

Taken into hospital and have a pet.

- See if there are any friends or family who can assist otherwise contact the social services department within your local authority under Section 47 of the Care Act 2014
- The Cinnamon Trust – the national charity for the elderly, the terminally ill and their pets – may also be able to help in some cases: www.cinnamon.org.uk

Arrested by the police and taken into custody and there is an animal at home or elsewhere.

- If there are no family or friends who can care for the pet you should let the police know this is the case. The police are obliged to take responsibility for prisoner's property (a pet is considered property under the law).

Taken to court and there is a likelihood that they may be sent to prison.

- It is essential they discuss the care of their pet with family and/or friends beforehand to identify someone responsible who can care for their pet. There are no other bodies who can assist you with this.

Can no longer keep their pet.

- If they cannot find a responsible family member or friend to take on the care of their pet, then contact a responsible rehoming organisation in your area to seek advice and see if they can help you.
- Some local authorities also provide a 'handover service'.

Concerned about how a pet animal is being cared for or treated but do not think it is actually suffering.

- Report this to the RSPCA on: 0300 1234 999.
- Try and provide as much information as possible.

An animal emergency, for example an animal left in a hot car or an animal being beaten or another situation where urgent assistance is needed

- Contact the police on: 999 for urgent assistance.
- The RSPCA can assist but due to limited resources may not be able to attend as quickly as needed or have the statutory powers required to assist the animal.
- Additionally some local authorities have inspectors appointed under the Animal Welfare Act and may also be able to investigate – you can normally find this out on the local authority's website.

Other welfare situations where an animal has been poorly treated but urgent assistance is not needed.

- Contact the RSPCA on: 0300 1234 999 or your local authority if it deals with wider pet animal issues – you can normally find this out on the local authority's website.
- The police may be able to assist with this also.
- Concerns about animal fighting. Contact the RSPCA on: 0300 1234 999.

Concerns about organised animal fighting.

- Contact the RSPCA on: 0300 1234 999.
- The police may be able to assist with this also

You see a dog owner not clear up after their dog when out for a walk.

- Report this to your local authority and ask to speak with their dog warden – you can normally find this information on the local authority’s website.

You find a stray dog or believe their dog has gone missing.

- Report this to your local authority and they will be able to advise you what to do. Local authorities have a statutory duty to appoint someone to deal with stray dogs.
- The police and the RSPCA do not have responsibility for stray or missing dogs.

You are concerned about the behaviour of a dog or have been involved in an incident where you were attacked by a dog.

- You should report any incidents where a dog is posing a risk to public safety to your local police force. You should report any incident where a dog attacks another animal to either your local authority or police force. You should report any incident where a dog is barking excessively, or otherwise causing a nuisance, to your local authority.