

**R S P C A Keighley, Craven and Upper Wharfedale Branch**

Charity number 232237 – England and Wales

**Statement of Accounts  
for the  
Year Ended 31 December 2024**

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**Independent Examiner's Report**

**From Stewart Newberry FFA**

**to the Trustees of R S P C A Keighley, Craven and Upper Wharfedale Branch**

In respect of the statement of accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 on pages 10 to 14:

**- Responsibilities of the trustees**

As trustees, you have responsibilities within the following:

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 ('the Regulations').

The Charities Act 2022 ('the Act').

The Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Financial Reporting Standard 102) October 2019 ('the SORP').

Any other directives, conditions or restrictions imposed upon the charity by regulation, benefactors or other relevant parties.

**- As trustees, your responsibilities include, but are not limited to:**

Preparation of a statement of accounts which shows a true and fair view.

Preparation of sufficient accounting records and other relevant information.

Preparation of a trustees' annual report which should accompany and accurately reflect the information contained in the statement of accounts.

Ascertaining whether the charity is required to have an audit of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information.

Ascertaining whether the charity is required to have an independent examination of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information.

Ascertaining whether the charity is required to have any other examination or review of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information.

**Responsibilities of the independent examiner**

As independent examiner, I have responsibilities within the following:

The Regulations.

The Act.

Directions given by the Charity Commission for England and Wales in the guidance document 'Independent Examination of Charity Accounts: Directions and Guidance for Examiners (CC32) December 2017' ('the Directions').

Any other directives, conditions or restrictions imposed upon the charity by regulation, benefactors or other relevant parties.

Continued

**Independent Examiner's Report**  
**From Stewart Newberry FFA**  
**to the Trustees of R S P C A Keighley, Craven and Upper Wharfedale Branch**

Continued

As independent examiner, my responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Completion of an independent examination of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information.

Stating whether particular matters have come to my attention in completing my independent examination of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information.

- Basis of my independent examiner's report

I completed an independent examination of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information in accordance with the Regulations, the Act and the Directions.

An independent examination includes the following:

A review of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information, and a comparison of those items.

Consideration of any unusual items included in the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information, and seeking explanations from the trustees regarding such items.

An independent examination is a form of external scrutiny that provides a limited check on specific matters. An independent examination does not provide all the evidence that is required in an audit. Therefore, I do not express an audit opinion on the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information, and neither do I express an opinion on whether the statement of accounts shows a true and fair view. My independent examiner's report is limited to those matters contained in the following statement:

- Independent examiner's statement

In completing my independent examination of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information, none of the following came to my attention:

Any matters which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the trustees' responsibility to prepare sufficient accounting records and other relevant information in accordance with the Regulations and the Act has not been met.

Any matters which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the trustees' responsibility to prepare a statement of accounts from the accounting records and other relevant information in accordance with the Regulations, the Act and the SORP has not been met.

Any matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the statement of accounts to be reached.

Continued

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**From Stewart Newberry FFA**

**to the Trustees of R S P C A Keighley, Craven and Upper Wharfedale Branch**

Continued

To the fullest extent within laws and regulations, I do not accept responsibility to any third parties for my work relating to the statement of accounts or for this report.

This report has been prepared only for your use as trustees and to be sent to the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

S A Newberry, FFA, FTA, MBA

Positive Practice Accountants  
Skipton Commercial Centre  
Water Street  
Skipton  
BD23 1PB

**Accountants Report**

**From Positive Practice Accountants**

**to the Trustees of R S P C A Keighley, Craven and Upper Wharfedale Branch**

In respect of the statement of accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 on pages 10 to 14

As trustees, you have responsibilities within the following:

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 ('the Regulations').

The Charities Act 2022 ('the Act').

The Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Financial Reporting Standard 102) October 2019 ('the SORP').

Any other directives, conditions or restrictions imposed upon the charity by regulation, benefactors or other relevant parties.

As trustees, your responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Preparation of a statement of accounts which shows a true and fair view.

Preparation of sufficient accounting records and other relevant information.

Preparation of a trustees' annual report which should accompany and accurately reflect the information contained in the statement of accounts.

Ascertaining whether the charity is required to have an audit of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information.

Ascertaining whether the charity is required to have an independent examination of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information.

Ascertaining whether the charity is required to have any other examination or review of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information.

To assist you with your responsibilities and in accordance with your instructions, we have prepared the statement of accounts on your behalf in accordance with the Regulations, the Act, the SORP and generally accepted accounting practice.

To assist you with your responsibilities and in accordance with your instructions, we have completed an independent examination of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information that you have made available to us, in accordance with the independent examiner's report on pages 3 to 5.

We have completed our work on your behalf from the accounting records and other relevant information that you have made available to us.

We have relied on the accounting records and other relevant information that you have made available to us as being true, correct and complete. Other than the procedures explained in the independent examiner's report on pages 3 to 5, we have not completed extensive procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records and other relevant information

Continued

**Accountants Report**

**From Positive Practice Accountants**

**to the Trustees of R S P C A Keighley, Craven and Upper Wharfedale Branch**

that you have made available to us, and our work relating thereto has not been designed to identify significant errors or weaknesses therein. Therefore, other than the independent examiner's report on pages 3 to 5, we do not give any comment on the statement of accounts or the accounting records and other relevant information that you have made available to us.

Our work on your behalf is subject to the professional standards of the Institute of Financial Accountants and has been undertaken within those professional standards.

To the fullest extent within laws and regulations, we do not accept responsibility to any third parties for our work relating to the statement of accounts or for this report.

The statement of accounts and this report have been prepared only for your use as trustees and for information contained therein to be sent to the Charity Commission for England and Wales

Positive Practice Accountants  
Skipton Commercial Centre  
Water Street  
Skipton  
BD23 1PB

7th October 2025

**Declaration from the Trustees  
of  
R S P C A Keighley, Craven and Upper Wharfedale Branch  
to  
Positive Practice Accountants**

In respect of the statement of accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 on pages 10 to 14:

We approve the statement of accounts.

We acknowledge that, as trustees, we have responsibilities within the following:

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 ('the Regulations').

The Charities Act 2022 (the Act').

The Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Financial Reporting Standard 102) October 2019 ('the SORP').

Any other directives, conditions or restrictions imposed upon the charity by regulation, benefactors or other relevant parties.

We acknowledge that, as trustees, our responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Preparation of a statement of accounts which shows a true and fair view.

Preparation of sufficient accounting records and other relevant information.

Preparation of a trustees' annual report which should accompany and accurately reflect the information contained in the statement of accounts.

Ascertaining whether the charity is required to have an audit of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information.

Ascertaining whether the charity is required to have an independent examination of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information.

Ascertaining whether the charity is required to have any other examination or review of the statement of accounts, financial records and other relevant information.

To assist us with our responsibilities, we have instructed you to prepare the statement of accounts on our behalf in accordance with the Regulations, the Act, the SORP and generally accepted accounting practice.

To assist us with our responsibilities, we have instructed you to complete an independent examination of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information that we have made available to you, in accordance with the independent examiner's report on pages 3 to 5.

We confirm that an audit or any other examination or review of the statement of accounts, accounting records and other relevant information is not required.

We have made available to you all accounting records and other relevant information necessary to enable you complete your work on our behalf.

Continued



**Declaration from the Trustees  
of  
R S P C A Keighley, Craven and Upper Wharfedale Branch  
to  
Positive Practice Accountants  
Continued**

The accounting records and other relevant information that we have made available to you are true, correct and complete. We acknowledge that, other than the procedures explained in the independent examiner's report on pages 1 to 3, you have not completed extensive procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records and other relevant information that we have made available to you, and your work relating thereto has not been designed to identify significant errors or weaknesses therein.

We acknowledge that, therefore, other than the independent examiner's report on pages 3 to 5, you do not give any comment on the statement of accounts or the accounting records and other relevant information that we have made available to you.

We acknowledge that your work on our behalf is subject to the professional standards of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and has been undertaken within those professional standards.

We acknowledge that, to the fullest extent within laws and regulations, you do not accept responsibility to any third parties for your work relating to the statement of accounts or for the reports on pages 3 to 7.

We acknowledge that the statement of accounts and the reports on pages 3 to 7 have been prepared only for our use as trustees and for information contained therein to be sent to the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Signed on behalf of the trustees.

J Woodward  
Trustee Chairperson

7<sup>th</sup> October 2025

J Brannelly  
Trustee Treasurer

7<sup>th</sup> October 2025

J Stow  
Trustee Secretary

7<sup>th</sup> October 2025

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds – income</b>	2 and 3		
Collections, donations and misc.		32566	35285
Legacies		14894	173795
Animal adoptions		10351	13310
RSPCA case animals		16250	0
Subscriptions		67	79
Insurance commission		779	315
Bank Interest		6079	1716
Donated professional services		0	250
		-----	-----
		80986	224751
		-----	-----
<b>Unrestricted funds expenditure</b>	2 and 3		
Misc. fund raising		124	4,108
Veterinary		36,310	37,811
Kennels and Catteries		35,260	37,741
Fostering		3,679	4,386
Storage		660	0
Repairs and renewals		0	0
Travelling		351	894
Telecommunications		611	338
Website		214	0
Advertisement		75	0
Postage and stationery		897	59
Branch regional contribution		551	1,556
Accountancy fee		420	420
Independent examiner fee		420	250
Legacy administration fee		435	0
Insurance		822	0
Bank charges		60	0
Information commissioner registration fee		40	0
Depreciation of equipment		104	0
Net value added tax reclaimed		0	0
		-----	-----
		81033	87562
		-----	-----
<b>Unrestricted fund net surplus/deficit</b>		(47)	(16,678)
		-----	-----

Continued

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	Continued		
	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds – summary</b>	<b>3</b>		
Brought forward		237,572	100,383
Net surplus		(47)	137,189
		-----	-----
Carried forward		237,525	237,572
		-----	-----

**Balance Sheet at 31 December 2024**

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
<b>Non-Current Asset</b>			
Fixtures and Fittings		314	0
<b>Current Assets</b>	2		
Stock		0	485
Debtors		0	1,899
Prepayments		0	0
PayPal account		0	1,113
Cash at bank		237,631	237,648
Cash at hand		0	0
		-----	-----
		237,945	241,145
<b>Creditors</b>	2		
Amounts falling within one year:			
Creditors		0	3,153
Accruals		420	420
		-----	-----
		(420)	(3,573)
		-----	-----
Total Net Assets		237,525	237,572
		-----	-----
<b>Capital and reserves</b>	3		
Unrestricted funds		237,525	237,572
		-----	-----

On behalf of the trustees, we approve the statement of accounts on pages 10 to 14

J Woodward  
Trustee Chairperson

J Brannelly  
Trustee Treasurer

J Stow  
Trustee Secretary

R S P C A Keighley Craven and Upper Wharfedale Branch

7<sup>th</sup> October 2025

7<sup>th</sup> October 2025

7<sup>th</sup> October 2025

## **Notes to the Statement of Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

### **1. The charity's main objective**

The charity's main objective is to promote the work and objectives of the national Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals ('the Society') in accordance with the policies of the Society, with particular reference to the geographical area covered by the charity.

### **2. Accounting policies**

#### **Basis of preparation of statement of accounts**

The statement of accounts is prepared in accordance with:

The historical cost convention. The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

The Charities Act 2022.

The Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Financial Reporting Standard 102) October 2019.

#### **Income**

Accounting policy applied to all income:

All income is included gross in the statement of accounts on the accruals basis and when all the following criteria have been met:

Control over the rights or other access to the economic benefits relating to the income has passed to the charity.

It is probable the economic benefits relating to the income will pass to the charity.

The monetary value of the economic benefits relating to the income and any costs incurred relating to the transactions can be measured reliably.

#### **Accounting policies applied to specific transactions:**

Donated goods for sale are included in the statement of accounts at the monetary value realised when sold or disposed of.

Donated facilities, goods or services for use by the charity are included in the statement of accounts at a reliable estimate of their monetary value where information is available to calculate such an estimate.

The monetary value of volunteer help is not included in the statement of accounts. Information relating to volunteer help is included in the trustees' annual report.

Debtors are included in the statement of accounts at the amounts the charity anticipates it will receive in respect of debts owed to it at the balance sheet date.

Prepayments are included in the statement of accounts at the amounts the charity has paid in advance for goods or services not yet received by it at the balance sheet date.

Continued

**Notes to the Statement of Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

Continued

**Expenditure**

Accounting policy applied to all expenditure:

All expenditure is included gross in the statement of accounts on the accruals basis and when all the following criteria have been met:

A present legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event that commits the charity to the expenditure. It is probable the economic benefits relating to the obligation will pass from the charity.

The monetary value of the economic benefits relating to the obligation can be measured reliably.

**Accounting policies applied to specific transactions:**

Equipment is included in the statement of accounts at cost less depreciation and impairment.

Depreciation of equipment is included in the statement of accounts at a rate calculated to write off the cost of equipment, less its estimated residual value, on a straight-line basis over the expected useful economic life of the equipment.

Impairment of equipment is considered at each balance sheet date and included in the statement of accounts as necessary.

Stock is included in the statement of accounts at an estimate of the lower of cost or net realisable value, after making allowance for obsolete or slow-moving stock. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of related overhead costs.

Creditors and accruals are included in the statement of accounts at the amounts the charity anticipates it will pay in respect of debts owed for goods or services received by it at the balance sheet date.

**3. Unrestricted funds**

The charity's unrestricted funds are available for application at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's objectives.

**4. Trustees' remuneration, benefits and expenses**

There were no trustees' remuneration, benefits or expenses arising from employments with the charity during the two years ended 31 December 2023.

**5. 5 Related party transactions**

There were no related party transactions during the two years ended 31 December 2022 which require disclosure in the statement of accounts.

**6. Going concern**

The trustees are of the opinion there are no material uncertainties regarding the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the statement of accounts.



## **ANNUAL REPORT for the year ended 31 December 2024**

This report contains the following documents presented at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Branch held on 15 October 2025.

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024.

A copy of the RSPCA West Yorkshire Group Annual Inspectorate Report 2024 is included in this report.

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## **RSPCA KEIGHLEY CRAVEN & UPPER WHARFEDALE BRANCH**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

#### **Reference and Administrative Details as at 31 December 2024**

**Charity Number** 232237

**Trustees\***

**Chair** Jayne Woodward

**Treasurer** Jan Brannelly

**Secretary** Rob Stow

Jane Taylor  
Francis Woodward  
Mike Hogg

**Principal Address** RSPCA Keighley Craven & Upper Wharfedale  
PO Box 59  
Barnoldswick  
Lancs. BB18 9AN

**Independent Examiner** Stewart Newbury  
Positive Practice  
Commercial Centre, Water Street  
Skipton  
North Yorkshire  
BD23 1PB

**Bankers** CAF Bank Ltd  
25 Kings Hill Avenue West  
Mailing  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

\* Mandie Anderson was a Branch Trustee for part of the year  
(until the AGM on 18 June 2024 only.)

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated association. It operates as an autonomous branch of the National RSPCA subject to its rules for branches.

A committee elected at the AGM governs the branch. Members of the committee are Trustees of the branch and are briefed on their responsibilities prior to their acceptance of the role. The trustees hold regular meetings at which decisions are made.

The trustees actively review the risks that the charity faces through regular operational and financial reviews. The trustees also examine other operational and business risks facing the branch, and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks, which have been identified as:

- 1 Insufficient branch-generated income
- 2 Unpredictable income from legacies

## **OBJECTS, OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES**

The objects of the branch are to promote the work and objects of the National Society of the RSPCA, with particular reference to the area of the branch.

The key aim is to find suitable new homes for as many animals as possible, within the constraints of the Branch's resources and with regard to the National Society's policies.

The main activity to achieve this is the operation of an animal adoption/ re-homing programme through PBE cattery / cat fostering and boarding at RSPCA East Lancs. This activity is supported by a variety of volunteer roles.

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 this duty under the Charities Act 2011, s.17 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

The branch intake for the year 2024 was 99 cats and 13 dogs. The branch managed to re-home 106 of these animals (13 dogs, 93 cats), which is a decrease of 8 on last year's figures. We are pleased that the branch has been able to maintain a similar level of activity to previous years. 54% of animals coming into branch care came from the Inspectorate. The rest were branch welfare concerns (45%) and branch transfers (1%).

Compulsory micro-chipping of dogs came into effect in April 2016 and the branch continues to help by micro-chipping 9 branch dogs and 11 public owned dogs, either directly or through welfare vouchers. This will hopefully help to reunite them with their owners should they go missing. Sadly this is a drop in the ocean compared to the c.66,000 dogs that are picked up from our nation's streets having strayed or been stolen every year. The branch also micro-chipped 77 branch cats and 66 public owned cats. The branch helped neuter 9 branch dogs and 77 branch cats, and 11 public owned dogs and 66 public owned cats. We help wherever we can with neutering to help reduce unwanted litters and in certain cases with initial help at a vets for the sake of the animal's welfare. Overall we provided welfare assistance to 1 dog, 2 rabbits and 3 cats.

The branch continues to have a close relationship with the neighboring Altham branch and continued to rent kennels throughout 2024 allowing the branch to take in more RSPCA generated dogs.

Volunteers continued to hold fundraising events and find ways to raise funds in alternate ways as much as possible. 7 events were held in 2024, down 3 on the previous year.

Trustees recognise the importance of volunteers' contributions and strive to create an environment where volunteers feel valued and involved. Volunteers contribute in many different ways, from cat fostering to organising or supporting fundraising events. The trustees wish to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all volunteers, whatever their role, whose commitment was seen more than ever throughout a difficult year.

The branch continued to successfully hold several virtual trustee meetings throughout the year.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The total incoming resources for the year amounted to £80,986 at 31 December 2024  
(2023: £224,751)

Expenditure for the year amounted to £81,033 at 31 December 2024  
(2023: £87,562)

The deficit for the year was £47 at 31 December 2023  
(2023: +£137,189)

### **Reserves Policy**

The Branch held reserves of £237,525 at 31 December 2024  
(2023: £237,572)

We hold reserves in order that the service level provided for animal welfare is maintained if there is a reduction in incoming resources. Reserves are those funds which are freely available for general purpose and are not committed. The trustees aim has been to hold reserves of unrestricted funds equivalent to two year's expenditure.

### **Investment Policy**

Our relevantly modest resources demand that a cautious and secure investment policy is pursued. Consequently, our unrestricted funds are held in an interest earning account with a Bank specializing exclusively in accounts for charitable organisations.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

The branch will continue to promote fostering as an alternative to kennels, as we believe this provides a better environment for the animal. Fostering also allows us to learn more about them prior to offering them for adoption.

We will continue to work in partnership with the Inspectorate and other agencies, prompting preventive care through microchipping and flea and worm treatments. We will actively promote neutering by offering financial help with the cost.

Volunteers remain the backbone of all branch activities. We will continue our efforts to recruit and maintain a team of volunteers to carry out fundraising and animal welfare activities across the Keighley, Craven and Upper Wharfedale area.

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year, and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- 1 select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- 2 make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 3 state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 4 prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which accurately disclose the financial position of the Charity and which will enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law, regulations and trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Robert Stow

Secretary

13 October 2025

# West Yorkshire Branch Report

## Round Up 2024



Amber

## Collections and Rescues

As we all know the scope of service has recently changed, and the capacity tasking model has meant that the West Yorkshire Group has spent the majority of the year in Amber and Red, meaning that the latter half of the year has seen very few collections and rescues due to the volume of cruelty and neglect incidents we have been dealing with. We are now back in Green and have recruited a number of new Officers to help deal with the volume of work within our area. This means we will be going into 2025 with significantly more resources, enabling us to attend more promptly and attend all jobs within our scope of service.

As mentioned, The first half of the year the Inspectorate were able to take part in a huge range of collections and rescues of wildlife and domestic animals. Here are some of the successful jobs we carried out in 2024.

Before she left the Inspectorate to return to work at Fell Edge Animal Centre, ARO Jenny Anderson was assisted by West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue in the rescue of a thrush that was dangling by its foot, after becoming caught in wire in a tree. A cherry picker was used to get the bird, before it was taken to a local vet. Happy that the birds injuries were only superficial the vet gave the all clear for the thrush to be released back into the wild. [VIDEO](#).



ARO Ollie Wilkes assisted a local vet when an adolescent deer was found at the side of the road; the deer spent time at the vets to recuperate from a likely concussion before Ollie was able to release the deer to the wild. [VIDEO](#).



ARO Becky Goulding was called to a young fox cub that had fallen down a light well in a row of terraced houses in Sowerby Bridge, Halifax. Luckily the member of public who called us knew where the den was, and the cub was able to be re-released, none the worse for their adventures. [VIDEO](#).

The boss was allowed out of the office for a day, and Chief Inspector Emma Brook assisted ARO Ollie Wilkes with the rescue of a Black Headed Gull at Pontefract Racecourse. The two launched the small boat, and were able to take the gull to a vets to have the line removed.



We are all aware that abandonments are on the increase, but what never ceases to amaze us is what those animals are abandoned in. ARO Dave Holgate collected two guinea pigs from some scrubland in Baildon, Bradford that had been dumped in a JustEAT delivery bag. The two guinea pigs were in good health and have since been rehomed via Halifax Branch.



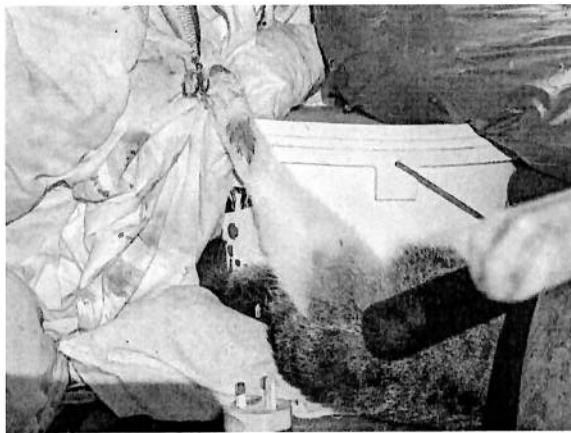
West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue also assisted Inspector Jo Taylor with her rescue of 'Rosie' an indoor cat that not only had escaped from her home, but had also managed to get stuck inside a disused



building. After four days of trying to tempt her out the RSPCA were called. Eventually F&R cut a hole in the door to the building and Rosie was tempted out.



ARO Aleesha Haddersley was called to a Wendy House that was been used to store old fishing tackle. The owners came in one morning to find a cat caught with a barb, hooked by its rear foot. Aleesha was able to free the cat and it was transferred to Greater Manchester Animal Hospital for treatment to the wound. Unfortunately the cat was not microchipped, Aleesha was confident someone must be missing her, giving how friendly and tolerant she was. But, despite a press release we were unable to locate an owner, and the cat - now named Barb-ara(!) has been rehomed.

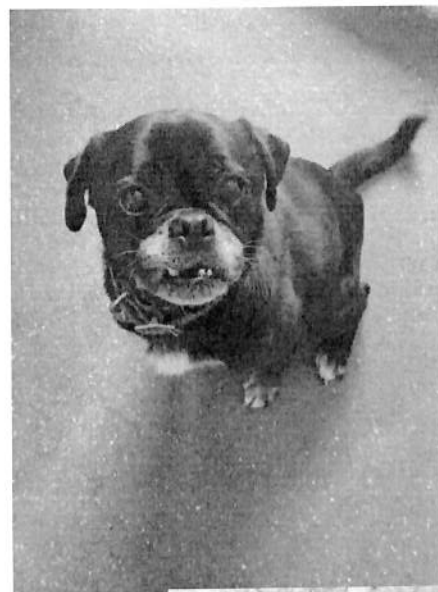


## Good News Stories

Inspector Natalie Taylor was called to an address in Bradford regarding three skinny dogs. The owner admitted that they were struggling with them after a change in circumstances, and that the dogs weren't getting enough to eat. The three dogs, which included father and son 'Louie and Eric' were signed over into the care of the RSPCA and went directly to RSPCA Halifax and Huddersfield Branch - where they all successfully gained weight and went up for rehoming!! Here are their before and after pictures!



Inspector Natalie Taylor and ARO Becky Goulding, with the assistance of PC Gemma Brown - RSPCA liaison police officer - were finally able to remove Poppy and Pepper, a shit-zu and pug from an address in Leeds. For over 12 months the RSPCA had been receiving concerns from neighbours for the environment in which the dogs were living. But with the dogs never having been seen, and no engagement from their owner it was a struggle to gather the evidence to gain access. Eventually little Pepper popped her head up at the window, and it gave the officers grounds to get the police involved to remove the dog. Poppy was severely matted, and Pepper slightly underweight. But, after lots of TLC from RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield and Bradford and a quite radical haircut for Poppy, the two dogs have now found their forever homes, and Pepper is a regular visitor to the branch.



Inspector Jo Taylor worked alongside the police to secure the welfare of these two, the whippet puppy 'Mona Lisa' and cat 'Jasmine' were removed from a very chaotic home environment where both animals had been painted by their previous owner!!! After treatment from a



private vet - and another radical haircut for Jasmine, both animals were signed over into RSPCA care, and both have now found new homes.

## Appleby Horse Fair

This year three officers from the West Yorkshire Group attended the horse fair. Inspector Demi Hodby was on the reactive team, roaming the fair and dealing with incidents across the fair. ARO Aleesha Haddlesey was stationed on the River Team supervising horses been washed in the river in the centre of town, whilst ARO Becky Goulding was up on the Flashing Lane where the horses are exercised.

The statistics compiled at the end of the fair revealed the RSPCA had a total of 355 advice interactions with horse owners at the fair, 8 warning notices were issued and 3 potential prosecution cases begun. In total 25 animals came into RSPCA Care - including 15 horses, puppies, kittens, rabbits, and birds. Below are a few highlights of the fair.



# Prosecution Outcomes

As always West Yorkshire continues to be one of the busiest groups in the country for case work and prosecutions, below are some of those outcomes. Some of these cases required a lot of work from the Inspectors involved in order to achieve some excellent outcomes - and became particularly invested in the animals involved with them.

At this point it's worth noting that 2024 has been the first year where the Inspectors particularly have been working alongside the newly formed team of RSPCA Liaison Officers from West Yorkshire Police. A team of eight (and growing) officers have received specialist training in how the Force can best assist the RSPCA Inspectorate, and in several instances this has sped up the process of animals being able to be removed so that case investigations can progress. The help of these police officers has been invaluable.

Inspector Demi Hodby was involved in the prosecution of a woman from Leeds for the neglect of two bearded dragons, two cats and a dog. That dog was Amber, the cover star of this Newsletter - and possibly the group's favourite dog this year. She was emaciated when she was found lifeless in a cage in the kitchen, with some amazing care from the branch, Amber has now found a new home. Her



previous owner was found guilty of Section 4 offences in relation to Amber, and Section 9 offences in relation to the other animals. She was banned from keeping All Animals for 10 years; cost and an 18m community order; as well as a deprivation order in relation to Amber.

Prior to him leaving, ARO Kris Walker, and subsequently Inspector Jo Taylor were involved in the prosecution of three individuals who plead guilty to a series of Section 9 offences in relation to three equines, as well as a Section 4 offence in relation to one young mare named 'Copper'. Two of the defendants were given 10 year ban from keeping equines, whilst a third was given a 7 year ban; as well as costs for all. The pictures below show Coppers return to good condition in the care of World Horse Welfare.



ARO Goulding, removed two dogs, 'Moschino' and 'Snowy' from an address in Wakefield after neighbours had rung in concerned for the bulldog and shepherd, after their owner had been witnessed hitting Moschino over the head with a shovel. After very brave testimony from those neighbours the man was found guilty of not only offences in relation to Moschino, but also in relation to the fear and distress that Snowy would have endured having to watch this incident. Both dogs were subject to a deprivation order from the court, and are now in the care of RSPCA Southport. The owner was disqualified from keeping all animals for 10 years. This case was one of the first for the RSPCA where justice for an animal has been gained for what they have had to witness - and it was achieved through the support of RSPCA behaviourist Kim Hope, who has also done a lot of work with Moschino to make him a rehomeable dog.

Inspector Natalie Taylor achieved a 10 year ban from Keeping All Animals for a French Bulldog called 'Cookie'; with a severe skin condition removed from an address in Leeds, the dog was signed over as part of the case and has subsequently been rehomed.

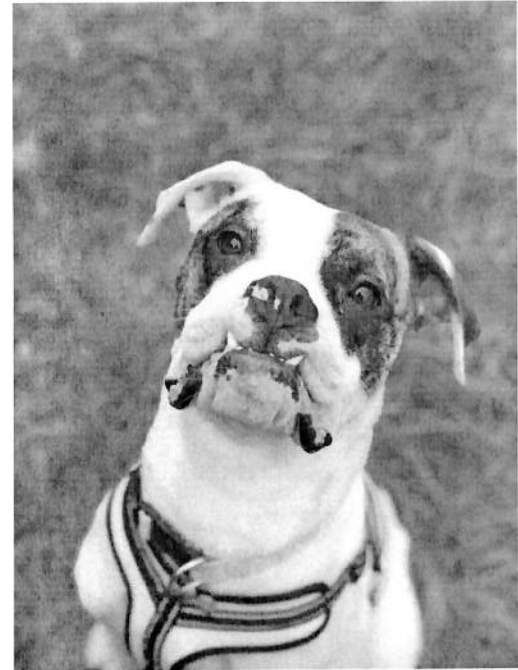


Inspector Natalie Taylor also had a mammoth ordeal, with a total of eleven court hearings regarding a cat named 'Evie' who was removed from an address in Bradford after her owner had failed to seek veterinary treatment for a broken leg. Luckily the cat was signed over at the earliest opportunity, so did not have to remain in RSPCA care all that time; but unfortunately the break could not be repaired and she had to have her leg removed. Despite this, she wasn't with the RSPCA long and quickly found her new home, where she's pictured below.





A series of harrowing CCTV sequences were presented by Inspector Adam Dickinson in the case of 'Ace' a boxer cross dog. In footage captured by neighbours the male owner is seen kicking and punching Ace, and in a particularly cruel video is seen throwing the dogs water away after he'd had the dog out for a walk on a hot day. The owner was found guilty of both a Section 4 offence in relation to the beatings, and Section 9 offences relating to an unsuitable environment. The man was sentenced to a 10 year ban from keeping all animals, as well as Community Order and Costs. Ace has since been rehomed by Preston Branch.



In January 2023, ARO Kris Walker removed a cob type pony called 'Cricket' from land in Castleford, but the case took over a year to come to court. An owner was traced and prosecuted for Section 4 offences for failing to provide veterinary treatment and allowing the pony to be in poor body condition, alongside Section 9 offences relating to an unsuitable environment. She was given a 10 year ban from keeping all animals. Unfortunately Cricket never recovered from his poor condition, and had to be put to sleep.

Inspector Demi Hodby had a very distressing case of a dog named 'Scooby' whos eyes had become so infected that the dog could no longer see. The elderly German Shepherd dog was put to sleep on welfare grounds. In one of the worst cases Demi has seen, the owner was found guilty of causing unnecessary suffering; and received a 26 week custodial sentence - suspended for 12 months, as well as a lifetime ban from keeping all animals.

Another of Inspector Hodbys cases came to a conclusion after almost 2 years. A woman from Bradford was found guilty of Section 4 conditions in relation the staffies body condition, and Section 9 offences in relation to unsuitable conditions. The woman was found guilty and sentenced to a 12 month community order and costs - but most importantly 'Babs' who won the hearts of the whole group could be rehomed.

Inspector Jo Taylor had an excellent result for three dogs removed from an address near Halifax. The three dogs, a spaniel, pointer and terrier were removed by the police; but were known to the RSPCA as there had been historic concerns for their welfare. The couple who owned the dogs were found guilty of causing unnecessary suffering to the spaniel, and failing to meet the needs of the two other dogs. The couple received community orders, which the magistrate stated that if they fail to comply with they will be remanded to custody. Both received a ban for 10 years from keeping dogs. A happy ended for the spaniel, who has subsequently been adopted by the vet who cared for her whilst she received treatment for a severe eye infection.



Another recent outcome with a happy ending is that of Felix the cat. Felix was removed from an address in Queensbury by Insp Becky Goulding; after his owner failed to get treatment for a broken leg. Felix, who required extensive cage rest at the beginning of his treatment was soon fostered by one of the vet nurses from Greater Manchester Animal Hospital. On conclusion of the case Felix was officially adopted by the nurse. Felix's owner was not only found guilty in relation to offences relating to him, but also a Collie dog - and was sentenced to a lifetime ban from keeping all animals.

# THANK YOU...

The West Yorkshire Inspectorate Group has undergone a lot of change in 2024.

A special mention to ARO Dave Holgate who retired after 30 years service to the RSPCA - he was a constant fixture in the group, and his enthusiasm at group meetings will certainly be missed!! He is however, still a permanent fixture on group nights out.

Three new ARO's have joined the team, Matt Jones, Hannah Western and Steve Harrison - and sadly we have lost ARO's Jenny Anderson and Jade Barber, after only a short period of time. But for the first time a conversion course was run to enable AROs to convert to Inspectors, and Hannah Williams and Becky Goulding were amongst the first in the country to complete the course - and hopefully an increase in staff members and number of Inspectors will enable us to deal with the ever increasing volume of cruelty and neglect cases the group receives.

However, none of the work of the Inspectorate would be possible without the help and support of our local branches - on behalf of all of us in the West Yorkshire Inspectorate, and the animals we bring to you, we would like to say a massive Thank You for everything you do - you are all absolutely amazing!!!