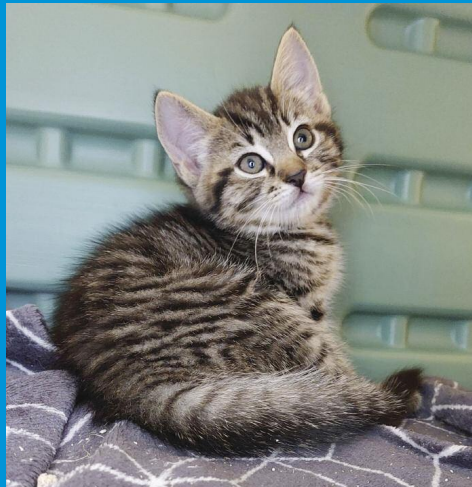




2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Registered Charity No 248616





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RSPCA WEST DORSET BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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www.albertgoodman.co.uk

2025 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF RSPCA WEST DORSET BRANCH

Charity number 248616

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Current Trustees (March 2026)

Dannielle Cox – Chair
Nicola Pengelly – Secretary
Julian Westcott – Treasurer
Sarah Fisher
Katherine Cartwright
Christine Elgar
Mike McDonald (co-opted)

Key management personnel

Tessa Every – Taylor's Centre Manager
Hannah Burt – Taylor's Deputy Centre Manager
Jake Spencer-Yates Retail Area Manager

Principal Address and Registered Office

RSPCA Taylor's Rehoming Centre
Higher Dairy
Kingston Maurward College
Dorchester
Dorset
DT2 8PY

Website: www.rspcawestdorset.org
Email: mail@westdorsetrspca.org

Branch (runs and owns)

Taylor's Re-homing Centre, Higher Dairy, Kingston Maurward College,
Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 8PY
Email: office@rspcataylorsrehoming.co.uk

Independent Examiner

Michelle Ferris, Albert Goodman LLP, Mary Street House, Mary Street,
Taunton, Somerset, TA1 3NW

Bankers

Lloyds, 92 St Mary Street, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 8PA

Investment Managers

Epworth Investment Management Limited, 9 Bonhill Street, London, EC2A 4PE

Employment Advisors

Croner, Croner House, Wheatfield Way, Hinckley LE10 1YG

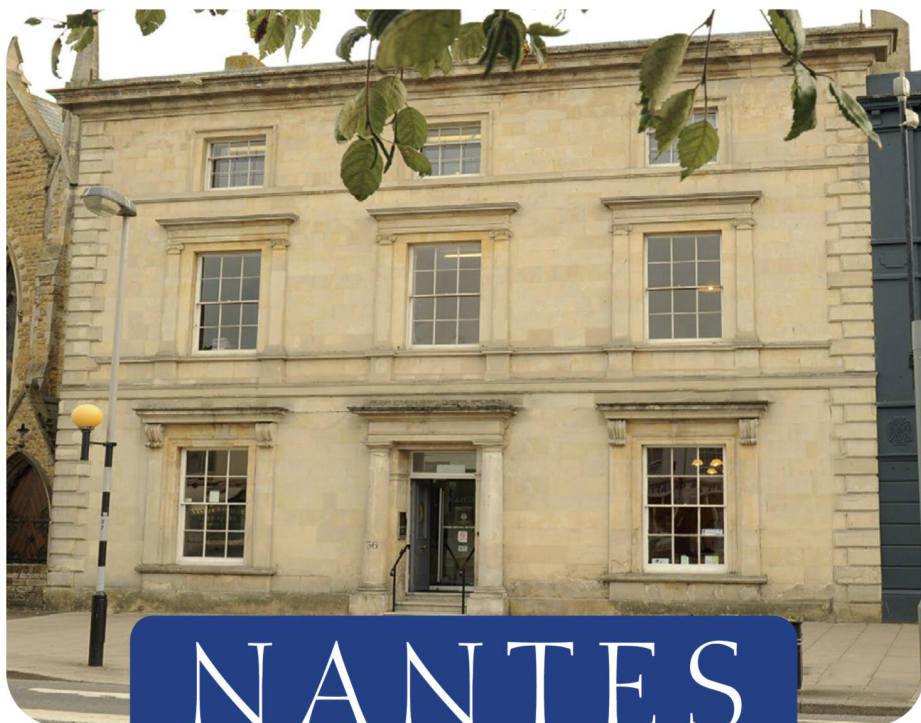
Legal Advisors

Womble Bond Dickinson, Temple Quay, 3 Temple Back East, Bristol, BS1 6DZ

RSPCA National Society

Parkside, Chart Way, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1GY
Cruelty line: 0300 1234 999
Website: www.rspca.org.uk

LEGAL ADVICE IN PLAIN ENGLISH



NANTES

Solicitors & Notaries

Bridport, Dorchester, Portland & Weymouth

01308 422313
www.nantes.co.uk

Trustees

The Trustees serving during the period and since the period end are as follows:

- Christine Elgar
- Julian Westcott – appointed 15.01.25
- Sarah Fisher
- Nicola Pengelly
- Dannielle Cox
- Katherine Cartwright
- Mike McDonald – appointed 10.09.25



YOUR LOCAL RSPCA CHARITY SHOPS

<u>Bridport</u> 29 West Street Bridport Dorset DT6 3QN 01308 421683	<u>Weymouth</u> 119 Dorchester Road Weymouth Dorset DT4 7LA 01305 603081	<u>Sherborne</u> 52a Cheap Street Sherborne Dorset DT9 3BJ 01935 814608
--	---	--

Our shops are our most important funding resource.

We welcome donations of good quality items such as clothing, jewellery, books, CDs, bric-a-brac, toys and electrical items.

Whilst donating, why not sign up to our brand new retail Gift Aid Scheme where you can make your donation go 25% further at no cost to you. See in stores for more information.

As well as donated goods we sell a wide range of high quality new products from suppliers such as Ulster Weavers and The Puppet Company. As well as touching a wide selection of greetings cards.

Please support our shops by volunteering, shopping, donating, or even following our social media. Call in store and chat with our friendly team, supporting our shops will help us help local animals.



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LEGACIES – OUR LIFELINE

REMEMBERING LOCAL ANIMALS IN YOUR WILL



LEAVING A LEGACY TO RSPCA
WEST DORSET BRANCH
REGISTERED CHARITY
248616

In the past, the RSPCA West Dorset Branch has been deeply indebted to those supporters who have been kind enough to remember the Branch in their wills. It was thanks to the generosity of two ladies who made bequests to the Branch in their wills that the 'Taylor's Rehoming Centre' project was able to go ahead, and we have since received additional generous legacies which have enabled us to continue helping animals in need. It is a tribute to their love for animals that in the years to come we will be able to help many hundreds of creatures find loving new homes.

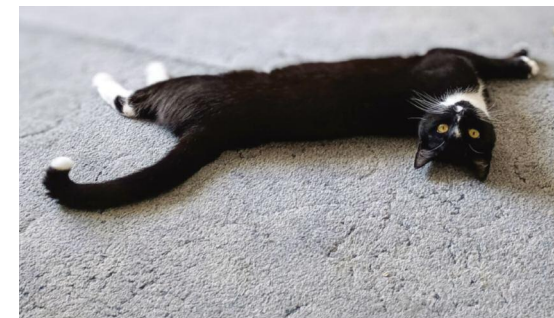
If you wish your legacy to benefit animals in the West Dorset area, and specifically at Taylors Rehoming Centre, it is vital that the wording of your will correctly reflects your wishes.

Please ask your Solicitor to ensure that the following wording is used.

"I give the sum of £_____ to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals West Dorset Branch (Registered Charity No. 248616) and I declare that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper officer for the time being of the said Branch shall be sufficient discharge for the said legacy."

If you already have a will, your solicitor can add to it a section (a codicil) based on the above words.

If you would prefer to leave a proportion of your estate to the Branch, or have any other specific requirements, your Solicitor will be able to advise you.



A MESSAGE AND UPDATE FOR OUR SUPPORTERS



2025 has been another positive and thriving year for the RSPCA West Dorset Branch. Our board of trustees has worked collaboratively to strengthen strategy and ensure that Taylor's continues to operate to a high standard whilst keeping what matters most at the heart of everything we do – our wonderful animals

Thank you to the Taylor's team – our Centre Manager Tess, who as always is a star. Hannah, congratulations on your promotion to Deputy Manager – you have truly thrived in the role. Laura has continued hand-rearing kittens and maintained excellent record keeping. Katie, thank you for being in charge of health and safety. We were delighted to welcome a second Katie to the team in 2025. Finally, thank you to Trinity who stepped away from the role to pursue other ambitions but remains very much involved with Taylor's and is fostering guinea pigs. The Taylor's team has once again shown outstanding dedication in caring for animals and securing suitable new homes – including for the long stay rabbits, Crown and Camilla! And thank you to our administrator Cheryl who has settled in so well in her new role.

Thank you to all staff, volunteers and supporters – without you we wouldn't be here.

Our shops have performed tremendously throughout the year, with huge thanks to shops' trustee Chris and our new Retail Area Manager Jake. Thanks also to our long-standing brilliant shop staff and newer team members who have made such a difference. And wow! Our shops' displays have been out of this world. The introduction of the EPOS system and Gift Aid has made a phenomenal impact. Heartfelt thanks go to all shop staff and volunteers whose commitment enables us to fund the vital work carried out at Taylor's. You have thrown yourselves into learning new systems and supporting growth.

As always, we continue to review future opportunities, including the potential expansion of shops across West Dorset.

We have been deeply moved by the legacies received this year, as we are every year, which reflect the value placed on the branch by the local community. Julian, our Treasurer, has done sterling work with budgeting and leading on our Risk Management Framework.

Our Fundraising Group, chaired by our trustee Katherine, worked tirelessly throughout the year. Fundraising events were a real highlight, including our debut at the Dorchester Christmas Cracker (with thanks to Nicola) and Weymouth seafront charity pitch. The Taylor's Gala Day raised a record £6,300 supported by a range of other successful events including shows, quizzes, bingo evenings and community fundraising activities. A particular mention goes to the wreathmaking events which raised a fantastic £1,149. We are grateful to all the businesses, volunteers and supporters who made these events possible.

I would like to thank our board of trustees for their continued hard work and commitment. You make all of this possible alongside daytime jobs and other responsibilities and your dedication is truly admirable. In September we welcomed our newest trustee, Mike McDonald whose expertise in IT, digital and data protection has already shone through.

A heartfelt thank you to Susan for all that you have done for the branch and to our trustee Sarah for your pragmatic advice.

I'd like to close by remembering a wonderful former trustee, Fiona Renouf, who sadly passed away in January 2026. Her dedication to the animals – particularly rabbits – was truly magnificent and it is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye. We send our love to her family. We also became aware of the passing of Geoff Matthews who was our branch chairman for many years and RSPCA Inspector Ken Snook. We extend our condolences to their families

We look forward to 2026 with optimism and thank our supporters for continuing to stand with us.

Danni Cox
Chair of Trustees
March 2026

Looking Forward to 2026! Come and see us at these events

Weymouth Charity Pitch Friday 24 July

Buckham Fair Sunday 2 August

Melplash Show Thursday 27 August

Dorset County Show Saturday 5
and Sunday 6 September

Dorchester Christmas Cracker Sunday 13 December

Taylor's Gala Day is on Sunday 16 August

2025 TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Vision, values and beliefs

Aims and ambitions

We promote the vision, values and ambitions of the national RSPCA, where all animals are respected and treated with kindness and compassion, being able to prevent cruelty and alleviate the suffering of animals, in the West Dorset and Axminster (Devon) area.

1. The RSPCA West Dorset 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 in the area of West Dorset and the Axminster area.
2. The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our 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 2002 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the commission.

Our charitable activities

1. We take in and rehome unwanted and stray pets through "Taylor's Rehoming Centre".
2. We assist pet owners in the Branch area who are on low income with payment for female cat neutering.
3. We promote the work and ambitions of the National RSPCA – to ensure animals have a good life by reducing and caring for those in need, and to reduce animal neglect and cruelty by all lawful means. We support the work of local RSPCA inspectors.

Advancement of animal welfare

1. Under the Charities Act 2022, the advancement of animal welfare is recognised as a distinct statutory charitable purpose. This legislation and the Animal Welfare (Sentience) Act 2022 indicate an acceptance by society that treating living creatures with compassion has a moral benefit for the public as a whole. Whilst this public benefit is clear, it is sometimes difficult to quantify and must be balanced against any detriment.
2. The Branch's animal welfare work, although local in nature, benefits society at large, and also aims to help people in need with the care of their animals. The next section of this report highlights the Branch's main activities and demonstrates the benefit provided to the public. All our charitable activities, as described in more detail in the following pages of this report, focus on promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

Charitable activities pursued for the public benefit

1. We support our local inspectors by taking in, free of charge, mistreated or abandoned animals, including pets whose owners suffer ill health or financial difficulties or pass away. The Societies Inspectorate (as well as providing education, information and advice) rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the cruel mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to 'reduction of animal neglect and cruelty' part of the RSPCA ambitions and promotes humane compassion and respect towards animals which involves moral benefit to humankind as a whole.
2. We provide subsidised neutering of cats for those in the Branch area on low incomes. We do this through our Welfare scheme. This work helps to control cat populations through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter and micro-chip companion animals, thereby promoting responsible pet ownership.

3. Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment, vaccination, neutering, micro-chipping and are assessed for rehoming. This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering through vaccination and neutering.
4. Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment, neutering, micro-chipping and are assessed for rehoming. This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering through vaccination and neutering.
5. We rehome animals in need at low cost to people willing and able to have a companion animal. Whilst we recognise that companion animals provide measurable benefits to people's physical and mental health, we consider the provision of pets as a subsidiary to the main charitable aim of this service, which is to reduce animal suffering. Our policy to charge a reasonable adoption fee for animals aims to highlight the ongoing personal and financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the best interests of animals, and therefore would fall outside our objectives, to rehome to those who could not afford them.
6. We take in, free of charge, lost animals and take steps to reunite them with owners. This work benefits our local community (including local authorities) by preventing animals straying and posing a risk to themselves and to people through road traffic accidents.
7. We respond to enquiries (both direct and via the Society's national call centre) from the public about animals locally. The public benefits from knowing that we can intervene to assist animals in need.
8. We offer free animal care advice at our rehoming centre. The public benefits through the promotion of responsible pet ownership.
9. Within the terms of our governing document, we support the National Society and other RSPCA branches through collaborating on animal welfare initiatives and providing support for pet owners. The public benefits through our collective efforts to provide additional support by working together.
10. We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, fostering and fundraising. This benefits local people and companies by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.



Aims and Objectives

- To build on the success of Taylor’s by maximising the numbers of animals re-homed.
- To assist with female cat neutering for pet owners on low incomes within a set budget.
- To support the Inspectorate by taking in National RSPCA generated animals.
- To increase fundraising revenue and responsibly manage expenditure.
- To promote and maximise the income from our charity shops.
- To look for opportunities to open further shops to raise funds for the Branch.
- To continually plan for the future of our rehoming facilities.

Strategies to achieve Aims and Objectives

- To take full advantage of all fundraising and promotional opportunities.
- To hold an annual “Gala Day” event at Taylor’s.
- To seek to encourage legacies to the Branch.
- To maximise income from all shop sites.
- To maximise on-line sales and social media presence.
- To increase publicity and public awareness of the work of the Branch.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Fundraising

2025 was another busy year for the Charity. The Bridport shop has performed well and the Weymouth shop income has increased after the appointment of a Store Manager and updated fixtures and fittings. The Sherborne shop continued to see a drop in income, however, we identified some issues and rectified them in the latter part of the year. The appointment of the new Retail Area Manager identified solutions to the failings of the Sherborne store. Sherborne is now performing much better and we are sure that it will become a profitable store in 2026. We have made changes to the shops by upgrading all Point Of Sales systems in 2025 to give a clearer picture of shop performance in real time whilst also giving us the opportunity to introduce the Retail Gift Aid Scheme which has proven to be a huge success and will be a prominent income generation tool for our shops in the coming years. We have also restructured staffing in shops to ensure that each shop on our estate now has an appointed store manager so that we have better control of processes and accountability in shops. We continue to source new stores for the branch with the Dorchester area being a key town we want to trade from, but we are also looking at other potential towns in the area. Total income for the year from all three shops was £247,387 (2024: £223,371).

The Branch received £477,036 (2024: £25,560) in Legacy income during the year. We are extremely grateful for the generosity of those who leave us money in their will, and committed to ensure that the legacy income we receive is spent for the maximum possible benefit for the animals in our care. The amounts received in 2025 will help to enable us to carry out our future plans as detailed in that section later in this report. The Trustees worked to promote the giving of Legacies to protect the future finances of the Charity and will continue to do so in 2026. In addition to Legacy income, the Branch received £1,014 (2024: £1,073) from Funeral Donations.

Income is generated at Taylors Rehoming Centre through rehoming donations, sale of food, litter and other goods, pen sponsorship, general donations and fundraising events. The overall number of fundraising and publicity events was increased in 2025 and Taylors’ Gala Day was a very popular and successful event raising £6,300 (2024: £4,726). Total income generated by Taylors in 2025 was £107,258 (2024: £80,527). In addition to this, income from the “Friends of Taylors” and regular standing orders brought in £9,317 (2024: £5,057).

£20,519 (2024: £21,816) was received from RSPCA Headquarters in respect of the national door to door fundraising initiative. The Branch itself does not carry out door to door fundraising, but we are very grateful for the proportion of funds raised which are passed to the Branch as a result of the National RSPCA initiative.

Our investments generated £19,282 (2024: £23,736) in interest and dividends. The Trustees closely monitor the performance of our investment portfolio and endeavour to maximise income with minimal risk to capital.

We are grateful for our donors who kindly elect to allow us to claim Gift Aid on their donations, and also for all small cash donations, which are eligible for Gift Aid payments under the Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme. Our static collection boxes throughout the Branch area, brought in £205 (2024: £566). We would like to thank the shops and businesses who kindly allow us to keep collection boxes on their premises, and to the volunteers who manage them.

Performance

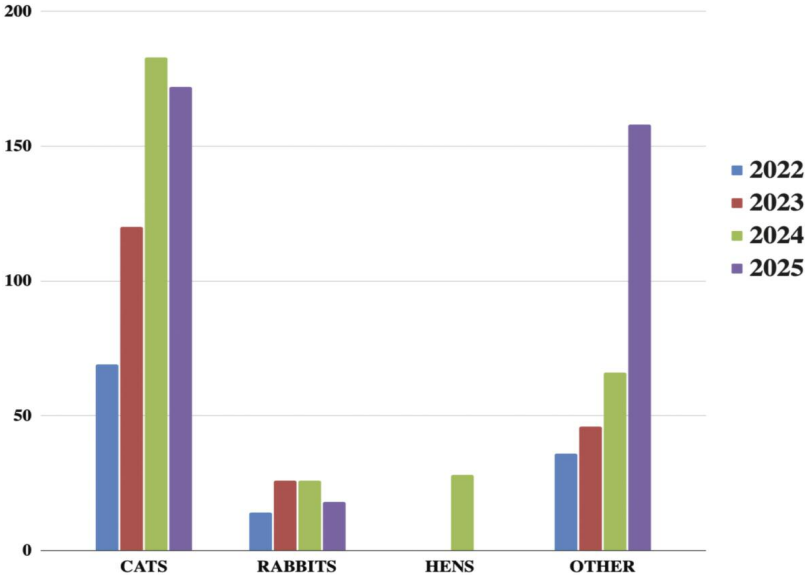
The income generated by the Branch is used to meet the three main charitable objectives of the Branch set with regards to public benefit.

1. We take in and rehome unwanted and stray pets through Taylor’s Rehoming Centre.

Taylor’s total running costs for 2025 were £234,021 (2024: £207,070). The following table shows the number of animals rehomed in the past four years.

Re-homing: Numbers of animals re-homed by Taylor’s 2025

	CATS	RABBITS	HENS	OTHER
2022	69	14	0	68
2023	120	26	0	46
2024	183	26	28	66
2025	172	18	0	158



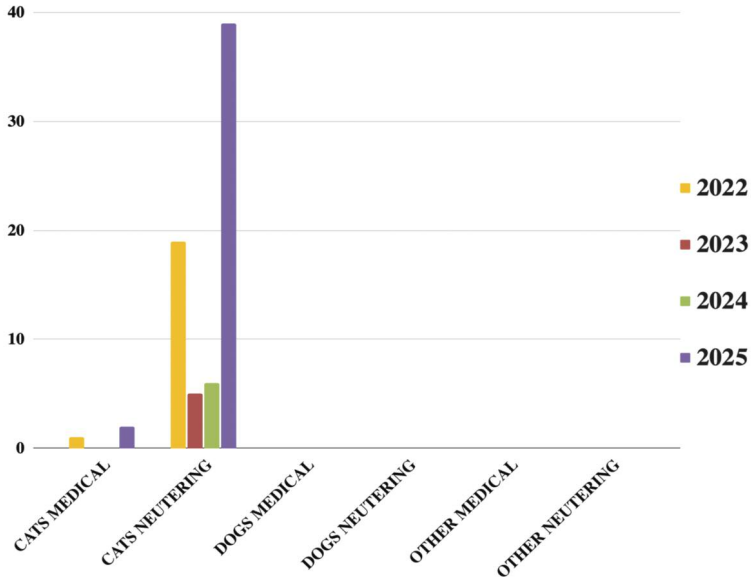
2. We assist pet owners in the Branch area who are on low incomes with payment towards cat spaying/neutering.

The Branch is able to provide support for financial assistance towards vets’ bills for neutering female cats on an ongoing basis with an allowance of £50 per cat. In 2025, a grant was secured from the Regional RSPCA to extend funding to cover the whole cost of neutering male and female cats (the neutering project). Funding is not available for any other animals or for anything other than neutering/spaying unless exceptional circumstances apply.

The total cost of welfare expenditure in 2025 was £1,944 (2024: £240).

Welfare : Veterinary procedures financially assisted by the Branch 2025

CATS			DOGS		OTHER	
	MEDICAL	NEUTERING	MEDICAL	NEUTERING	MEDICAL	NEUTERING
2022	1	19	0	0	0	0
2023	0	5	0	0	0	0
2024	2	6	0	0	0	0
2025	2	39	0	0	0	0



3. We promote the work and objectives of the National RSPCA – to promote kindness and to prevent or suppress cruelty to animals by all lawful means. We support the work of local RSPCA Inspectors.

During 2025 the Branch continued to use its social media profile to promote local and national campaigns and the Branch provides support to the National RSPCA Inspectors by taking in Inspectorate generated animals wherever possible.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Branch received income from donations and legacies totalling £615,144 during the year compared with £133,033 in 2024. The main proportion of additional income received came from other trading activities totalling £247,387 (2024: £228,371) and investment income of £19,282 (2024: £23,736). Total income for the year showed a significant increase at £900,011 compared with £394,701 in 2024. The main driver of the increase in 2025 was legacy income which had been low in 2024 and was the highest level seen in recent years in 2025.

Total expenditure increased to £457,608 (2024: £401,326), which was as expected as the Branch invested in its team of staff, its animal care activities and facilities and in its strategy to increase income generation activities. The net surplus for the year was £442,403 (£6,625 deficit in 2024).

Our Financial Reserves policy

As of 31 December 2025, total funds stood at £1,038,706 (2024: £596,303), of which, free reserves available (including investments) to the Branch, totalled £903,677 (2024: £535,286). This is equivalent to approximately 24 months’ current expenditure. The Branch aims to ensure that the financial reserves at any one time would cover at least twelve months predicted expenditure. This is to protect the Branch from fluctuations in income in order that levels of service provided for the welfare of local animals may be maintained in the event of a reduction in incoming resources. Reserves, in this context, mean funds that are freely available for the Branch’s general purposes after all commitments have been met and excludes fixed assets.

As per the previously stated aim, if the financial reserves substantially succeed 18 months predicted expenditure at any one time, the Trustees will seek to increase and expand the animal welfare activity of the Branch. The Trustees have taken this into account when devising the future strategy for the branch and the branch budget for 2026.

FUTURE PLANS

In 2026 the Trustees will continue to closely monitor the performance of the shops; supporting Bridport in their consistency in ever increasing sales; further development within the Weymouth store to build on the steady progress in terms of revenue during last year and further develop staff engagement and marketing strategies to improve revenue in our Sherborne shop. All shops will be encouraged to implement regular promotional events. We will continue to look for suitable venues for other shops with Dorchester Town being a priority area for the charity, however other towns will be looked at to maximise income generation from the retail department. Legacies will be further promoted via leaflets, in-shop campaigns, social media, and contact with local solicitors. The Branch will aim to substantially increase the number of fundraising and promotional events as resources allow. Use of social media will be further increased to promote the work of the Branch. Taylors Rehoming Centre will have a number of improvements, including the installation of air conditioning in all rooms, and the replacement of outdated heating equipment. This will provide better conditions for the animals on site and help to maintain the excellent standard of care given. The increase in promotional events and use of social media will help maximise the number of animals rehomed.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is a branch of the South West Regional and National RSPCA and was registered on 13 July 1966 (number 248616). It is governed by the RSPCA Branch model rules and subject to the overall supervision of the RSPCA, but otherwise manages its own affairs and finances independently.

The charity is run by the branch committee whose members are the charity's trustees. The Committee is elected by branch members at the AGM (5 to 14 trustees), or may be co-opted by the existing committee if they have particular skills required; up to three trustees may be co-opted in a year. Candidates for election at the AGM must be nominated by two eligible branch members and must receive in excess of 50% of the votes of those eligible members who are present and who vote at the AGM. To stand for election at the AGM, or to exercise voting rights, individuals must have been members of the branch for at least 3 clear calendar months. A declaration of willingness to act must be completed and signed before being eligible to vote at meetings.

Induction and training is covered by the provision of information packs and booklets from the National Society and the Charity Commission, as well as guidance and training from existing committee members.

There are three lead officer posts, Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary, and additionally nominated trustees take a lead responsibility for such things as line management of the rehoming centre, shops, safeguarding, human resources, data protection health, human and safety and website management.

Trustees receive support and advice from the Branch Partnership Manager (from the South and South West Regional RSPCA) who attends branch committee meetings and is always on hand to offer guidance.

Additionally one trustee is elected to the South West Regional Board, which meets on a regular basis to agree and assess campaigns, networking and home visiting schemes, and receives information on Inspectorate issues.

Matters that require a vote must be proposed and seconded by individual trustees and all trustees present at the meeting have one vote. The Chairman of the meeting is not eligible to vote unless in the case of a tie, in which case the vote of the Chairman is the deciding vote.

The trustees are legally required to draw up and implement a Risk Management Strategy. Once it is in operation daily implementation can be delegated, but the final responsibility lies with the trustees, who are liable for any infringement. Our very comprehensive Risk Management Strategy has been put in writing and made available to our auditors. The Strategy is reviewed and updated regularly.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed/constitution. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.



RSPCA West Dorset Branch
Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unres- tricted £	Res- tricted £	Total 2025 £	Unres- tricted £	Res- tricted £	Total 2024 £
Income:							
Donations and legacies	2	509,356	105,788	615,144	117,629	15,404	133,033
Income from other trading activities							
Trading income	3	247,387	-	247,387	228,371	-	228,371
Other fundraising income		18,198	-	18,198	9,561	-	9,561
Investments	4	19,282	-	19,282	23,736	-	23,736
Total income		794,223	105,788	900,011	379,297	15,404	394,701
Expenditure:							
Costs of raising funds							
Investment manager's fees		-	-	-	-	-	-
Trading expenditure	3	192,201	2,500	194,701	169,954	-	169,954
Other fundraising and publicity costs		1,147	-	1,147	477	-	477
Charitable activities	5	226,078	35,682	261,760	202,697	28,198	230,895
Total expenditure		419,426	38,182	457,608	373,128	28,198	401,326
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		374,797	67,606	442,403	6,169	(12,794)	(6,625)
Transfers between funds	11	20,400	(20,400)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		395,197	47,206	442,403	6,169	(12,794)	(6,625)
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward	11	536,679	59,624	596,303	530,510	72,418	602,928
Total funds carried forward		931,876	106,830	1,038,706	536,679	59,624	596,303

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

There were no gains or losses arising in the period that are not shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account.

A full copy of the audited accounts is available to download from our website
www.westdorsetrspca.org

RSPCA TAYLOR'S MANAGER'S REPORT



This year has been the year of Guinea pigs and gerbils! We took in a group of 17 guinea pigs and they had been living as a group of mixed sexes. We have had 13 babies born, so lots to find homes for. We also took in 37 gerbils, again we had babies, we have found homes for all of these.

Hannah has taken on the role of Deputy Manager, which she is showing great enthusiasm for and having lots of ideas on how to improve the care and rehoming of the animals in our care.

We have taken in some animals that have needed more time than others, such as Mini the cat, who was found as a stray, who had been living rough for a long time. He had sore feet with in-growing claws, he was thin and his fur was patchy. He stayed with us 147 days and now lives with his new family and is getting all the care that he deserves.

Milo was another cat that stayed with us a long time, 293 days. He was a cat that had suffered with a blocked bladder which seemed to put people off giving him another chance. He is now settled in his new home and has "trained" his new family in how he likes things done and they love him.

We have at last completed our new rabbit accommodation providing a much improved environment for them. We are extremely grateful to the Southwest Regional Board who provided 50% of the funding for this project.

We have had our Quiz night, Bingo nights, treasure hunt and our Annual Gala day. We had our first Wreath making for Christmas, pumpkin competition and memorial baubles. They were all great fun and raised a lot of money for the animals.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the Trustees, Staff and wonderful volunteers. Taylor's and the branch couldn't help all the animals that we do each year, without your support.

Tessa Every
RSPCA Taylor's Rehoming Centre Manager
January 2026



DORSET AND WILTS INSPECTORATE REPORT 2025



As you may recall from the previous year's annual report, we had a structured change to our scope of service in 2024, focussing our resources on cruelty and neglect as a priority over wildlife and stray animal rescues which other charities and members of the public are more able to deal with directly. 2025 was the first full year where resources had been dedicated fully to reaching those animals most in need of our help. Indeed the inspectorate groups have been reaching animals that suffer the worst cruelty and neglect 54% quicker and in our branch and HQ animal centres and homes we cared for double the number of cats and dogs last year since the pandemic.

This increased success is positive but brings its own challenges. Many of the dogs and cats rescued require longer and more complex rehabilitation which our skilled and dedicated staff at our branch and HQ centres work hard to bring to a positive resolution. Reaching those animals at risk of severe cruelty and neglect quicker also means increased intake of animals which heightens our capacity challenges too. The team works extremely hard trying to achieve increased animal welfare improvements for animals in situ with their owners as far as possible and animals which they bring in are those where there is absolutely no other option. Obviously, any tools which the team have been able to use to help them achieve these in situ improvements are crucial so any welfare assistance or other support provided by you all throughout 2025 has been so greatly appreciated.

An example of our increased response times for those most in need is – 124 incidents were dealt with in January 2025 and the average age of the incident (how long it took us to respond) was 25 days. 149 incidents were dealt with in January 2026 and the average age of the incident has reduced to just five days. That is a fantastic 80% reduction in our response times! The improvement to our response times has not just been because of the scope of service but also due to a groundbreaking change in our working practices within the Inspectorate led by the Dorset and Wiltshire group. In May 2025, I was given the responsibility to devise and pilot a new way of working. Historically, the tasking which schedules the officers' work (Wilberforce) would always work by tasking out actions to the nearest officer and each action needed on a job could be passed to different officers. Although there are efficiencies with this way of working because the nearest officer is sent the work to do – it did mean that officers often did not always see one job through to completion and jobs were resolved by numerous colleagues. With the new way of working, once an officer had initially attended they would retain the job through to final resolution. We have been able to evidence that greater efficiencies were achieved due to officers having more control over the job themselves and building better partnership working with other agencies and maintaining consistency with the people we visit than the efficiency lost by always prioritising the nearest person. The group have also enjoyed working this way much more which has helped morale and job satisfaction of seeing a job through. Since we began the trial in May 2025, I was able to present the findings to senior leaders and achieve further expansion of the trial to other groups and the south region at the end of 2025. The good news is that this way of working is being rolled out nationally the week commencing 2nd March 2026! This has been a lot of work to get across the line but very much worthwhile for both animal welfare and officer morale. I could not have achieved it without the support and assistance of my wonderful team.

We have continued to see welfare issues of animals in situations where an owner may have mental or physical frailties and we continue to see an increase in safeguarding referrals for people from our officers. A lot of our work also involves elderly people living alone with their pets as company and where difficult aspects such as dementia play a role in how we resolve any animal welfare concerns – this is a particularly challenging theme and the increase continues the trend from 2024/2025 and into 2026. We tried to resolve any animal welfare issues whilst also being compassionate to the needs of the person, considering also that in many cases the animal will be happier remaining in situ in a loved home rather than coming away and going into centre kennels.

In November 2025, the RSPCA offered a voluntary severance (VS) scheme to all staff in order to reduce head count costs without the need for mandatory redundancies. The VS scheme resulted in sufficient savings over the next three years. Some established staff have left and new Animal Rescue Officers (ARO) have joined. Inspector Miranda Albinson continued her secondment to the Field Investigations Team. This trial involves a specialist team of inspectors who are solely dealing with complex and serious casework rather than attending new calls. The group remains supported by our volunteers who helped us with all sorts of jobs during 2025. This included transporting animals and case evidence, picking up and setting cat traps, assisting with events and taking animals on vet runs. Over 4000 miles of officer time has been saved by our volunteers.

2025 Cases Investigated by the Group

During 2025, the Dorset and Wiltshire group dealt with 1928 animal welfare incidents and 25 potential prosecution cases were investigated. These included reports of neglect, animals left unattended, intentional harm and illegal activity. Of the 25 potential prosecution cases four proceeded to court, eight were dealt with by caution and 16 were resolved by other proactive means.

Below is a list of the types of incidents fully investigated by the inspectors that were serious enough and where we had reasonable grounds to suspect an offence may have been committed. These would have proceeded to a prosecution case, been resolved by caution, been resolved by other means depending on the proportionality and any mitigating circumstances or we were unable to progress due to lack of evidence. Whatever the outcome of an investigation, they take a lot of time and effort from the inspectors who follow all lines of enquiry thoroughly and professionally – the safeguarding of animals is always a priority.

- Two emaciated staffies
- Five emaciated horses
- Emaciated guinea pigs
- A puppy with non-accidental injuries/blunt force trauma
- A dog stabbed to death
- Two bearded dragons left to starve
- A cat with non-accidental injuries and a broken jaw
- A Shetland pony dragged behind a trap
- A road traffic accident cat with no vet treatment

Unfortunately, our inspectors are dealing with more and more cases of non-accidental injuries and beatings.

Some case result highlights were:

Multiple officers were involved in a very sad case of a severely beaten kitten, Chase, who remarkably survived. Following the start of an investigation, previous veterinary notes were obtained and there were found to be two other cats with awful injuries who had died. Following advice as to where they were buried, the bodies were exhumed and sent for post mortem. Audio footage was obtained and linked to injury or death (relating to them being presented dead/injured at vets). A local man from Weymouth appeared at Bournemouth Crown Court where he was sentenced for three counts of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal. He was given a 15 month suspended prison sentence and banned from owning animals for 20 years.

A man from London was visiting Bournemouth when he was seen dragging and kicking his cockapoo puppy named Pablo. He was tracked down to his home address by the RSPCA and sentenced following being brought to court on a warrant.

A dog called Harper was found by Dorset Police who contacted the RSPCA. Inspector Patrick Bailey found she was severely underweight with her spine and hips prominent. She had scurfy skin and a large amount of live fleas could be seen on her body. The skin on her back legs and around her genitals was thickened and a dark greyish, almost black colour with fur loss. Harper's owner was given a five year animal ban, fined £160 and ordered to pay £400 costs when he was sentenced at Weymouth Magistrates Court in September.

And to some happy stories:

which resulted in two dogs being signed over. Although traumatised due to the owner's attitude and being terrified on arrival at Dog's Trust, Elby and Patch soon settled and were enjoying lots of cuddles the following morning. Thanks to Clare (Manager at Dog's Trust Salisbury) for once again coming to the rescue with spaces for this lovely pair.

DCI Steph Daly was called when a member of the public noticed that a stray cat they were feeding had an injury to his tail. Steph collected the cat and on arriving at the vets found that he was a five year old cat named Rocket who was chipped and had been missing for three years. Unfortunately, his old owners didn't want him back as they had new cats, children and no money to pay the vet. The finder expressed an interest in taking Rocket on but the vet bill to fix his tail was £1000. Rocket was boarded at Purton cattery whilst recovering and North Wilts branch agreed to cover the costs under their fund to prevent pet relinquishment. The finder has now agreed to take Rocket on.

2025 was another challenging year and the group kept up their amazing work for animal welfare. We had positive changes and crushing blows but throughout it all we had the benefit of knowing that we are all here helping and supporting each other. I continue to be thankful for and proud of the work of my team and for the work and support of our branches too. We achieve so much more together.

Thank you.

Lewis Taylor
Chief Inspector Dorset and Wiltshire



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Volunteering

If you have a few hours to spare each week, would you like to volunteer in one of our Charity Shops, or at Taylors Rehoming Centre? Would you like to find out more about becoming a Trustee? Please contact us, or drop in to one of the shops, to pick up a volunteer application form. More information and an online volunteer form can also be found on our website.

Regular or one off donations

Donations are incredibly important to us. The easiest way to donate is via the DONATE logo on our website – you can donate using any debit or credit card, or your PayPal account. If you would like to make a one off or regular donation, you can do this through the DONATE link. You can Gift Aid your donation as part of the process.



Check out our eBay store

We are selling more than ever on eBay, both donated and new goods. 100% of the profits help the animals at Taylor's.

Support our shops

Please remember our shops when you have goods to donate. We aim to sell a quality range of clothing, bric-a-brac, books, household items, electrical goods etc. Shopping with us and choosing 'pre-loved' over new goods is of massive benefit to the environment as well as helping the animals.

Crochet or knit a purple poppy

RSPCA West Dorset Branch sell knitted and crocheted purple poppies at Taylor's Rehoming Centre and in our charity shops in Bridport, Weymouth and Sherborne for Remembrance Day. Can you help by knitting or crocheting some for us? There is a pattern on our website, or you can follow any pattern you find online. We love our volunteers to make them throughout the year so we have plenty for October/November.



Give the animals a little something...

We are always grateful for donated cat food (Whiskas or Felix), crocheted or knitted cat blankets and items from our animals AMAZON WISH LIST – you can find the link on our website.



GOT AN OLD CAR TO SCRAP?

Giveacar is a non-profit fundraising organisation that raises money for UK charities by scrapping and selling old cars. They provide a FREE nationwide service which arranges collection of the vehicle from your home.

Depending on its age and condition, recycles it at an Authorised Treatment Facility or sends it to auction.

Scrap donations raise an average of £35 (depending on the price of metal) while auction cars can raise much more.

To arrange collection of a car, visit <http://www.giveacar.co.uk/charities/rspca-west-dorset> or call 020 7736 4242, quoting RSPCA WEST DORSET BRANCH as your preferred charity.

Raise funds for us via "Easyfundraising" when you shop online at 7000+ big name stores including big supermarket brands and EBay!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rspcataylorsrehomingcentre/>



Sign up to Easyfundraising and every time you shop online a proportion of what you spend will be donated to us by some big name brands - and it won't cost you a penny more! Retailers include EBay, Argos, M&S, John Lewis, Tesco Asda, Waitrose, Morrisons, Sainsburys, Iceland, Booking.com, Currys, Pets at Home, Just Eat, Tui, Boots, Dominos, B&Q, MoneySuperMarket. There are over 7,000 retailers who have signed up! Brands pay us a commission because when you start your shop from the Easyfundraising website or app, they can see we sent you to them. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and that turns into a donation - magic!

Keep in touch with us on social media



www.facebook.com/rspcataylorsrehoming/

www.facebook.com/rspcawestdorsetshops

twitter.com/rspcawestdorset

www.instagram.com/rspcataylorsrehoming/



JOIN THE FRIENDS OF TAYLOR'S

You can become a 'Friend of Taylor's' for a minimum donation of £15 per year (£8 for under 16s / over 60s). You will receive a welcome pack, badge, membership card, newsletters and the chance to join our Centre staff for special 'Friends Tours'. Your donation will go exclusively towards the day to day funding of the Centre. You can contact us by e-mail at friendsoftaylors@rspcawestdorset.org.uk for further information.

I wish to become a 'Friend of Taylor's Rehoming Centre'

I enclose a donation of £ _____

£15 individual membership •

£20 joint adult membership • £25 for a family of up to 5 members •
for one year's membership

£100 one off payment if you wish to become a 'Friend for Life' •

£250 one off payment if you wish to become a 'Life Patron of Taylor's' •

£500 one off payment to become a 'Life Patron of RSPCA West Dorset Branch' •

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE DATE

Please make cheques payable to RSPCA West Dorset Branch

If you prefer to join online please visit www.rspcawestdorset.org/rehoming/friends

PLEASE CUT OUT THIS FORM AND RETURN TO:-

'FRIENDS OF TAYLOR'S REHOMING CENTRE'

RSPCA TAYLORS REHOMING CENTRE

HIGHER DAIRY, KINGSTON MAURWARD COLLEGE

DORCHESTER, DORSET, DT2 8PY

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on my donation in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I want to Gift Aid my donation of

£ _____

and any donations I make in the future to RSPCA WEST DORSET BRANCH

NAME

HOUSE NO OR NAME AND POSTCODE

SIGNED

DATE

Please notify us if you want to cancel this declaration, want to change your home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income or capital gains.

SPONSOR A CAT PEN

You can 'Sponsor' a cat pen, cage or hutch at "Taylor's" by way of a 'one-off' donation or a yearly payment, from as little as £25. All Sponsors are recognised by way of a personalised plaque displayed on the pen or hutch. This is a wonderful way of showing your support for the Centre, and you and your friends will, of course, be able to visit Taylor's to see 'your plaque' on the pen, cage or hutch!

I WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A PEN AT TAYLOR'S

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

TELEPHONE DATE

Please make cheques payable to RSPCA West Dorset Branch

If you prefer to sponsor a pen online please visit

www.westdorsetrspca.org/sponsorapen.htm

I enclose a donation of £..... for the following Sponsorship category
(PLEASE TICK BOX)

☐ Sponsor a Hutch – £50 ☐ Sponsor a Cage – £25

Sponsor a Cat Pen:- ☐ 1 year – £70 ☐ 2 years – £100

☐ 3 years – £150 ☐ 5 years – £250 ☐ 10 years – £450

☐ 15 years – £650 ☐ 20 years – £800 ☐ 25 years – £1000

If you would rather make an Annual Sponsorship payment please tick here ☐

Annual donation of £..... (minimum £25)

Please contact us for details if you would like to pay by standing order.

PLEASE FILL IN BELOW HOW YOU WOULD LIKE THE REST OF THE INSCRIPTION TO
APPEAR ON YOUR PLAQUE. PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS.

S	P	O	N	S	O	R	E	D		B	Y

GIFT AID DECLARATION

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£.....

and any donations I make in the future to RSPCA WEST DORSET BRANCH

NAME

HOUSE NO OR NAME AND POSTCODE

SIGNED DATE

Please notify us if you want to cancel this declaration, want to change your home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income or capital gains.

SMALL CHANGE APPEAL

We are always very grateful for your support so we can continue to assist local animals. We know how many demands there are on your money, so we are only asking if you could please consider a regular donation of just £2.50 a month.

Every penny really does count!



In order to continue our work we need to raise in the region of £350,000 a year

We receive no lottery or government funding

Just £2.50 a month could make all the difference

**Please consider making a regular donation towards our work.
We are grateful for any amount, however large or small.**

Our ability to continue helping local animals depends entirely upon the support of local people.

Please complete the standing order form on the next page and send with the details below to:-

**RSPCA TAYLORS REHOMING CENTRE, HIGHER DAIRY, KINGSTON
MAURWARD COLLEGE, DORCHESTER, DORSET, DT2 8PY**

(If you would prefer to make a one off donation, please make cheques payable to RSPCA West Dorset Branch and send to the address above)

Your Name

Your Address

Email Address

MAKE A REGULAR DONATION

**PREFER TO SET UP A DIRECT DEBIT ONLINE?
YOU CAN DO THIS VIA THE DONATE BUTTON ON OUR WEBSITE**

Please complete the Standing Order mandate below. You may, of course, cancel this instruction at any time simply by contacting your Bank.

Please complete the form below, detach the page and send to:-

RSPCA TAYLORS REHOMING CENTRE, HIGHER DAIRY,
KINGSTON MAURWARD COLLEGE, DORCHESTER, DORSET, DT2 8PY.

NOT TO YOUR BANK

NAME OF YOUR BANK / BUILDING SOCIETY _____

ADDRESS OF YOUR BANK / BUILDING SOCIETY BRANCH _____

PLEASE PAY LLOYDS BANK, WEYMOUTH BRANCH

ACCOUNT No. _____ SORT CODE - - (we will complete these details)

FOR THE CREDIT OF RSPCA WEST DORSET BRANCH

THE SUM OF (FIGURES) £ _____

THE SUM OF (WORDS) _____

COMMENCING (DATE OF FIRST PAYMENT) _____

AND THEREAFTER EVERY MONTH (OR) YEAR **PLEASE DELETE ONE**

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE IN WRITING.

PLEASE DEBIT MY ACCOUNT ACCORDINGLY

NAME OF ACCOUNT TO BE DEBITED _____

ACCOUNT NUMBER _____

SORT CODE _____

NAME _____

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on my donation in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ _____

and any future donations I make to RSPCA WEST DORSET BRANCH

NAME _____

HOUSE NO OR NAME AND POSTCODE _____

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

Please notify us if you want to cancel this declaration, want to change your home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income or capital gains.

Danmor
Lodge

Danmor Lodge
Care Home

01305 775462
danmorlodge.com

14 Alexandra Road,
Lodmoor Hill,
Weymouth,
DT4 7QH

PREMIUM RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME
WEYMOUTH, DORSET



Danmor Lodge has been awarded the Gold Standard Framework Quality Award and are one of the Solid Gold Accredited Care Homes which demonstrate excellence in care.

Danmor Lodge is a tastefully-appointed residential home that has the capacity to provide dedicated care for 25 residents. Providing incredibly high levels of personal care and attention for people who are seeking to spend their retirement in an atmosphere that's both caring and secure.

Respectful, personal care tailored to suit your needs
A place you will be happy to call home.

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Care



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