

Subsidised neutering scheme

Vet guidance



CATS
PROTECTION

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Thank you for joining the Cats Protection neutering scheme. This document aims to provide detailed guidance on the administration of the scheme and processing of the vouchers. We recommend using Ctrl+F (Control Find) as a keyboard shortcut to search for key terms within this document. For further queries please contact Neutering Support on **01825 741 926** (this number is for vet use only, please do not give out to members of the public) or email vetneuteringsupport@cats.org.uk

Highlights of the scheme

- The voucher pads are held by participating vet practices
- Eligible clients can book an appointment directly with participating vet practices
- A wider welfare package for cats including take-home pain relief (3ml Metacam), microchip and buster collars for females (a buster collar can be provided for females, if deemed necessary by the vet)
- Participating vets will be provided with a Cats Protection neutering scheme wholesaler account

How members of the public can access the scheme

- **By booking an appointment directly with participating vets who hold the vouchers:** as a participating vet you can promote the scheme and use it for your eligible clients
- **Via a local Cats Protection branch.** If a local branch receives an enquiry from a member of the public they can refer them directly to a participating vet or book an appointment and transport the cat on their behalf
- **Via the Cats Protection website.** The website contains information about the new scheme and gives contact details of participating vets
- **Via the Cats Protection Neutering Helpline 03000 12 12 12** (option two, opening hours 9.30am to 1pm Monday to Friday): Members of the public will be directed to their nearest participating vet or their local Cats Protection branch (in circumstances where additional help or authorisation may be required)

Cat status definitions

- **Owned:** An owned cat being presented by a member of the public or by a Cats Protection representative
- **Stray:** A socialised unowned cat (where a thorough search for owners has been completed and the cat has been checked for a microchip) that is being kept by the member of the public presenting them for neutering. The authorisation process should be followed where the member of the public is presenting two or more stray cats. Stray cats being returned outdoors and remaining unowned must be ear tipped
- **In care:** Cats currently in the care of Cats Protection and being presented for neutering by a Cats Protection branch
- **Previously in care:** Cats previously in the care of Cats Protection and being presented for neutering by a new owner
- **Feral:** A cat not socialised to humans or habituated to the domestic environment. Free-living as a single cat or part of a colony with little or no direct human interaction or dependency. Require authorisation (please note there are restrictions regarding trap, neuter and return (TNR) in Scotland and as such, only Cats Protection employees or volunteers are able to trap feral cats). Feral cats **must** be ear tipped as a condition of funding
- **Farm cat:** A cat that lives in outbuildings, derives most of their food from active hunting and is considered 'part of the farm'. Farm cats **must** be ear tipped as a condition of funding

Eligibility

- Cat owners/representatives **must** complete and sign the declaration section themselves. The eligibility statement on the voucher authorises Cats Protection to audit cat owner information in the future as part of randomised eligibility checks

Eligibility criteria

- **Means-tested benefits;** universal credit, income support, housing benefit, council tax benefit, pension credit, income-based employment and support allowance (ESA), income-based jobseeker's allowance (JSA), working tax credits and child tax credits
- **Benefits not eligible under this scheme;** personal independence allowance/payment, child benefit, disability living allowance, attendance allowance, carer's allowance, state pension
- **A household annual income of less than £25,000** before tax
- **Full-time students** living alone/away from home

- **All breeds of cats can be neutered on the scheme:** Cats Protection includes pedigree cats within the scheme. Neutering is important for their welfare, preventing accidental litters or irresponsible breeding. People can acquire cats and kittens with good intentions and have not put thought into neutering costs. However, should you have concerns regarding abuse of the scheme please do contact Neutering Support on 01825 741 926
- **Multi-cat households (three cats or more):** You do not need prior authorisation to neuter three cats or more on the scheme if the owner is eligible. If you feel the owner needs additional support and further advice regarding owning multiple cats, once a voucher has been signed please email the owner's details to vetneuteringsupport@cats.org.uk outlining the concerns. We will organise a welfare call back at a later stage.
- **Vouchers are not to be used to support proactive breeding, independent rescues or other charities with cats in their care**
- If you have concerns regarding misuse of the vouchers or repeated requests for assistance from an individual (or known rescue associates) please contact Neutering Support for assistance on 01825 741 926 or vetneuteringsupport@cats.org.uk

Voucher pads and voucher details

Voucher pads

- Each voucher pad contains 25 individually numbered vouchers which have been allocated for use at the specific practice they are held at
- Each practice should hold their own pads and not share between other practices within their vet group
- Please contact Neutering Support on 01825 741 926 or vetneuteringsupport@cats.org.uk to order further pads as required. These generally take around five to seven working days to be delivered. All voucher pads expire at the end of the current year. Vouchers for the following year will be sent automatically in December

Completion of the voucher

Owners

- **The owner's details** should be completed by the owner/representative on presentation of the cat for neutering
- **The cat owner must read and complete the declaration and sign the form to include a phone number, full address, postcode and ideally a clear email address for registration of the microchip**
- If the cat is being presented on behalf of the owner, then the owner's full details including postcode will need to be completed on the voucher for use in registration of the microchip. They will tick the 'owner's representative' box and sign the declaration themselves

Vet practice

- Please ensure **all** sections of the voucher are fully completed
- The Cats Protection employee/volunteer or authorised person section should be completed when a stray, feral, farm or in-care cat is presented by a Cats Protection employee/volunteer or member of the public who has received Cats Protection authorisation
- Authorisation is required for all feral, farm, in-care or previously in-care cats and for two or more stray cats presented by a member of the public. Please complete the authorisation box in the vet section on the voucher to confirm that you have received authorisation from Cats Protection **prior** to the neuter taking place
- Tick the appropriate box on the voucher to indicate the cat's status. Please refer to the cat status definitions above and authorisation process where relevant
- For cats that have been microchipped, please attach a microchip sticker to the top of the form and complete the microchip registration process
- The vet is not required to sign the voucher but the date, practice reference number supplied by Cats Protection and vet practice invoice number must be included in the vet section

Voucher value

- The maximum voucher value for an owned cat is £80 for a female neuter and £50 for a male neuter. In addition, the client must pay £10 directly to the practice unless waived on an authorisation form (please see further below for feral, farm, strays, previously in care and in care cats). **The combined voucher value and client contribution is the maximum that can be charged under the scheme, the client contribution must not be increased**

- For those practices able to offer neutering at a price lower than the voucher value, please invoice Cats Protection at a lower rate, please note the actual neutering charge on the invoice. The £10 owner contribution should still be collected directly from the owner
- You may opt to charge the £10 contribution as a deposit when the client books the appointment. Where possible, we recommend sending a text appointment reminder to the client
- The fee for neutering under the scheme should cover the entire procedure for healthy cats. This should include: any pre-surgery/anaesthetic assessment; pre-medication; general anaesthetic; all suture materials and ancillaries; any post-operative analgesia; appropriate post-operative checks as necessary and suture removal if required. If antibiotics are deemed to be necessary, these should be included in the price. The client is responsible for any other non-neutering medical treatment or medication deemed necessary at the time or post operatively
- You are within your right to offer a pre-op check, however this cannot be a prerequisite for not neutering the cat under the subsidised neutering scheme. We ask that you provide the client with the option, informing them how much the pre-op check is and its benefits, but if they choose not to go ahead with it they are still entitled to have their cat neutered under the scheme for the maximum cost of £10

Neutering-related complications

- Please discuss directly with the client if they can contribute towards additional costs in the first instance. Cats Protection can contribute towards neutering complications in circumstances where the owner is unable to pay
- Where the client is unable to assist with additional costs, Cats Protection can contribute up to a maximum of £150 (in addition to the voucher value) for neutering-related complications at the time of the operation such as cryptorchid, pyometra, haemorrhage during a spay, midline spay (to include umbilical hernia repair), pregnant spay or post-operative wound breakdown. A caesarean section can be covered in cases of dystocia, where the cat is also neutered. You do not need prior consent for the aforementioned complications
- For circumstances where a feral cat requires euthanasia and cremation, this can also be invoiced against a neutering voucher up to a maximum of £80
- When returning the voucher for payment, please include a full itemised invoice and medical history

Authorisation

Authorisation for feral, farm and stray cats

- **Authorisation is needed to neuter all feral and farm cats.** Authorisation needs to be obtained via Cats Protection Neutering Support or your local Cats Protection branch/centre. Members of the public can be signposted to their local branch or Neutering Support to obtain this authorisation. To prevent any delays on the day of the appointment please ensure that authorisation is in place prior to making a neutering appointment
- **The veterinary practice must complete the authorisation in the vet section on the voucher to show that this has been received**
- **It is a condition of funding that feral and farm cats are ear tipped when neutered. We would also suggest ear-tipping of stray/community cats that are being returned to site and living as unowned**
- **Authorisation can come via phone, email or in person from a Cats Protection employee or a branch volunteer,** all of whom will have access to either a @cats branded email, Cats Protection branded letter of authorisation, or present a Cats Protection branded ID
- **Authorisation may also come from another charity** or rescue where Cats Protection has established a working relationship for feral cats and trap, neuter and return (TNR). In this circumstance the member of the public will present a @cats branded email, Cats Protection branded letter of authorisation, or present a Cats Protection branded ID (as shown in the image to the right)



Badge ID:
 Advocate charity name:
 Name:
 Expiry date:
 Issue no.:
 Email: branchneutering@cats.org.uk
 Call: 01825 741 926
 Monday to Friday 9am-5pm
 Please do not share with members of the public.

- **Stray cats:** Members of the public can use the subsidised neutering scheme to neuter a stray cat (where a thorough search for owners has been completed and the cat is not microchipped) if they are offering the cat a permanent home. They may also pay for the neuter themselves where they are able to afford to do so. The microchip will need to be registered to the member of the public presenting the cat for neutering. This is to ensure that other rescues do not use Cats Protection funding for neutering costs of cats under their own care or involvement which may breach Cats Protection standards and policies. Authorisation must be obtained when a member of the public is presenting two or more stray cats. Cats Protection employees and volunteers may also present stray cats for neutering and in this circumstance the employee or volunteer will present their Cats Protection ID. Useful link for members of the public: [Found a cat](#)
- **Stray cats (living outdoors):** If the member of the public is unable to provide a permanent home for the stray cat and will return them back outdoors, the subsidised neutering scheme can be used on this occasion. The cat/s must be ear tipped as a condition of funding. Authorisation is needed for two or more stray cats
- **Feral cats in Scotland:** Authorisation must be obtained before the neutering appointment for Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994. The release of a feral domestic cat into the wild therefore requires a licence, irrespective of whether the cat is neutered or otherwise. As such, Cats Protection can only support neutering costs for feral cats neutered by a Cats Protection registered volunteer and covered by our licence.
- **Feral cats must be ear tipped as a condition of funding**
- **Farm cats:** Farm cats can be neutered under the scheme where a farmer is providing shelter and food to the cat/s and they identify as the 'owner' of the cat/s. Authorisation must be obtained by the farmer before the neutering appointment is made. The authorisation can be provided by the local branch or Neutering Support team. Please do not neuter feral or farm cats without this authorisation. **Farm cats must be ear tipped as a condition of funding**

Feral and farm cats: best welfare, including ear tipping

Authorisation must be in place when booking feral and farm cats in under the scheme.

- **Ear tipping:** All feral and farm cats must be identified as neutered by 'ear tipping' to allow easy visual identification of neutered animals from a distance. This is performed under anaesthesia and entails the removal of between 0.3mm and 10mm (in proportion to the size of the cat) of the left ear tip with a straight and obviously surgical cut. Notches should be avoided as they might be hard to distinguish from tears that cats may have acquired from fighting. Ear tipping is legal and not classed as a mutilation in the UK and is an internationally recognised method of showing that the cat has been neutered. If retrapped, the cat can be released immediately rather than being anaesthetised again. Ear tipping must be carried out on any feral or farm cat neutered via a Cats Protection voucher as a condition of payment. Generally, there is no benefit in microchipping feral or farm cats as they are very difficult to scan and therefore it is a waste of charity money
- **Rehoming and taming:** Cats Protection policy is to neuter and return feral and farm cats wherever possible as opposed to attempting to rehome or 'tame' feral kittens older than eight weeks of age. The fear response occurs in kittens by six weeks of age and late 'taming' invariably results in an unacceptably high level of stress for the cat concerned and fails to result in a domesticated, well-adjusted pet
- **Euthanasia:** If a feral or farm cat needs to be euthanased and cremated the cost will be covered by the voucher (up to £80) and should be included on your invoice submitted with the voucher

Non-eligible cat owners and waiving of the £10 client contribution

- **Non-eligible cat owners.** In certain circumstances a cat owner may not fall within the eligibility criteria, however it may still be appropriate for assistance to be provided. In these circumstances, although some members of the public are happy to contribute, authorisation will be required and will indicate whether Cats Protection has agreed to authorise the voucher and/or the £10 owner contribution per cat. The cat owner should not tick the self-declaration of eligibility
- **£10 contribution for owned cats:** In exceptional circumstances Cats Protection may deem it appropriate to waive the £10 contribution. In these circumstances the cat owner must seek authorisation prior to their appointment. Please include the additional £10 within your invoice and the Finance team will process the full £60/£90 voucher value
- **£10 contribution for stray cats:** The fee for neutering a single stray cat can be charged in full to Cats Protection without means testing or authorisation, but contributions from members of the public are invited. If required please include the additional £10 within your invoice and the Neutering Finance team will process the full £60/£90 voucher value. Two or more stray cats will need prior authorisation before neutering takes place

- **£10 contribution for feral cats:** If a member of the public is presenting a feral cat (or farm cat in Scotland) for neutering, they must seek authorisation from Cats Protection before the neutering appointment. A client contribution is not required in these circumstances. Please invoice Cats Protection for the maximum voucher value of £60/£90, unless otherwise stated on the authorisation. Please also refer to the feral cats and feral welfare section of this document regarding additional treatments for feral cats
- **Cats in care:** The neutering fee for cats being presented who are in the care of Cats Protection can be invoiced up to the full £60/£90 voucher value. Any non-neutering additional treatment must be approved by the Cats Protection branch first
- **Cats adopted after being in care:** The neutering fee for cats who have been adopted after previously being in Cats Protection care can also be invoiced for the full £60/£90 voucher value. The branch or adoption centre will issue the new owner with authorisation. This will come in the form of a letter or any of the previously mentioned forms of authorisation

What treatments you can provide based on who is presenting ferals and farm cats

- **Feral cats presented by a branch volunteer or an employee from Cats Protection** should also be tested for feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV)/feline leukaemia virus (FeLV), receive a single vaccination against feline herpesvirus (FHV), feline calicivirus (FCV) and feline parvovirus (FPV), receive a topical treatment for fleas, tapeworm and roundworms and are paid for by the local Cats Protection branch (this is separate to the neutering voucher scheme and must be agreed by the branch or employee before proceeding)
- **Feral cats presented by members of the public:** The voucher only covers the cost of the neuter and ear tip. In these circumstances, please advise members of the public of the benefits of providing a one-off vaccine and flea/worm treatment in case they are willing to pay for it themselves
- **Feral cats in Scotland:** The Scottish wildcat is given protection under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994. The release of a feral domestic cat into the wild therefore requires a licence, irrespective of whether the cat is neutered or otherwise. As such, Cats Protection can only support neutering costs for feral cats neutered by a Cats Protection registered volunteer and therefore covered by our licence. **Feral and farm cats must be ear tipped as a condition of funding although they are invited.**

Useful documents

[Feral cat veterinary care summary](#)

[Feral Guide](#)

[How to manage feral cats: best practice](#)

Pre-pubertal neutering

Cats Protection recommends that all pet cats are neutered from four months of age for social, health and population control measures. We are happy for cats to be neutered earlier, two days after the first vaccination (pet cats and those in Cats Protection care) and from weaning age (feral kittens) unless not deemed suitable by the vet. We encourage all veterinary practices to promote routine neutering from four months of age as standard. In order to offer recognition to those vets who participate, we run an online database for practices who neuter at four months or younger. Members of the public can also use this site to find a pre-pubertal neutering vet in their neighbourhood: cat-kind.org.uk


Pregnant spays

It is recommended that most pregnant cats are spayed if the vet considers the cat fit for surgery. If end-stage pregnancy or giving birth is imminent in a non-feral cat (for example, from around six weeks of pregnancy if there is milk in the mammary glands and/or the cat is showing typical behavioural changes), the pregnancy should generally be allowed to continue. However, the vet will assess each case. Options for spaying feral queens up to and beyond six weeks should remain flexible as re-trapping may be difficult, and it is highly stressful for feral queens to be confined in care during pregnancy and lactation, resulting in very poor welfare. Where a cat is presented as pregnant and the spay is deemed acceptable to be performed, please refer to the neutering-related complications section of this guide or if you need help with how to proceed, please seek clarification from our Neutering Support team.

Wholesaler accounts and ordering process

Covetrus process: England, Wales and Scotland

- Please complete the account sign-up form. If you would like to receive a pre-delivery report with batch number information on the day of delivery, please opt in for this. Return the form to Cats Protection by email to vetneuteringsupport@cats.org.uk
- Cats Protection will confirm when the account has been set up and provide a link to an online order form by email, along with further instructions on how to place an order
- The online form looks as below. It also includes fields to add a vet's name and RCVS registration number which was noted on the registration form. All fields are mandatory

covetrus 

Cats Protection Order Form

This form must be completed by your vet if ordering Prescription Only Medicines.
This can be completed by a Cats Protection Centre Manager or their delegates only
if the product is for General Sale.

Order Type

Neutering Scheme Cats in Care (excl. Neutering)

Practice Name

Practice Postcode

- Selecting the neutering option will provide a list of the 3ml Metacam, microchip and buster collar products available for the subsidised neutering scheme (including neutering and microchipping for cats in the care of a Cats Protection branch)
- Please note, a buster collar can be provided for females, if deemed necessary by the vet
- Please ensure you have ordered a small amount of stock ready to use on the neutering scheme before booking in client appointments. We suggest you order stock appropriate to the average numbers of cats the practice neuters per month
- We ask that the neutering scheme orders are made on a monthly basis rather than daily or weekly, unless the practice neuters high numbers, as this will keep delivery costs down and we do pay for every delivery
- If you would like some further guidance on order amounts and frequency based on Cats Protection records for your practice, please contact vetneuteringsupport@cats.org.uk
- If you have any queries about missing items, missed orders, or to arrange a return, please contact veterinary@cats.org.uk or contact Covetrus directly at UKAHCatsprotection@covetrus.com
- You can also use the 'Cats Protection local branch' option for orders for cats in our care if you have a separate 'cats in care' wholesaler account for your work for a local branch of Cats Protection. Otherwise, please do not use this option

VSSCo process: Northern Ireland

- You will need a Cats Protection VSSCo account in addition to your practice VSSCo account
- Please complete the account sign-up form and email this to VSSCo at sales@vscco.co.uk
- Please ensure you have ordered a small amount of stock ready to use on the scheme. We suggest you order stock appropriate to the average numbers of cats the practice neuters per month
- If you would like some further guidance on order amounts and frequency based on Cats Protection records for your practice, please contact vetneuteringsupport@cats.org.uk

Wholesaler process for volunteers

- Where a practice does not already hold a Cats Protection wholesaler account, we will open one for them
- The practice will be able to order products online. This will also be true for practices currently using the paper-based system. However, volunteers can still use the paper form to request products for cats in care, the practice will just transfer onto their online form
- For Covetrus accounts, microchips for cats in the care of a Cats Protection branch can be ordered from the neutering products list

Microchipping

Microchipping for veterinary practices

- Microchips can only be ordered through your Cats Protection Covetrus or VSSCo wholesaler account online order form

- Microchips will have a Cats Protection sticker on the top of the box:

00000000 Cats Protection

- We ask that the veterinary practice registers the microchip for the cat keeper. This is because we know this step often gets forgotten by owners and registration of the chip is so important

There are three ways you can do this:

1) Your practice management system (PMS) can be linked to the identibase system directly via Vet Envoy. This will mean a direct export of clients' details into identibase without the need to rekey. You may need your IT support to assist you. For further support, identibase can be contacted at cp@identibase.co.uk

2a) You can choose to email identibase the details directly at cp@identibase.co.uk You will need to provide the following pet keepers details:

- name of keeper's
- house name or number
- postcode
- phone number (mobile or landline)
- chip number
- pet name

identibase will then follow up with the keeper and then contact you to confirm chip registration has been completed.

Note: we recommend you put in place any measures you need to, with regards to complying with privacy legislation, if you are sharing your client's details with a third party.

2b) You can register a cat online on the identibase admin portal admin.identibase.co.uk You will need to liaise with the keeper to complete all the keeper and cat details on the web form.

To register for an identibase account, please email applications@identibase.co.uk to request an account and they will send an application form. Alternatively, please call 0330 912 8077.

3) If you feel that none of the above options are possible for you, the cat keeper will need to self register the microchip. However we would ask the practice to register the chip wherever possible, as registration is so important for the cat's long-term welfare.

- Please stick one of the microchip barcode stickers to the top of the neutering voucher in the space provided

Microchipping for cats in care

Branches can continue to register the chips for cats that are neutered while in care if this is preferable.

If the vet practice is registering microchips for cats in Cats Protection branch care please use:

- branch name
- the National Cat Centre address: National Cat Centre, Chelwood Gate, Haywards Heath, RH17 7TT
- the branch enquiries@ email address
- the branch enquiries telephone number

Your local branch will be able to provide you with this when they bring the cats in if you do not already have it. Please note, volunteers names or personal email addresses and telephone numbers should not be used. The public email address and phone number for the branch are used to ensure that they will always be monitored in the event of changes within the branch. The branch will transfer the microchip to the new owner at the point of adoption.

Invoicing

- **Please ensure all sections of the voucher have been completed.** Only fully completed vouchers will be paid
- **An invoice addressed to Cats Protection for the value you are claiming must be attached to the voucher.** Without this we will be unable to make payment
- **This voucher must be submitted within 40 days of the date the surgery was performed.** This is extremely important to enable us to manage spend on the scheme. Please fill in the date of the neuter, your practice reference number and invoice number. The neuter must be carried out within the expiry date of the voucher
- If possible, please create a Cats Protection account for submitting invoices. This must show the amount being charged to Cats Protection up to the value of the voucher. Details should show voucher number, client surname and pet name. The client record should be invoiced the full £60/£90 and then the £50/£80 Cats Protection contribution should be transferred off the client record and onto our one, leaving £10 remaining for the client to pay on their own record
- For any neutering-related complication, please do the same transfer as above onto the Cats Protection record and attach a medical history for that patient, leaving remaining balance (if any) for the client to settle on their own account
- **Please return invoices and vouchers by email to neutering.finance@cats.org.uk**
An email must be sent as receipt. Alternatively, if you are unable to email, please send to the Neutering Finance team at National Cat Centre, Lewes Road, Chelwood Gate, Haywards Heath, RH17 7TT

Contact details

Neutering support

(for general enquiries and to order more voucher pads, vets only)

vetneuteringsupport@cats.org.uk

01825 741 926 | Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

Please do not share these details with members of the public.

Neutering finance

(for enquiries regarding invoices, vets only)

neutering.finance@cats.org.uk

01825 741 989 | Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

Please do not share these details with members of the public.

Wholesaler queries

veterinary@cats.org.uk

01825 741 991 | Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

Please do not share these details with members of the public.

Members of the public

cats.org.uk

National helpline: 03000 12 12 12 |
Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

Neutering helpline: 03000 12 12 12 (option two) |
Monday to Friday 9:30am to 1pm

Data sharing agreement

The terms of this Data Sharing Agreement apply to any sharing of personal data between Cats Protection Trustee Limited (“Cats Protection”) and you as a “Partner” that interacts with Cats Protection in connection with its services or programmes. By ticking the box at the bottom of this Agreement, you confirm that you understand and agree to its terms on behalf of your organisation as a Partner of Cats Protection.

In this Data Sharing Agreement, Cats Protection and you as Partner are each referred to as a “party” and are referred to together as the “parties”.

Cats Protection is a charitable company incorporated under the laws of England and Wales with charity number 203644 and company number 06772997, whose registered address is at Cats Protection, National Cat Centre, Lewes Road, Chelwood Gate, Haywards Heath, RH17 7TT.

Background

(A) Cats Protection and the Partner wish to cooperate to ensure the protection of and care for cats in the UK, including as part of specific programmes operated by Cats Protection (the “Purpose”). The parties accept and acknowledge that carrying out the Purpose will necessitate the sharing of personal data.

(B) The parties now wish to enter into this Data Sharing Agreement to determine their respective obligations in relation to the sharing of personal data.

Agreed Terms

1. Interpretation

1.1 In this Data Sharing Agreement, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings (unless the context otherwise requires).

Data Privacy Laws means all applicable laws and regulations relating to the processing of personal data and privacy in the UK, including statutory instruments (each as amended, updated and superseded from time to time).

Protected Data means the personal data to be processed by the parties in relation to this Data Sharing Agreement, including personal data relating to individuals who wish to make use of Cats Protection services offered through the Partner and/or who have relinquished cats that the Partner is treating.

1.2 The terms “controller”, “data subject”, “personal data”, “personal data breach” and “processing” shall have the meanings given to them in the Data Privacy Laws.

2. The Roles of the Parties and Compliance with Laws

2.1 The parties acknowledge and understand that each party will act as an independent controller with respect to the Protected Data.

2.2 Each party will comply with its respective obligations under the Data Privacy Laws.

3. Sharing Protected Data

3.1 Each party agrees as follows in respect of the Protected Data:

- (a) each party will comply with requirements of lawfulness and transparency in relation to the Protected Data;
- (b) each party will implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to safeguard Protected Data against any personal data breach;
- (c) each party will only access Protected Data necessary for its purposes and in accordance with the Purpose, except with the prior written agreement of the other party;
- (d) on receipt of a complaint or a data subject rights request in respect of the Protected Data, each party will notify the other promptly, and the parties will co-operate to enable the relevant complaint or request within the timescales set out in the Data Privacy Laws;

(e) each party agrees to notify the other without undue delay after becoming aware of a personal data breach relating to the Protected Data, and the parties will co-operate to ensure that the appropriate notifications are provided to the UK Information Commissioner's Office and/or affected data subjects in accordance with the Data Privacy Laws;

(f) neither party will transfer the Protected Data to any country outside the UK unless that party ensures that such transfer: (i) is to a country approved by the UK Government as providing adequate protection; (ii) is subject to appropriate safeguards as required by applicable Data Privacy Laws; or (iii) can be carried out on the basis of a derogation from the relevant obligations under the Data Privacy Laws.

(g) each party will only retain the Protected Data for as long as reasonably necessary for the Purpose in accordance with this Agreement, except to the extent that either party is required to retain the Protected Data in accordance with any applicable statutory retention periods.

4. Governing Law and Jurisdiction

4.1 This Data Sharing Agreement and any disputes or claims (including non-contractual disputes or claims) arising out of or in connection with its subject matter or formation shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of England and Wales.

4.2 Each party irrevocably agrees that the courts of England and Wales have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any dispute or claim (including non-contractual disputes or claims) arising out of or in connection with this agreement, its subject matter or formation.

This Data Sharing Agreement is entered into on the date Cats Protection receives confirmation of the Partner's agreement to the terms of this Data Sharing Agreement.



For further information visit cats.org.uk/neutering

Cats Protection is a registered charity 203644 (England and Wales), SC037711 (Scotland) and is listed as a Section 167 institution by the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland. A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (06772997).
Registered office National Cat Centre, Chelwood Gate, Haywards Heath, Sussex, RH17 7TT | NEU_1147