

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR NORTHUMBRIA

Key Decision

Title and Reference – PCC.112.14

Charitable Donation Request - Former Dog Vehicle

Report of the Director of Finance and Head of Strategic Asset Management

Summary

A request has been received from registered charity “Helping Pets North East” (1155714), asking if an end of life dog transport vehicle could be donated to them. The vehicle would be used to assist in their work re-homing abandoned pets.

Recommendations / Findings

Approval of the Police & Crime Commissioner is sought to donate an end of life, four kennel Ford Transit dog vehicle to the charity “Helping Pets North East”, in lieu of the normal disposal via auction.

Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner

I hereby approve the recommendation above.

Signature



Date 04.12.14

Appendix 1 : Full request for charitable donation

(Received via force website, hence formatting style)

Dear Sir/ madam,

I'm writing on behalf of a local charity, Helping Pets North East. Helping Pets (North East) is a registered charity (1155714) based in the North East of England. It was founded by Vicki Withers in May 2012.

Helping Pets (North East) does not have any paid members of staff. Everyone who works for, or with us, is an unpaid volunteer. We are proud of this because it means that the bulk of the money we receive, or raise, goes directly on animal rescue and care. Only a small proportion goes on administration and stationary supplies.

We take in 'at risk' pets, many of whom are being given away 'free to a good home', or animals that the owners request us to take in as they feel they can no longer care for them. We may also take in a stray animal and try to locate its owner before putting it up for adoption.

In the two years that Helping Pets (North East) has been operational we have almost quadrupled our intake and re-homing of animals from the first year. During our first year we successfully found loving homes for 84 cats, 9 dogs and 6 small animals. And in our second years we have re-homed 318 cats, 28 dogs and 13 small animals.

This is primarily done by our strong presence on Facebook, and we are continuing to grow in strength on a daily basis. We do not have kennels and any pet taken by us will be placed into a foster home where it can be assessed and we can get an idea of its personality and the type of home it would be best suited too. All animals will leave us: Neutered; ;Assessed for compatibility in a variety of homes.; Dogs will have been vaccinated.; All animals will be flea treated where appropriate; All animals will be wormed where appropriate.; Micro-chipped.

At present we only have one vehicle (Vicki's own truck) to transport animals, deliver supplies and do home checks. The area we cover is vast (from Hadston down to Consett) and this takes away valuable time that could be spent rescuing animals. We are desperate for another vehicle to help us expand our work and ease the load on Vicki's truck.

I am writing to you today to ask if it is possible Northumbria Police could donate a van that was being retired from the force to our cause? It's a big ask, I have seen other forces in the UK have done it but realise that it may not be possible. It would be wonderful if you could consider our request, it would make a massive difference to our work.

Many thanks.

Debra Drysdale
4 Linnel Drive, Lemington, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE15 7LJ