Happy landlords, happy tenants, happy cats

Cats make wonderful pets and everyone should have the chance to enjoy the companionship, fun and love they bring to a household.

You can help your tenants feel more at home in your properties by becoming a landlord with a responsible and reasonable pet policy that allows cats.



PHOTO: ISTOCK.COM/LINDA RAYMOND

## Support

We're here to help. For more tips and advice on being a purrfect landlord, visit www.cats.org.uk/purrfectlandlords

## Already a purrfect landlord? Help your tenant find their purrfect pet

Cats Protection has cats available for rehoming to all sorts of homes, including those that need to be indoor-only. All cats in our care have been vet checked, microchipped, vaccinated, treated for parasites and neutered, if old enough.

Find cats for rehoming at www.cats.org.uk/find-a-cat





Reg Charity 203644 (England and Wales) SC037711 (Scotland)

**Reference** <sup>1</sup> The Status of Cat Ownership in the UK Rental Market, YouGov, March 2018

# PurrFect Landlords

www.cats.org.uk/ purrfectlandlords

A guide for social housing providers: pet policies to encourage responsible cat ownership



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IF landlords are proactive in making sure that tenants are only allowed a certain number of cats and that the are all neutered, it saves the landlord time and money, safeguards the welfare of the cats and helps ensure tenants are getting the most out of their Furry Friends

SuiLi Weight, Cats Protection Community Neutering Officer, London

#### Being a cat-friendly landlord

Many social housing providers are happy to allow tenants to own cats and recognise the many positive benefits of cat ownership.

However, not all have conditions in place to ensure that cats are well looked-after and do not cause issues for the landlord, tenant or the local community.

Having a responsible and reasonable pet policy will help avoid issues such as excessive cat breeding and also lead to healthier, happier cats.

## What should a pet policy include?

Your tenancy agreements should include a few simple conditions on cat ownership. This will help ensure that more tenants can enjoy the benefits of cat ownership, while protecting the welfare and wellbeing of the cats.

The policy should include requirements for cats to be:
neutered: All cats should be neutered from around four months old

- vaccinated and regularly treated for parasites: Cats should be kept up to date with vaccinations to protect them against common diseases and illnesses. Cats should also be regularly treated for parasites such as fleas
- microchipped: All cats should be microchipped, so they can quickly be identified and reunited with their owners should they become lost or injured

85% of social landlords recognise the mental health benefits to tenants of owning a cat<sup>1</sup>





### How Cats Protection can help you and your tenants

Cats Protection runs the largest cat neutering programme in the world and offers financial help towards the cost of neutering for cat owners on low income across the UK.

In addition, our Community Neutering Outreach scheme has been designed to work with communities, landlords and other organisations to help in areas where there are large numbers of unneutered cats.

To find out how we can help, contact our National Information Line on **03000 12 12 12**.

#### What properties are suitable for cats?

In most cases, there is a cat suitable for any property, including flats and properties without a garden. Some cats are suited to living indoors, perhaps due to a disability such as being blind or deaf, or an illness that makes them vulnerable to picking up infections outside. Charities such as Cats Protection can offer assistance to social housing providers and tenants to help match the right cat to the right home.