



Rules

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RULES

Interpretation

In this constitution, the words, in the first column of the table below, shall bear the meanings set opposite to them, in the second column, if not inconsistent with the subject or context:

Words	Meanings
Appointed Directors:	directors appointed to the board of the Trustee by the Directors;
Branches:	branches of Cats Protection constituted in accordance with the Rules and bye laws of Cats Protection;
Cats Protection:	the registered charity known as Cats Protection (charity numbers 203644 and SC037711);
The Chairman:	the chairman of the Directors;
The Charities Acts:	the Charities Act 1993 and the Charities Act 2006 and any modification or statutory re-enactment of those acts for the time being in force;
The Chief Executive:	the Chief Executive of Cats Protection;
Clear day:	24 hours from midnight following the relevant event;
The Commission:	the Charity Commission for England and Wales;
The Advisory Council:	the Advisory Council of Cats Protection;
The Deputy Chairman:	the deputy chairman of the Directors;
A Director:	a director of the Trustee and Directors means all the directors of the Trustee;
Electronic communication:	as defined in the Electronic Communications Act 2000;
Elected Directors:	directors elected to the board of the Trustee by the Advisory Council;
The Objects:	the objects of Cats Protection as described in Clause 2 of the Rules;
The or these Rules:	the constitution of Cats Protection;
The Trustee:	Cats Protection Trustee Limited (company number [6772997]);
In writing or written:	the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise.

1. **Name**

The name of the charity is Cats Protection.

2. **Objects**

Cats Protection is established to prevent and relieve the suffering and distress of cats and to advance the welfare of cats (“the Objects”).

3. **Powers**

Cats Protection has the following powers in order to further the Objects (but not for any other purpose):

3.1 **Homing**

To establish and maintain centres and facilities for the reception, care, and treatment of cats and to find good homes for cats in need.

3.2 **Neutering**

To encourage, in any way, and pay for the neutering of cats.

3.3 **Education and Information**

To promote, in any way, the spread of knowledge about the welfare of cats.

3.4 **Veterinary Treatment**

To provide and to pay for veterinary treatment for cats and to arrange the painless and humane euthanasia of cats when deemed necessary following advice from veterinary surgeons.

3.5 **Fundraising**

To raise funds (but not by means of taxable trading).

3.6 **Research**

To undertake or support research in furtherance of the Objects and to publish the useful results of such research.

3.7 **Staff and agents**

To employ, paid or unpaid agents, staff or advisers and to make provision for the payment of pensions and superannuation to or on behalf of employees and former employees and their spouses, civil partners, widows, widowers and other dependants and to provide life, health, accident and other insurances and other benefits (financial or otherwise) to or for the benefit of any of them.

3.8 **Subsidiary companies**

To establish or acquire subsidiary companies to assist or act as agents for Cats Protection.

3.9 Acquiring property

To purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire and hold for any estate or interest any real or personal property and any rights or privileges which may be necessary for the promotion of the Objects and to construct, maintain and alter any buildings or erections necessary or convenient for the work of Cats Protection.

To purchase or otherwise acquire and undertake all or such part of the property, assets, liabilities and engagements as may lawfully be acquired or undertaken by Cats Protection of any one or more of the charitable organisations, institutions, societies or bodies having objects altogether or in part similar to the Objects.

3.10 Insurance

To insure the property of Cats Protection against any foreseeable risk and take out, and pay the premiums of, such other insurance policies as shall be considered appropriate from time to time.

3.11 Disposing of Property

To sell, lease or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the property belonging to Cats Protection. In exercising this power the Trustee must comply as appropriate with the Charities Acts.

3.12 Borrowing

To borrow money and to charge the whole or any part of the property belonging to Cats Protection as security for repayment of the money borrowed. In exercising this power the Trustee must comply as appropriate with the Charities Acts.

3.13 Co-operation with other organisations

To co-operate with other charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities and to exchange information and advice with them.

To subscribe to, establish, support, affiliate, become a member of, amalgamate with or co-operate with, any other charitable organisation, institution, society or body not formed for, or established for, purposes of profit (whether incorporated or not and whether in Great Britain or Northern Ireland or elsewhere) whose objects are, wholly or in part, similar to those of Cats Protection and which by its constitution prohibits the distribution of its income and property amongst its members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on Cats Protection.

To acquire, merge with or enter into any partnership or joint venture agreement with any other charity formed for any of the charitable purposes included in the Objects.

3.14 Reserves

To set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure.

3.15 Goods and services

To obtain and pay for such goods and services as are necessary for carrying out the work of Cats Protection.

To enter into contracts to provide services to or on behalf of other bodies.

3.16 Investment

To open and operate such bank and other accounts as the Trustee considers necessary to invest funds and to delegate the management of funds in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the trustees of a trust are permitted to do by the Trustee Act 2000.

3.17 Miscellaneous

To do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the Objects or which promote or help to promote the Objects.

4. The Trustee, the Directors, the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman

4.1 The Trustee

The Trustee is the corporate body having the general control and management of the administration of Cats Protection (as from the date of adoption of these Rules).

4.2 The Directors

The Trustee will be administered by the Directors in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Trustee. The Directors shall consist of:

- (i) not less than four but not more than five Elected Directors; and
- (ii) not more than four Appointed Directors.

4.3 The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman

The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman will act, respectively, as chairman and deputy chairman of Cats Protection for the duration of their respective appointments.

5. Membership

5.1 Membership of Cats Protection shall be open to those interested in furthering the work of Cats Protection and the Objects.

5.2 Classes of Membership, Rights and Subscriptions

The Trustee may by means of regulations from time to time:

- 5.2.1 establish different classes of membership;
- 5.2.2 determine which class of membership any applicant for membership should be admitted to;

- 5.2.3 determine the amounts of any subscriptions; and
- 5.2.4 determine the respective rights (including voting rights) and privileges attached to each class of membership – provided that no member shall have voting rights until they have been a member of Cats Protection for one year since attaining the age of 18.

5.3 Refusal of Membership

The Trustee may refuse an application for membership if, acting reasonably and properly, the Trustee considers it to be in the best interests of Cats Protection to refuse the application. If an application for membership is refused:

- 5.3.1 The Trustee will inform the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal within 21 clear days of the decision;
- 5.3.2 The applicant may appeal against any such decision by submitting written representations to the Chief Executive within 7 clear days of receipt of the decision; and
- 5.3.3 The Trustee will consider any such written representations and will inform the applicant in writing of its decision in respect of the appeal.

5.4 Termination of Membership

Membership is terminated if a member:

- 5.4.1 dies;
- 5.4.2 resigns by written notice to Cats Protection;
- 5.4.3 is six months in arrears of payment of any subscription due (but a member may be reinstated on payment of the amount due);
- 5.4.4 is suffering from mental disorder and either is admitted to hospital in pursuance of an application for admission for treatment under any statute for the time being in force relating to mental disorder or an order is made in relation to his or her personal welfare or property and affairs under legislation relating to mental health or mental capacity;
- 5.4.5 is removed from membership by a resolution of the Trustee that it is in the best interests of Cats Protection that his or her membership is terminated. A resolution to remove a member from membership will only be passed if the member has been given at least 21 clear days' notice in writing of:
 - (a) the date of the meeting of the Trustee at which the resolution will be proposed;
 - (b) the reason(s) why the resolution will be proposed; and
 - (c) the right to make written representations to the meeting provided that any such written representations are received by the Chief Executive at least 7 clear days before the date of the meeting.

The Trustee will consider any such written representations and will inform the member in writing of its decision.

5.5 Transfers of Membership

Membership of Cats Protection is not transferable.

6. General Meetings

6.1 Annual General Meetings

An annual general meeting of Cats Protection shall be held and no more than 15 months shall elapse between successive annual general meetings.

6.2 Special General Meetings

6.2.1 The Trustee may call a special general meeting at any time.

6.2.2 The Trustee will call a special general meeting within 21 clear days of receiving a written request to call a special general meeting signed by not less than 1% of the members of Cats Protection. The request to call a special general meeting must state the nature of the business to be discussed and give reasons for the request.

6.3 Notice of General Meetings

6.3.1 At least 21 clear days' notice of general meetings shall be given either in *The Cat* magazine, on the Cats Protection website or in the National Press.

6.3.2 The notice will specify the date, time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted as well as any arrangements in respect of admission.

6.4 Rules of Procedure at General Meetings

6.4.1 Attendance and Admission

- (i) All members of Cats Protection are entitled to attend annual and special general meetings of Cats Protection.
- (ii) The Trustee may make such arrangements as it sees fit in respect of tickets and admission to annual and special general meetings and details of any such arrangements will be published in the notice of the meeting.

6.4.2 Quorum

- (i) No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present;
- (ii) A quorum at general meetings of Cats Protection is 30 members entitled to vote upon the business to be conducted at the meeting;

- (iii) If:
 - (a) a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting; or
 - (b) during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present,

The meeting shall be adjourned to such time and place as the Trustee shall determine.

- (iv) The Trustee will re-convene the meeting and will give at least 7 clear days' notice of the re-convened meeting stating the date, time and place of the meeting.
- (v) If no quorum is present at the re-convened meeting within fifteen minutes of the time specified for the start of the meeting the number present at that time shall constitute the quorum for that meeting.

6.4.3 Chairman of General Meetings

General meetings will be chaired by the Chairman but if the Chairman is unable or unwilling to act as chairman of the meeting:

- (i) the Deputy Chairman will chair the meeting but if the Deputy Chairman is unable or unwilling to chair the meeting;
- (ii) the meeting will be chaired by such other Director as the Trustee shall decide.

6.4.4 Business transacted at Annual General Meetings

The business to be transacted at the annual general meeting includes:

- (a) receiving and considering the audited annual report and accounts of Cats Protection;
- (b) the appointment or re-appointment of auditors;
- (c) the election or re-election of Advisory Council members to any vacancies arising; and
- (d) any other business put before members by the Trustee.

6.4.5 Adjournments

- (i) The members present at a general meeting may resolve that the meeting shall be adjourned.
- (ii) The Trustee will decide the date, time and place at which the meeting is to be re-convened.
- (iii) No business shall be conducted at an adjourned meeting unless it could properly have been conducted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

- (iv) If a meeting is adjourned by a resolution of the members for more than 7 days, at least 7 clear days' notice shall be given of the re-convened meeting stating the date, time and place of the meeting.

6.4.6 Voting and Resolutions

- (i) Voting rights are conferred by some classes of membership but not by others. Only those members with voting rights can vote upon the business to be conducted at general meetings.
- (ii) All questions arising at general meetings shall be decided by a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote.
- (iii) The Trustee may at its discretion make arrangements for proxy voting from time to time but only with regard to alterations to the Rules or dissolution of the charity.
- (iv) Each voting member shall have one vote but if there is an equality of votes the chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

6.4.7 Minutes

The Chief Executive shall keep minutes of general meetings.

6.4.8 Regulations

The Trustee may from time to time make such regulations as it sees fit for the conduct of or procedures to be followed in respect of general meetings (including the method of voting to be adopted) in so far as such procedure or conduct is not already regulated by these Rules.

7. The Advisory Council

7.1 Role

The role of the Advisory Council shall be:

- (i) To elect, subject to clause 4.2.(i), Council members as Elected Directors; and
- (ii) To advise the Trustee in the exercise of its powers.

7.2 Composition

7.2.1 There shall be no more than 22 members of the Advisory Council which shall consist of:

- (i) not less than 10 but not more than 18 Advisory Council members elected by the members of Cats Protection; and
- (ii) up to four appointed Advisory Council members who are Appointed Directors.

7.2.2 Elected and appointed Advisory Council members shall collectively make up the Advisory Council. Each Advisory Council member shall have the same status whether appointed or elected.

7.3 Eligibility for Election to the Advisory Council

A Member of Cats Protection will be eligible as a candidate for election to the Advisory Council:

- (i) if he or she has been a member of Cats Protection with voting rights for not less than 3 years as at the date of the annual general meeting at which the election is held unless the Chairman of the Trustee Board waives this requirement in accordance with criteria approved by the Trustee Board in regulations made under Rule 7.4.1 and published either in *The Cat* or on the Cats Protection website in accordance with Rule 7.4.2;
- (ii) has complied with all the prescribed procedural steps in respect of an application to be a candidate for election; and
- (iii) is not employed by Cats Protection.

7.4 Procedure for Applying to be a Candidate for Election

7.4.1 The Trustee may from time to time make regulations in respect of the procedure to be followed by candidates wishing to apply for election to the Advisory Council.

7.4.2 Any such procedure will be published either in *The Cat* or on the Cats Protection website in good time before the annual general meeting at which any election to the Advisory Council is to take place.

7.5 Election of Advisory Council Members

At the annual general meeting of Cats Protection those members of Cats Protection present and entitled to vote shall elect or re-elect candidates for the Advisory Council to any vacancies arising.

7.6 Terms of Office and Retirement

7.6.1 An Elected Advisory Council Member not serving as a Director:

- (i) Shall be an Advisory Council member for not more than three years and shall retire at the annual general meeting held in the third year of the term; but
- (ii) May apply for and stand for re-election and may be re-elected to the Advisory Council for a maximum of three consecutive terms.

7.6.2 An Elected or Appointed Advisory Council Member serving as a Director:

- (i) Shall be an Advisory Council member for the duration of his or her term of office as a Director and shall retire from the Advisory Council at the annual general meeting at which he or she is due to retire as a Director;

- (ii) A Director seeking re-election or re-appointment as a Director will not be required to apply for or to stand for re-election to the Advisory Council as a pre-requisite of re-election or re-appointment as a Director.
- (iii) If re-elected or re-appointed as a Director he or she will resume being an Advisory Council member and will fill any vacancy arising as a consequence of his or her retirement.

7.7 Co-option to the Advisory Council

- 7.7.1 Any casual vacancy arising on the Advisory Council may be filled by the Advisory Council which may co-opt any member of Cats Protection who meets the eligibility criteria set out at Rule 7.3 of the Rules to serve as a member of the Advisory Council;
- 7.7.2 Any member of the Advisory Council so co-opted shall hold office until the annual general meeting following his or her appointment and shall have to stand for election at the annual general meeting if he or she wishes to continue to serve as a member of the Advisory Council.

7.8 Termination of Membership of the Advisory Council

7.8.1 Membership of the Advisory Council shall cease automatically if an Advisory Council Member:

- (i) ceases to be a member of Cats Protection;
- (ii) fails to be re-elected to the Advisory Council;
- (iii) resigns in writing to the Chief Executive;
- (iv) is convicted of an indictable offence or an offence involving cruelty to animals;
- (v) is suffering from mental disorder and either is admitted to hospital in pursuance of an application for admission for treatment under any statute for the time being in force relating to mental disorder or an order is made in relation to his or her personal welfare or property and affairs under legislation relating to mental health or mental capacity;
- (vi) is disqualified by law from acting as a director or a charity trustee; or
- (vii) is an Appointed Director and ceases to be a Director.

7.8.2 Membership of the Advisory Council shall cease if an Advisory Council Member :

- (i) is absent from two or more consecutive meetings of the Advisory Council without the permission of the Trustee; or
- (ii) has, in the opinion of the Trustee, behaved in such a way as to bring Cats Protection into disrepute,

and the Trustee resolves to remove the Advisory Council member from office.

The Trustee will notify the Advisory Council member of its decision in writing.

The Advisory Council member may appeal against the decision by submitting written representations to the Chief Executive within 7 clear days of receipt of the decision.

The Trustee will consider any such written representations and will inform the Council member in writing of its decision in respect of the appeal.

7.9 Advisory Council Meetings

7.9.1 Number of Meetings

The Advisory Council shall meet not less than three times a year and the Trustee will determine the time, place and date of Advisory Council meetings.

7.9.2 Election of Council Members to the Board of Directors

Election of members of the Advisory Council to vacancies arising on **the board of Directors shall take place at the first Advisory Council** meeting after the annual general meeting at which any vacancies arise.

A candidate for election to the board of Directors must submit a letter to the Chief Executive. The letter must:

- (i) signify his or her willingness to serve as a Director if elected;
- (ii) be countersigned by at least 3 other Council members to signify that in their view the candidate is a suitable person to be a Director; and
- (iii) be submitted at least 40 clear days before the annual general meeting.

7.10 Rules of Procedure at Advisory Council Meetings

7.10.1 Quorum

A quorum at an Advisory Council meeting is six members of the Advisory Council.

7.10.2 Chairman

Advisory Council meetings will be chaired by the Chairman but if the Chairman is unable or unwilling to act as chairman of the meeting the Deputy Chairman or such other Director as the Trustee shall decide will chair the meeting.

7.10.3 **Voting and Resolutions**

Any matters to be decided by vote (including the election of Directors) or by resolution will be decided by simple majority of those present and entitled to vote at the meeting.

7.10.4 **Regulations**

The Trustee may from time to time make such regulations as it sees fit for the conduct of or procedures to be followed in respect of Advisory Council meetings (including the method of voting to be adopted) in so far as such procedure or conduct is not already regulated by or is inconsistent with these Rules.

7.10.5 **Minutes**

The Chief Executive shall keep minutes of Advisory Council meetings.

8. **Application of Income and Property**

8.1 **Application**

The income and property of Cats Protection shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Objects.

8.2 **Expenses of the Trustee**

The Trustee may pay out of, or be reimbursed from, the property of Cats Protection reasonable expenses properly incurred by the Trustee when acting on behalf of Cats Protection.

8.3 **Remuneration of the Trustee**

For the avoidance of doubt, the Trustee shall not be remunerated for its services as a trustee.

8.4 **Legacies**

All legacies bequeathed to Cats Protection shall be received by the Trustee. The Trustee shall apply such legacies in accordance with any special trusts. Where the relevant special trusts are for the benefit of a named Branch, the Trustee shall consult with that Branch before deciding on any particular proposed application of that trust property.

9. **Statutory Requirements**

The Trustee must comply with its obligations under relevant statutory provisions in relation to accounting and filing requirements and other relevant matters.

10. **Property**

(1) The Trustee will ensure that the title to:

- (a) all land held by or in trust for Cats Protection is vested either in the Trustee or the Official Custodian of Charities; and

- (b) all investments held by or on behalf of Cats Protection are vested in the Trustee.

11. **Dissolution**

- (1) If the Trustee resolves to dissolve Cats Protection on the ground of expense, or if it otherwise resolves that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve Cats Protection, it shall call a general meeting of the members.
- (2) If the members resolve that Cats Protection shall be dissolved, the Trustee will remain in office as charity trustee and will be responsible for winding up the affairs of Cats Protection in accordance with this clause.
- (3) The Trustee must collect in all the assets of Cats Protection and must pay or make provision for all the liabilities of Cats Protection.
- (4) The Trustee must apply any remaining property or money:
 - (a) directly for the Objects;
 - (b) by transfer to any charity or charities for purposes the same as or similar to Cats Protection; or
 - (c) in such other manner as the Commission or any other relevant regulator may approve in writing in advance.
- (5) The members may pass a resolution before or at the same time as the resolution to dissolve Cats Protection specifying the manner in which the Trustee is to apply the remaining property or assets of Cats Protection and the Trustee must comply with the resolution if it is consistent with paragraphs (a)-(c) inclusive in sub-clause (4) above.
- (6) In no circumstances shall the net assets of Cats Protection be paid to or distributed among the members of Cats Protection (except to a member that is itself a charity).
- (7) The Trustee must notify the Commission or any other relevant regulator promptly that Cats Protection has been dissolved and comply with the relevant requirements.

12. **Amendments**

- (1) Cats Protection may amend any provision contained in these Rules provided that:
 - (a) no amendment may be made that would have the effect of making Cats Protection cease to be a charity at law;
 - (b) no amendment may be made to alter the Objects without the prior written consent of the Commission and any other relevant regulator;
 - (c) no amendment may be made to clause 8 without the prior written consent of the Commission and any other relevant regulator;
 - (d) any amendment is first approved by the Trustee; and

- (e) any amendment is made by resolution passed by a simple majority of the members present and voting at a general meeting.
- (2) A copy of any resolution amending these Rules shall be sent to the Commission and any other relevant regulator within 21 days of it being passed.

13. Notices

- (1) Any notice required by these Rules to be given to or by any person must be:
 - (a) in writing; or
 - (b) given using electronic communications.
- (2) The Trustee may give any notice to a member either:
 - (a) personally;
 - (b) by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his or her address;
 - (c) by leaving it at the address of the member; or
 - (d) by using electronic communications to the member's address.
- (3) A member who does not register an address with Cats Protection or who registers only a postal address that is not within the United Kingdom shall not be entitled to receive any notice from Cats Protection.
- (4) A member present in person at any meeting of Cats Protection shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and of the purposes for which it was called.
- (5)
 - (a) Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given.
 - (b) Proof that a notice contained in an electronic communication was sent in accordance with guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given.
 - (c) A notice shall be deemed to be given 48 hours after the envelope containing it was posted or, in the case of any electronic communication, 48 hours after it was sent.

14. Regulations

- (1) In addition to regulations referred to elsewhere in these Rules, the Trustee may from time to time make regulations for the conduct of its business.
- (2) The regulations may regulate the following matters but are not restricted to them:

- (a) the conduct of members of Cats Protection in relation to one another, and to Cats Protection's employees and volunteers;
 - (b) the setting aside of the whole or any part or parts of Cats Protection's premises at any particular time or times or for any particular purpose or purposes;
 - (c) the keeping and authenticating of records. (If regulations made under this clause permit records of Cats Protection to be kept in electronic form and require the Trustee to sign the records, the regulations must specify a method of recording the signature that enables it to be properly authenticated); and
 - (d) generally, all such matters as are commonly the subject matter of the regulations of an unincorporated association.
- (3) The Trustee will adopt such means as it thinks sufficient to bring any relevant regulations to the notice of members of Cats Protection.

15. **Branches and Volunteers**

The Trustee shall have power to establish Branches for the furtherance of the Objects. Each branch so established and volunteers in general shall comply with, and be subject to:

- (a) the following regulations contained in these Rules; and
- (b) such other regulations and bye laws in respect of Branches and volunteers as may be prescribed by the Trustee from time to time. Any such regulations and bye laws may prescribe the composition and role of branch committees, the roles of branch officers and such other matters and procedures in respect of Branches and volunteers as the Trustee sees fit.

Subject to these regulations and bye laws each branch may generally manage its own affairs.

15.1 **Objects and Policies**

Branches and volunteers shall act in accordance with the Objects and the policies prescribed by the Trustee from time to time

15.2 **Branch Committees and Branch Officers**

Branches shall be led by a committee normally consisting of the following branch officers:

- (i) a coordinator;
- (ii) a secretary;
- (iii) a treasurer; and
- (iv) such other branch officers as the Committee shall decide.

All the members of a branch committee must be members of Cats Protection.

15.3 Annual Declaration

Branches will be deemed to have adopted by laws and regulations prescribed from time to time in respect of Branches. All members of the branch committee will be required to sign an annual declaration confirming that they have read these Rules and the by laws and have understood them and agreed to be bound by them.

15.4 Accounts and Records

Branches will ensure that accounting and other records are kept in such form as the Trustee shall from time to time prescribe and that they are, if so required, audited and made available for inspection in such manner, at such place and at such time as directed by the Trustee.

15.5 Entering into Contracts and Credit

Branches and volunteers cannot enter into contracts on behalf of, or in the name of, the Trustee or Cats Protection unless express delegated authority to do so has been provided by the Trustee and Branches shall not pledge the credit of Cats Protection or of the Trustee;

15.6 Bank and Building Society Accounts

Branches and volunteers may not in any circumstances open or conduct a bank or building society or similar account without the prior written consent of the Trustee and such accounts must comply with any by laws and regulations laid down from time to time by the Trustee.

15.7 Litigation

Branches and volunteers shall not commence or defend any litigation on behalf of, or in the name of, the Trustee or Cats Protection.

15.8 Branch Members and Branch Subscriptions

Subject to Clause 15.9 below, Branches may recruit their own branch members who, unless they are branch committee members, do not have to be Cats Protection members.

Branches may levy an annual subscription of a sum as fixed from time to time by the branch committee.

Branch members shall not be entitled to vote at any annual or special general meeting of Cats Protection unless they are also Cats Protection members with voting rights.

15.9 The Trustee's Right to Approve or Terminate Branch Membership

The Trustee shall have the right for good and sufficient reason:

15.9.1 To approve or reject applications to be branch officers; and

15.9.2 To terminate the office of any branch officer;

15.9.3 To approve or reject applications for branch membership; and

15.9.4 To terminate the membership of any branch member.

Anyone who has been:

- (i) rejected as a branch officer; or
- (ii) had their office as a branch officer terminated; or
- (iii) been rejected as a branch member; or
- (iv) had their branch membership terminated

may appeal against the decision by submitting written representations to the Chief Executive within 7 clear days of the decision.

The Trustee will consider any such written representations and will notify the individual concerned in writing of its decision in respect of the appeal.

15.10 The Trustee's Right to Dissolve any Branch

The Trustee shall have the right for good and sufficient reason to dissolve any branch.

Any branch which has been dissolved by the Trustee may appeal against the decision by submitting written representations to the Chief Executive within 7 clear days of the decision.

The Trustee will consider any such written representations and will notify the branch concerned in writing of its decision in respect of the appeal.