

Volunteer Role Profile

Volunteer Role	Animal Foster Carer: Pregnant & Nursing Cats
Volunteer Manager	ARRC Manager/ Asst. Manager
Where you will be based	Home

Why we want you

We are looking for loving foster homes for some of the pregnant and nursing cats in our care. This fostering would be on a temporary basis, with the duration varying from just a couple of weeks to, in some cases, over 12 months. Suitable foster terms will always be agreed between you and the Animal Rescue Centre Manager.

As a foster carer, you will be provided with a starter pack containing everything you need for the safety and comfort of your foster animal; all veterinary treatment and routine costs will be covered for you and we will also supply appropriate food to suit the specific dietary needs of the animal during their stay with you.

Before submitting an application to foster, you should read the Scottish SPCA Terms and Conditions, which can be downloaded from our website. There are specific criteria that need to be met before we can accept you as a foster carer, so please do answer the application questions as fully as possible.

Important: Before applying to foster, we require you to be registered with a local veterinary practice. We also require that you live within an hour's drive of the rescue centre you will be fostering from.

What you will be doing

- Provide a loving temporary home to an animal that is currently cared for in one of our animal rescue centres
- Undertake mandatory online training modules, as well as in-house training, to a satisfactory level
- Take responsibility for the health and wellbeing of the animal you are fostering. (If you have any concerns at all you should phone our Animal Helpline on 03000 999 999)
- Seek out-of-hours veterinary treatment for your foster animal should the need arise. The cost of any treatment will be met by the Scottish SPCA, subject to the terms and conditions of your foster agreement)
- Take your foster animal to any required routine veterinary checks arranged by the Scottish SPCA
- Be responsible for keeping your foster animal's vaccinations and other treatments up-to-date while they are in your care (your rescue centre will

issue reminders)

- You will be responsible for keeping a record of your foster animal's progress whilst in your care. This will provide us with the necessary information to find the dog a suitable home in the future
- You will provide regular feedback on your fostering experience and must be available to take follow-up calls from the Scottish SPCA in relation to your foster animal's health and wellbeing. This is an opportunity to discuss any issues or concerns you may have, and is an important part of the fostering process

The skills you need

- You must have a suitable home environment (This will be assessed and confirmed by the Scottish SPCA)
- You should have experience of caring for the type of animal you wish to foster
- You should have a patient, caring and calm approach
- You should be willing to follow the Scottish SPCA's procedures and protocols at all times
- You should be reliable in meeting appointments and follow-up calls

What's in it for you

- We appreciate that fostering an animal is a huge commitment, but we know it can also be a very rewarding experience for both you and the animal you have taken into your home. It is a great opportunity for you to offer short term care and enjoy the experience of having a pet without the long-term commitment. If you are keen to progress as a foster carer, opportunities may be available to undertake further training in e.g caring for dogs recovering from surgery

Disclaimer

At the Scottish SPCA, our vision is of a Scotland where animal welfare is championed and welfare standards are high. Where respect and kindness for animals is encouraged across our communities and where all those who are cruel to animals are brought to justice. Where animals in need are nurtured back to health, found loving new homes or released to the wild, where compassion is shown to animals that are too sick or injured to survive or to be rehomed. All in a Scotland that leads the way in animal welfare research and is at the forefront of championing key issues and influencing internationally. Our Volunteering Programme is just one of the ways in which we can achieve this vision.