the branch contributes to include the Inspectorate Welfare Vouchers that allow Inspectors to issue direct financial support to those that need it, the Emergency Boarding Fund for Inspectors to provide a safe environment for animals they rescue before they can be transferred to RSPCA facilities as well as the joint Cats Protection RSPCA Cat Neutering Scheme. As a jointly funded scheme,

the Cats Protection RSPCA collaboration allows eligible low income cat owners to neuter and microchip their cats for just £5 and has been unparalleled in its success in neutering cats and helping to reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies. The scheme is offered across Wales and has to date neutered well over 11,000 cats. In 2019, 172 cats from our branch area were able to take advantage of this scheme.

**Charity Shop**

The branch's various services are all dependent on the branch's ability to raise funds to support them which we in large part achieve through the tireless efforts of the charity shop team in Craig y Don. The branch has appointed a shop manager (Nicky) who's remit has been to support the volunteer team and help us maximise

the profitability of the shop which in 2019 raised £44,542 (an increase of over 20% from 2018). This achievement was only possible thanks to the dedication of the volunteer team that give up so much of their time to keep the doors open. So a big thank you to Nicky, Sue Broadhurst, Beryl Jones, Cath Gadsby, Linda Kopacz, Lynn Coulson, Nora Jones, Pauline Maylott and Sue Burland.

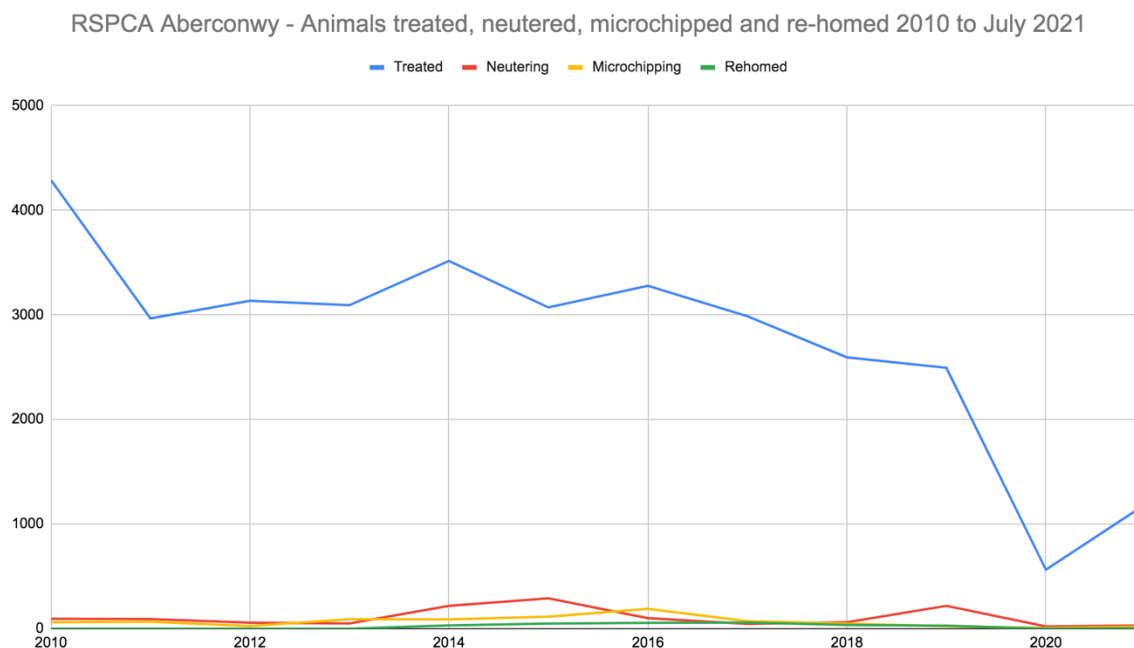
### **2020**

#### **Llandudno Junction Welfare Clinic**

The arrival of the pandemic presented a significant challenge for the branch. We were able to keep the Llandudno Junction clinic and the mobile running for the first few months of the year, but with the arrival of the first lockdown decided we had to place the safety of our staff, volunteers and clients first and therefore closed the clinics until we were permitted to provide a safe working environment. During the 8 months the two clinics were closed, the team at Clwyd & Colwyn Branch (who were able to continue to offer a limited service) kindly agreed to offer our clients an emergency temporary service until we were once again operational. A special thanks therefore must go to Kieren Barlow his clinical team and the Trustees of Clwyd & Colwyn Branch for making this possible.

We were eventually able to re-open both clinics in November offering appointment only COVID secure services. In light of this reduced service, the clinic was only able to treat 565 animals (425 dogs, 132 cats, 1 rabbit and 7 others) and neuter 138 (18 dogs, 116 cats, 1 rabbit and 3 others). Not surprisingly we saw a 78% drop in the number of clients we were able to see in 2020 compared with the previous year. The clinic team worked tirelessly to create a safe environment for our clients, volunteers and staff and it is only because of these efforts that we have been able to once again offer our services. Thank you!

Despite the pandemic, we were able to continue to offer our Welfare Assistance Voucher Scheme and to that end was able to fund £5,108 worth of treatments for local animals.



*Figure 1: Animals treated, neutered, microchipped and rehomed 2010 – 2021*

### North Wales Mobile Clinic

Similarly, the mobile clinic trustee group felt they had no other option than to close the service at the end of March 2020. As the service by its very nature represented significant risk (i.e. travelling around potentially serving as a vector for the virus) the group felt it was only safe to re-open the service in January 2021. However, it did give the trustees a valuable opportunity to restructure the service to ensure that when we did re-open, we could offer a robust service that had the capacity to grow and develop in response to the needs in North Wales. To that end two additional vets joined Jim and the team (Llinos and Kathy!) as well as a new Clinic Supervisor (Lee). A special welcome to the new team members and thanks to you all for enduring these challenging times! The team have been eager to get started and excited to realise the potential of this ground-breaking service.

In 2020, the service was only able to see 36 animals between January and March at the Llandudno venue (representing a 91% reduction in numbers to 2019).

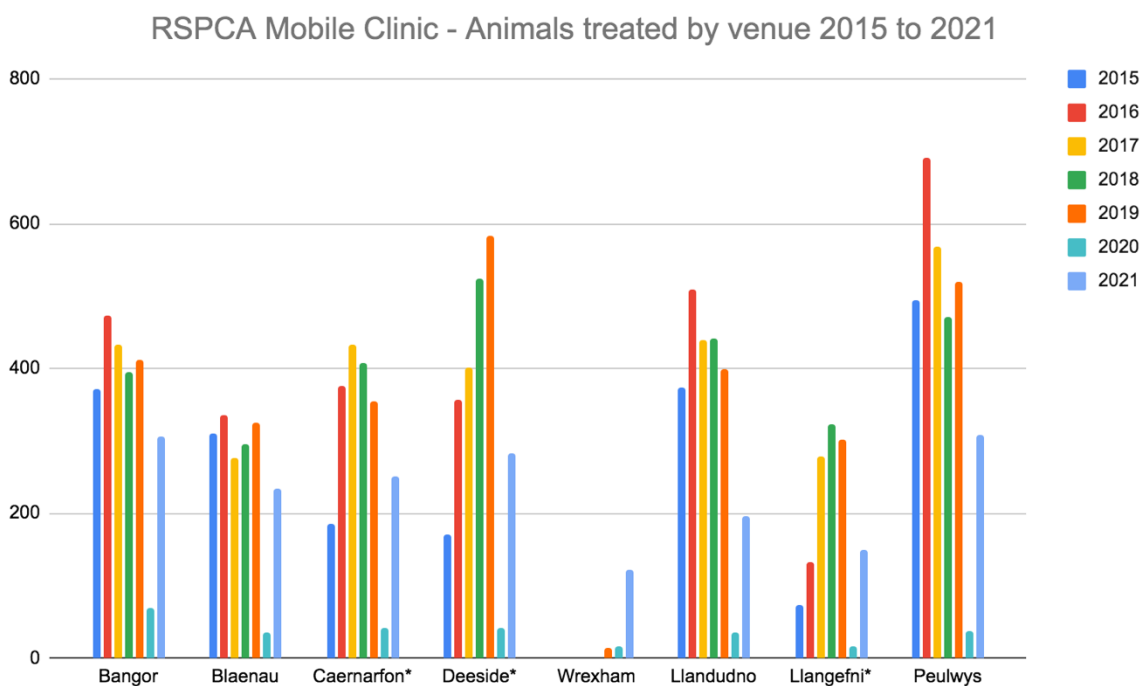


Figure 2: Animals treated by venue 2015 - 2021

### Rehoming

Our capacity to take in animals and manage a fostering network was also severely restricted by the pandemic. As such, in 2020 we were only able to take in and rehome 3 cats.

### Regional Collaboration

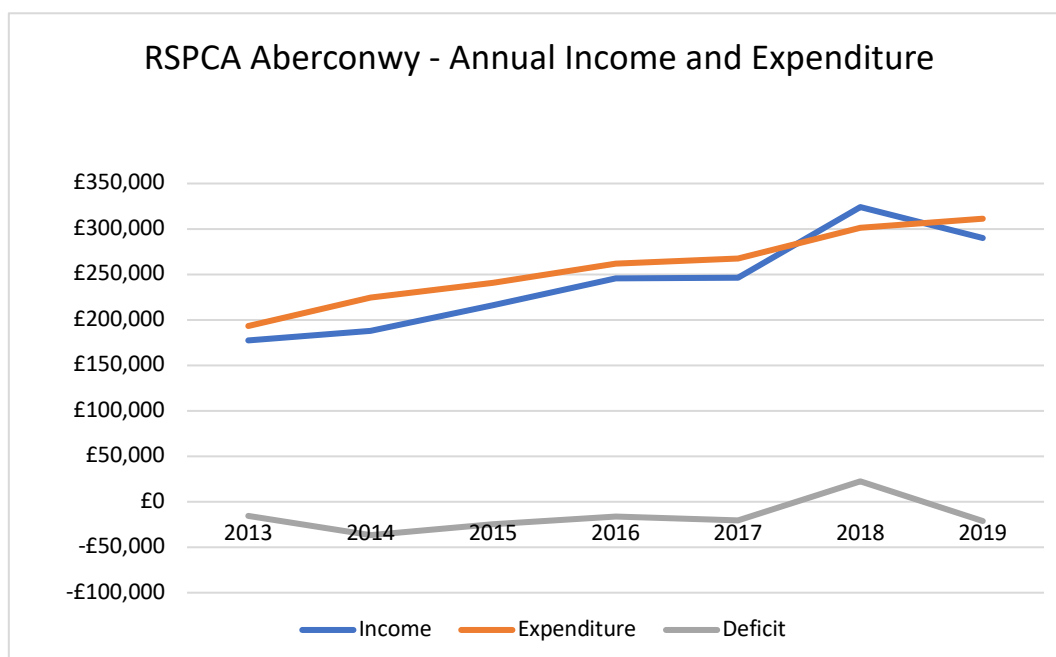
Many of the regional schemes the branch contributes to were also impacted by the pandemic but Inspectors continued to respond to priority cases of animal cruelty and suffering. The joint Cats Protection RSPCA Cat Neutering Scheme also continued to operate and in 2020 neutered 116 cats from our branch area.

### Charity Shop

Our shop was also closed for various periods during the year as a result of COVID. This meant our income generating capacity was also severely depleted resulting in a 53% reduction in sales. Once again despite the challenges of 2020, the tenacity and commitment to animal welfare of the charity shop team was unwavering and our thanks and gratitude goes out to the entire team.

### Branch Restructure

Over the past 7 years, the RSPCA Aberconwy Branch has consistently run at a deficit typically spending more on the provision of its services than it generates through fundraising and income generation.



*Figure 1: Income and expenditure between 2013 and 2019*

While the cost of providing the branch services has steadily risen, the income generated (with the exception of 2018 when a legacy was secured for the new mobile clinic) has consistently shown an average shortfall of £22,600 per year. This has impacted the Branch's reserves and in 2019 the trustees of the branch decided to take action to address this trend.

Since 2019, the trustees have spent a considerable amount of time and effort developing a strategy for the branch that they feel will both address this trend and safeguard the future of the charity while increasing both its scope and efficiency of its operations.

This work culminated in the trustees meeting with all staff on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 to outline the proposed new branch structure and to invite feedback from all branch staff. All of the feedback was gratefully received and was systematically reviewed and considered by the trustees before any changes to the original proposal were made where appropriate.

The branch is confident that through the combined input from all staff and trustees that there is now a positive, financially balanced and progressive structure for the branch to grow.

Underpinning the proposal is a new organisational structure which consists of:

- 1 x Operations Manager – Carl Lloyd
- 1 x Clinic Vet – Alison Holdam
- 1 x Clinic & Rehoming Supervisor

While the re-structuring of the branch was a much needed step the trustees had to take, it did sadly also mean the loss of two long standing members of staff, Pam Wilson and Lowri Kneale. Pam has played an integral role within the branch for many years contributing to almost every aspect of the branch's activities. She worked as the clinic manager, organised fundraising events, helped at the charity shop and fostered animals on behalf of the branch to name just a few. Lowri has also been a much valued member of the clinic veterinary team ensuring that we could continue to offer the very best veterinary services through her professionalism, expertise and work ethic.

The branch would like to thank both of these individuals for the amazing contribution they have both made to the branch over the years and wish them the very best of success with their future endeavours.

**Reserves policy**

The Branch holds reserves in order that the service level provided for animal welfare is maintained should there be a reduction in incoming resources. Reserves are those funds that are freely available for general purposes and are uncommitted.

## **Wales and West Group 6** **Annual Report 2019**

### **Group Statistics**

Complaints Resolved	2,264+
Advice only	811+
Warning Notices	41+
Cases Submitted	21+
Adult Written Cautions	5+
Court Convictions	12+
Collections and Rescues Resolved	2,097+
Total Number of Markets Visited	397
Total Number of Market Animals Seen	517,388

(The + denotes statistics up to October. The last two months of the year were captured on Wilberforce and so not currently available as a report.)

2019 has been a challenging year for WW6. There have been a number of changes throughout the year that the team has met with continued professionalism. We have had three experienced inspectors join us from elsewhere. Inspector Nayman Dunderdale, Inspector Lucy De Havilland and Inspector Becky Jeffery. All three officers have served nearly 70 years between them, before coming to our group! A fantastic wealth of experience to share with colleagues. This brings the team to a total of 15 officers full and part time, including the Market inspectors.

The biggest change for WW6 came toward the end of the year. The transition to a new way of scheduling and tasking the work all our frontline staff do. Wilberforce. This has replaced the old TAILS system, which was long overdue. Officers now no longer have a patch or list of jobs. Their day is organised by staff, at the NCC hub, who have sight of all the work that comes in and the monumental task of getting it out to the field. The system is a totally new way of working and will take time to bed in, with updates and improvements ongoing as it is developed to suit our needs.

Members of the Wales and West 6 group are often called upon to rescue birds and animals from water situations. This is often hazardous and high risk. In order to carry out these rescues safely and effectively staff members are trained to an Internationally recognised standard as Swiftwater and Flood Rescue Technicians. Every 2 years it is necessary to recertify by attending a 5 day course based in Plas Y Brenin. The most recent course was held in January in freezing conditions! A chilly start to the year indeed!



Once again the RSPCA teamed up with the North Wales Wildlife Trust to organise a coordinated beach clean at Cable Bay on Anglesey also in January. Lots of people came and worked together to clear a lot of harmful marine litter from this beautiful stretch of coastline.

In March, the new barn at Bryn Y Maen was used to host an evening for local vets and vet nurses to learn more about wildlife casualties. The talk was given by Bev Panto, head vet from Stapeley Grange. It was a good turn out, with over 40 people. A big thanks to the friends of Bryn Y Maen for letting us host the evening. It was extremely interesting and valuable. Thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

### **Cases and Complaints of note**

April saw Inspector Jenny Anderton report on the outcome of one of her cases - two people who received sentencing in 2018 had appealed their ban to the crown court. The original sentence was a ban for keeping horses, dogs and cats - (one for 5 years and one for 8 years), as well as fines, orders and a suspended prison sentence for one of the defendants. Multiple charges of animal welfare act offences had been brought against them in the original case, but they only pleaded guilty to a small amount of the charges. The appeal was heard during this month and the original ban from keeping horses dogs and cats was increased by the crown court to include all animals. Additional fines were also issued in respect to the costs incurred from the appeal. This was a great result and justice for the animals involved and the hard work the officer and her colleagues had put into the original case.

A gorgeous young Collie dog was dumped at the Rhyl Clinic in May, after his owner could no longer afford the veterinary treatment for an injury to its right foot that it received in a road traffic collision. Although the owner acted inappropriately by just dumping the dog without leaving any details ultimately he did do the best thing albeit he should have acted sooner. Inspector Rachael Davies transported the dog to Mochdre Vets on behalf of the clinic where he received his treatment and we believe has found his forever home. Information was received to confirm the original owner was in prison for unrelated offences.

### **Rope rescue**

Inspector Roberts, Dunderdale, Anderton and ACO Lloyd Williams were asked to help out with a rope rescue in Pembrokeshire in April. 65 sheep had gone over a sea cliff and a massive operation calling on all available rope rescue trained officers took place. It took two weeks to get all the sheep and the WW6 officers were present on the final day of the rescue, when the remaining 23 sheep were rescued. A sea boat was utilised to remove them to safety. This was a truly challenging and remarkable operation and thanks to all involved for the successful outcome.

Inspector Broadbent reported on a rope rescue of a lamb above Bryn Pydew, Llandudno in June "The 4wk old lamb had become separated from its mother and slipped around 12' down a 100' cliff face and landed on a steep ivy covered ledge. It slipped down yesterday but due to the fact that it was still suckling from its mother, who was calling distressed from the top, we decided to rescue it ASAP. Will Galvin and Ann Lloyd Williams abseiled down to

the ledge and successfully grabbed the lamb before reuniting it with its grateful mother. It immediately began to suckle and feed as it had grown quite quiet." Andy Broadbent and Vicki Taylor (from WW1) assisted from above.

### **Flood Rescue**

In June we had flooding to deal with. Inspectors Phil Lewis, Mike Pugh and Mark Roberts and ACO William Galvin were called to ewes and lambs stranded on high ground between a fast flowing river and a flooded field with the water flowing quickly through it. The job had previously been assessed by Inspector Jenny Anderton who met with the owners of the sheep and took video footage of the situation which she sent out to the rescue team. On arrival the team met with owners and some friends of theirs who run a water sports centre in Bala and had brought an inflatable raft with them. The team took up positions close to a semi submerged fence and the raft was paddled across by the raft team. The sheep began to move and for a while it looked like they would make it across the flooded field by themselves. Then the current took them. The team by the fence then moved in and several of the ewes and lambs were either carried or guided to safety. The rest managed to make their own way to the banks. One lamb had to be taken back to the farm to be warmed before being returned to mum.

### **Collections of note**

In February, Inspector Lewis dealt with a badger in Chirk that sadly had been hit by a car. It had very unusual colouring - erythristic, meaning it lacks the black pigment in its fur through a genetic mutation. The mutation is quite rare throughout the UK, with North Shropshire having more sightings than other areas of erythristic badgers. The animal was transferred to Stapeley to make a full recovery before being returned to where it was found. In July Inspector Phil Lewis was called to an incident where a lamb had gone down a culvert or storm drain. Luckily it ended up right below a roadside drain on the A494 in High Street, Bala, where it was spotted and brought to our attention. The police controlled traffic while highways removed the drain cover. Phil was able to prevent the lamb going back up the culvert and then pull it out by its front legs. It was returned to the owner unharmed.

The owner of Percy, a female dark tortie cat, returned from work one evening in September, to be told by neighbours that their cat was stuck between the garage walls, having been alerted by loud cries. Inspector Nayman Dunderdale was allocated the job. Upon his arrival, the garage owner's son was on site along with Percy's mum who lives two doors down. Nayman attempted to free Percy, who was stuck upside down in the narrow gap, with the reach and rescue poles and hooks but he couldn't budge her. It was presumed she had gone into the space and tried to turn around, panicked and got lodged. The officer advised a hole needed to be knocked into the wall, preferably that evening, as Percy was upside down and would be extremely uncomfortable. Friendly builders were called in and knocked a brick out just above Percy. Being unable still to budge her, Nayman asked for another two bricks to be knocked out. He was then able to reach in and pull up the poor cat, whose back end was lodged tight. Percy was extremely calm when she came out and was handed back to the owner, who had retrieved a cat basket from home. Speaking to the owner the next morning, Nayman was told that Percy was fine and eating well, although

Insp Dunderdale did advise a little dieting wouldn't go a miss. Whilst not massive, controlling her food intake would help as she gets older. Apparently this was not the first time Percy had got into a muddle. Several years ago, when a little kitten, Percy had gone missing and was found in another tight space. It's a good job cats have 9 lives!

As always, I would like to finish my report by thanking the animal centres, branches, members and volunteers for all their support and help throughout the past year. It really would not be possible to do the job we do without you.

**Chief Inspector Leanne Hardy 783**  
**Wales and West Group 6**  
**RSPCA Cymru**

## **North Wales Inspectorate**

### **Annual Report 2020**

#### **Year in summary**

Where do I start? 2020 will be the year that many of us would like to forget but will remember for a very long time. It pushed us to our limits at times, but also brought out the best in many of us. The RSPCA in general is undergoing massive changes as it modernises. This process began way before 2020 and will continue into the foreseeable future. 2020 saw the "Great Pandemic 2020" thrown into the mix on top of all that.

In order to continue to serve the animals of North Wales and keep the public and officers safe throughout the coronavirus outbreak, changes had to be made to the way we work in the inspectorate. The NCC was closed from 2300hrs to 0700 hrs, which meant we no longer were able to offer a 24 hour on call service. Throughout the restrictions we have been able to deal with animals most in need by dealing with emergency calls only.

The Society found itself in very serious financial difficulties in 2020, leading to a large number of redundancies. For the officers in North Wales, we sadly had to say goodbye to 7 valued, dedicated and irreplaceable officers, Animal Collection Officer Ann Lloyd Williams, Animal Collection Officer Will Galvin, Inspector Fred Armstrong, Inspector Becky Jeffries, Inspector Lucy DeHavilland, Market Inspector Bill Rowbottom and Market Inspector Warwick Burgess. They are all going to be missed terribly by those of us who have had the pleasure of working with them. Inspector Nayman Dunderdale, who had been helping us out with work in North Wales, was relocated back over the border within the West Mercia group. He will still be needed in North Wales to join us on our many rope rescues that we carry out. The Animal Collection Officer role was decommissioned and replaced with that of 'Animal Rescue Officer'. In addition to the collection and rescue work done by the ACOs, the job will also incorporate some complaint investigation work, to support the Inspector workload. We welcome to the North Wales group two new Animal Rescue Officers who will be joining us from Cheshire, ARO Lauren Bradshaw and ARO John Littlewood. Both officers have had additional intensive training on Animal Welfare legislation to prepare for their new role. They'll also both be getting a crash course in the Welsh alphabet at some point!

The operational inspectorate groups have also been restructured and our 'Wales & West 6' group has lost areas of Mid Wales. The new group area incorporates the counties of Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham. We are now renamed the 'NORTH WALES' group.

#### **Cases and Complaints of note**

Due to the pandemic, all court cases were postponed during 2020 so I am unable to comment on any cases we investigated as yet.

In October Inspector Rachael Davies dealt with a dog that we had received recurrent complaints about over the last few years. The elderly owners had been struggling to cope with the dog and signed her over so she could find a new home where she would get the

regular grooming or hair cuts she needed. What at first seemed to be a very nervous, possibly snappy dog, underneath all of the matts and dirt was a loveable friendly little thing who must've just been so uncomfortable it was portrayed in her behaviour.

In November we received a call from a concerned owner after his cat became locked inside a property he had been evicted from and the bailiffs were refusing him entry to get his beloved pet. ARO John Littlewood attended the address where the cat had been trapped for a couple of days. During the eviction the owner's partner had hold of the cat but during the commotion, it got scared and ran back into the safety of the house. The bailiffs then proceeded to change the locks on the property, refusing the owners of the cat entry to retrieve the animals in case they would refuse to leave again. ARO Littlewood was able to track down the keys for the property all the way over in Staffordshire. One long drive later there and back the cat was secured and returned back to the owner unharmed.

### **Rope rescue**

The Wales and West north rope rescue team were at it again just before covid 19 lock down started. Calls had come in regarding a goat seen trapped on a ledge for a couple of weeks near the old slate quarry at Blaenau Ffestiniog. The team was assembled. Vicki Taylor was to lead Ann Lloyd Williams, Jenny Anderton, Mike Pugh and Nayman Dunderdale. It was a cold wet drizzly morning. Once at the location, the goat's whereabouts was not obvious until a flash of white appeared. It turned out the goat was mostly dark but flashes of white showed depending how the goat was sat or stood.

With broad grins all geared up with mountain boots, waterproofs and the load of equipment, shared out in rucksacks, the team set off. It was a short walk to the bottom of the mountain where, upon reaching and looking up at what can only be described as the stairway to hell, the team gave out a sigh of "oh heck". Steps had been carved or hewn from rocks akin to the stairway up mount doom in Lord of the rings. They eventually ended at a large open tunnel carved out of the rock about 10 feet wide and around 30 feet long, rising on a steep angle. Although the sky shone from above, the tunnel was quite dark, so with head torches adorned the team clambered up with the heavy load on hands and knees. Mike and Nayman were chosen to drop off over and rescue the goat. The views of the area were spectacular and enjoyed while the system was set up. Once the goat was safely rescued and bagged Mike descended alongside it in case of snagging. It was lowered on spare rope about 70 metres to the bottom.

The goat was checked over and though a little lean, released back into the wild and was seen walking about grazing within minutes. All in all the team agreed it was one of the most difficult but most enjoyable rescues.

### **Collections and rescues of note**

In October Inspector Andrew Broadbent was called to assist on a horse rescue near Denbigh. The horse had fallen into a deep drainage ditch and couldn't get out. It was hypothermic and rapidly falling unconscious when Andrew arrived. A vet and the horse's owners were on scene. The vet sedated the horse and a front loader was used to drag the



horse free using straps. Once clear of the ditch, the vet checked over the horse. They got it standing and it was washed and exercised to warm up and went on to make a full recovery.

As always, I would like to finish my report by thanking the animal centres, branches, members and volunteers for all their support and help throughout the past unprecedented and difficult year. We look forward to 2021 with optimism and know that with your help we can continue to serve the animals and communities of North Wales to the best of our ability.

**Chief Inspector Leanne Hardy 783**  
**North Wales Inspectorate**  
**RSPCA Cymru**

## **RSPCA BRYN-Y-MAEN ANIMAL CENTRE 2019 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Bryn-y-Maen team encountered another demanding year in 2019, with the ever increasing need for animals requiring spaces within the centre. We experienced a wide variety of animals needing behavioural support after experiencing challenging lives before entering our care. Having a behavioural team within the organisation has further supported our experienced team when managing animals in our care with behavioural needs.

A total of 511 animals entered our care including 128 dogs 249 cats 73 rabbits 61 other animals. We had an increased number of animals transferred to the centre via our regional network team to take advantage of our inhouse expertise.

A grand total of 429 animals found new homes made up of 94 dogs, 203 cats, 61 rabbits and 71 other animals including poultry, birds and small animals. Our rabbit rehoming was at its highest for the last 7 years and being the third highest within all the regional animal centre's.

In 2019 the centre started using the Society's volunteer management system called Assemble, which has been a positive success already. We continue to have a committed team of volunteers who are completing an average of 12 hours of volunteer work per month. A total of 5,779 volunteer hours were completed during the year, which shows the true commitment they have to the centre and animals in our care.

Our fundraising activities continue to grow annually, with Mags committed to managing these events. Abbie completed a sponsored headshave and raised over £2,000 in order for the centre to purchase dedicated poultry accommodation at the centre. The Friends Barn has also provided us with a new space to hold events within the centre and we look forward to updating you on these events in the near future.

Clare Maclean left the centre after a period away from her role, we wish her well for her future within a new sector. Amy Chambers joined the team in June after a year in a volunteer role at the centre and also successfully completed her degree making 2019 a positive year for her. Rachel Gibbs joined the team as Deputy Manager, bringing a wealth of experience with her. Rachel had previously worked within a branch centre and has experience working within another large animal charity. We are looking forward to the future with our new recruits.

Our annual Friends Dog Show was another successful event with over a hundred dogs entering the various show categories and generated over £3,300. We look forward to seeing you all at our 2020 event which will take place on Sunday 17th May 2020. The Friends of Bryn-y-Maen Barn had its official opening this year with Tabitha Adair King kindly agreeing to cut the ribbon for us. We thank supporters and committee members past and present, who made it possible for the centre to have this amazing facility.

From all the Team at Bryn-y-Maen we would like to say a special thanks to the North Wales Branches and Friends of Bryn-y-Maen for their continued support to ensure we provide the best possible care and commitment to the animals that spend time at the centre.

**Kind Regards Vicky Williams**

**Centre Manager Bryn-y-Maen Animal  
Centre**

## **RSPCA BRYN-Y-MAEN ANIMAL CENTRE 2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

This year has certainly been interesting with new challenges for everyone following the arrival of Covid 19; who could have ever imagined the events we faced when entered into 2020. The centre adapted to the ever changing situation and continued to rehabilitate and rehome animals coming into our care. Our team of staff and volunteers remained committed and dedicated throughout the year's challenges to achieve the very best for our animals.

The closure of the centre to visitors and the introduction of virtual rehoming from April was a big change to our way of working. We have experienced positive outcomes with the changes and we will continue to develop our processes in the year ahead to best support our future rehoming. We found new homes for a total of 228 animals which included 42 Dogs, 114 Cats, 30 Rabbits and 42 Other Animals. Over 150 of these were rehomed through our virtual rehoming process.

We admitted a total of 330 animals into our care including 65 dogs 148 cats 39 rabbits 78 other animals. We supported our local inspectorate with over 40 poultry from a large multi-animal home. We continued to work closely with our network team and have recruited and trained four volunteer network drivers to support the transportation of animals from North Wales into available spaces within England.

Our volunteers completed a total of 3,539 hours at the centre which is an amazing achievement considering the restrictions we experienced throughout 2020, including the temporary suspension of the program. Our volunteers continue to be at the heart of the centre and support us with the amazing success stories we see daily. We hope to expand our volunteer team in 2021 and will strive to deliver further successes.

Sadly we made the decision to cancel our Friends Dog Show and also many more of our planned fundraising events due to the pandemic. Our fundraising activities changed dramatically from regular events within the local community towards a new approach centred around online events.

Helen Jones left her Animal Care Assistant role to join the RSPCA Cornwall Branch; we wish her well with her exciting new role. Becca Loyley was successfully appointed as our first Behaviour & Welfare advisor after spending over eight years as an Animal Care Assistant. The new role will see Becca providing behavioural support to the team and animals that come into our care.

Rachel Ali and Sarah Davies joined the team in Animal Care Assistant positions; we look forward to working with our new team members into the future, broadening our skills and knowledge within the team.

Thank you to the North Wales branches and Friends of Bryn-y-Maen for continuing to support the animals that need us most in these challenging and uncertain times. We hope 2021 brings opportunities for us all to gather as a team, assess the challenges we've all overcome and build on the many success stories.

**Warm Regards**

**Victoria Williams**

**Centre Manager Bryn-y-Maen Animal  
Centre**