

Securing your cat's future



How Cats Protection can help should
you become unable to care for your cat

This leaflet explains how you can arrange for your cat to be taken into the care of Cats Protection (CP) in the event that you either fall ill or die.

Many older people are reluctant to adopt a cat. They worry about what would happen should they be too ill to look after their feline friend or, indeed, no longer be around to look after him. This is a widespread concern that prevents many elderly people from enjoying the benefits of feline companionship in their later years.

However if anything should happen to you, be it illness or death, Cats Protection can help by taking your cat into care and finding him a suitable new home. If for any reason we are unable to rehome your cat, CP can provide him with a home for the rest of his life at one of our Shelters.



By making arrangements for the charity to look after him, you can rest assured that your cat will have a happy and secure future.

How it works

You can make your wishes known by completing our two Emergency Care Cards. Whether you wish Cats Protection to take care of your cat or, alternatively, you want a friend or neighbour to look after him for you, all the necessary details can be included on these cards. Both are available free of charge (SAE please) from CP Headquarters and consist of:

- **A small, personal Emergency Care Card to be kept on you at all times.** This comes in a handy, credit card format which fits into a purse or wallet for you to complete with your personal details as well as contact details of the person (ie neighbour or friend) taking on your cat.



Remember to agree these arrangements with this person so that he/she is aware of the situation and happy to take on this responsibility. Cats Protection has come across several cases where a person knows nothing about this agreement and doesn't want anything to do with the cat.

- A large, A5 Emergency Care Card to be completed and kept in a prominent place at home. This should include your personal details, those of your cat, plus your wishes regarding your cat.



If you have already made arrangements for the charity to look after your cat when you are no longer able to, we recommend you leave a copy of this card with your Will.



Making arrangements in the short term

Unfortunately the charity cannot offer short term fostering. So, for instance, should you be admitted into hospital for a short stay then you will need to make arrangements with a friend or neighbour to temporarily look after your cat rather than giving him up to Cats Protection. This information can also be recorded on your Emergency Care Cards.



Microchipping

Cats Protection strongly advises having your cat microchipped. In cases where a cat is going to another home to be looked after he may well become insecure and try to run away. Microchipping will ensure a better chance of finding him.

Remembering Cats Protection in your Will

You may like to consider leaving a legacy to CP knowing that the money will go on working for the welfare of cats. We recommend that you consult a solicitor rather than draw up your own Will and this provides an opportunity to include the arrangements made for your cat.

Outline forms of bequest

The following clauses may be of assistance to your solicitor. Should either you or your solicitor need further information about making a Will, making arrangements for your cat to be taken into the care of the charity or about leaving a legacy to CP please write to Dominic Sullivan at CP Headquarters (see address below).

For a fixed sum legacy

1 I give to Cats Protection of 17 Kings Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 5PN the sum of £ to be applied for its general purposes and I declare that the receipt of the Chief Executive or other proper officer shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

For the residue

2 I give all the residue of my estate both real and personal to Cats Protection of 17 Kings Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 5PN absolutely to be applied for its general purposes and I declare that the receipt of the Chief Executive or other proper officer shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

For a share of residue

3 Your solicitor will advise you about how best to express your wishes.

Direction regarding your cats

4 I direct that my Executors contact without delay the Headquarters of Cats Protection and arrange for any cats in my possession at the time of my death to be taken into the charity's care.

All photos: CP Library



17 Kings Road Horsham
West Sussex RH13 5PN
Helpline: 08702 099 099
(Calls charged at national rate)
Fax: 08707 708 265

E-mail: cpl@cats.org.uk
Web: www.cats.org.uk
Charity No. 203644
August 2003
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Details of my cats

Should something happen to you, this information will ensure your cats are taken care of. Fill in the details, send a copy to your solicitor, keep the small card with you, and leave the main part somewhere prominent at home.



1 Name of my cat _____ sex _____ DOB _____ neutered/spayed yes/no
Description _____
Distinguishing features _____

2 Name of my cat _____ sex _____ DOB _____
neutered/spayed yes/no Description _____
Distinguishing features _____

3 Name of my cat _____ sex _____ DOB _____
neutered/spayed yes/no Description _____
Distinguishing features _____



EMERGENCY CARE CARD

In case of emergency please contact:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

who will take care of my cats.

Cats Protection, 17 Kings Road, Horsham, West Sussex
RH13 5PN • Helpline: 08702 099 099 • Fax: 08707 708 265
Charity No. 203644



IN EVENT OF EMERGENCY

My details

My name _____ My address _____

My postcode _____ My telephone _____

Signature _____

Date ____/____/____

If I am admitted to hospital or incapacitated I have arranged for:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____ Address _____

Postcode _____ Telephone _____

to care for my cats until I am able to do so myself. Please contact him/her on my behalf.

If I should die: *(Please tick as appropriate)*

My Will contains instructions regarding my cats. Please contact my solicitor without delay, so that my cats will not be left to fend for themselves.

Solicitor's name _____ Address _____

Postcode _____ Telephone _____

I have already made arrangements with Cats Protection to take my cats into care. Please contact the charity at the address below. Overleaf are the details of my cats.

My name _____

My cats' names _____

My address _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Thank you for helping my cat

