



Sherburn House
Charity

SHC Policy & Procedure

Pet Policy

Document	Pet Policy
Approved By	SHC Board of Trustees
Effective From	10/09/2026
Version No	1
Last Review Date	
Next Review Date	10/09/2029

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. General principle	1
3. Permission to keep a pet.....	1
4. Conditions of keeping a pet	1
5. Health and welfare considerations	1
6. Withdrawal of permission	2
7. Equality and consistency	2
8. Review	2
9. Approval	2



1. Introduction

This policy sets out Sherburn House Charity's approach to pets in Almshouse homes. It aims to balance the wellbeing of residents with the need to protect other residents, the property, and the proper management of the Charity.

2. General principle

Almshouses are people's homes. The Charity recognises that pets can provide companionship and wellbeing benefits. Pets are therefore permitted by permission, not as an automatic right.

3. Permission to keep a pet

Residents must obtain prior written permission from the Housing and Estates Co-ordinator before keeping or looking after a pet.

Permission will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

4. Conditions of keeping a pet

Where permission is granted, the resident must ensure that:

- The pet is suitable for the size and layout of the home.
- The pet is well behaved and properly controlled at all times.
- The pet poses no threat to wildlife within the protected greenbelt site.
- The pet does not cause noise, smell, damage, or distress.
- The home and any shared areas are kept clean and hygienic.
- All costs and responsibilities relating to the pet are borne by the resident.

The resident remains fully responsible for the pet's welfare and behaviour.

5. Health and welfare considerations

When deciding whether to grant permission, the Charity may take account of:

- The resident's health and ability to care for the pet.
- The expected lifespan and care needs of the pet.
- Arrangements for the pet if the resident becomes ill, is hospitalised, or dies.

Residents may be asked to identify a person who would take responsibility for the pet if the resident becomes incapacitated for any reason.

6. Withdrawal of permission

The Charity reserve the right to withdraw permission if:

- The conditions of this policy are not met.
- The pet causes nuisance, risk, or damage.
- The resident is no longer able to care for the pet properly.

Any decision to withdraw permission will be proportionate and, wherever possible, discussed with the resident before action is taken.

7. Equality and consistency

This policy will be applied fairly and consistently. All decisions will be recorded and reviewed if circumstances change.

8. Review

This policy will be reviewed periodically by the Charity to ensure it remains appropriate, lawful, and consistent with best practice and Almshouse Association guidance.

9. Approval

This policy has been approved by the Chief Executive Officer and Board of Trustees of The Sherburn House Charity.