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Foster carers needed in East Lancs to help dogs and cats move on to forever homes

RSPCA recruitment drive launched to find more than 15 animal lovers

The RSPCA Lancashire East Branch is looking to find a dedicated group of foster carers to help give its dogs and cats a new start to their lives.

Staff at the animal centre at Altham near Accrington care for animals that need help and foster carers will need to provide temporary accommodation until forever homes can be found for them.

As well as being animal lovers, the fosterers will need to demonstrate they have skills of empathy and patience to deal with animals who have experienced difficult times.

The RSPCA rehomes thousands of animals who are given a second chance of a happy life. But some need help to make the transition to a new home, which is where foster carers can play an important role.

Sue Abraham, fostering co-ordinator at [RSPCA Lancashire East Branch](#), explained: “We are aiming to recruit 15 or more people who live within an hour’s drive of our centre, who can provide temporary accommodation for our cats and dogs.



“We will be looking for permanent homes for our animals later, but we are trying to find people who can help them make that move.

“For some of our animals, life in our kennels can be a bit stressful and they can benefit from having creature comforts in a foster home. When they are there their behaviour can be assessed which will help find them suitable owners.”



press release

Among the animals currently in the care of the [RSPCA Lancashire East Branch](#) are Lewis and Denzil (left and right above), Rosie and Aladdin(left and right below).



Potential fosterers, who need to be over 18, ideally will have had previous experience of caring for dogs and cats.

As well as possessing good communication skills, they must be able to maintain confidentiality and have an understanding of data protection issues.

They will be asked to complete paperwork to update the RSPCA on the animals' health and behaviour during their stay with them.

A key requirement will be having the time to devote to a fostered animal.

"Ideally a foster carer won't be working full time and will be able to provide a suitable home environment that helps our dogs and cats develop and grow," added Sue.

"They will need to have a commitment to animal welfare and an understanding of animal needs as well as a knowledge of common ailments.

"Our aim is to build up a database of people we can turn to help with fostering."



Anyone interested in becoming a fosterer with the RSPCA Lancashire East Branch can find out more details and a detailed description of the role by contacting Sue at the centre on 01254 231118 during office hours or they can ring the fostering mobile number on 07716 345133.

They can also email fostering@rspca-lancseast.org.uk

All fostering costs, including vet fees, will be covered by the centre.

To help the RSPCA continue rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming animals in desperate need of care please visit our [website](#) or call our donation line on 0300 123 8181.

Ends