



**RSPCA Manchester  
& Salford Branch**

Registered Charity No. 232255



## Thinking of adopting a rat from us?

Have a read of our adoption requirements below!

### Essential Criteria

- Minimum size accommodation** for one or two rats is 70 x 48 x 78cm, however, the bigger the better so they can climb and explore. The flooring/shelving that they walk on must be solid (i.e. not mesh) and there must be plenty of enrichment in their cage, e.g. hammocks, climbing ropes/ladders, houses/huts and opportunities to forage for food.
- We do not rehome any animals as children's pets.** An adult over 18 years old must be fully responsible for the animal's care.
- We rehome rats to live in suitable pairs or groups where appropriate.**
- It is good practice that **all animals in the adopter's home are neutered & fully vaccinated** (where applicable).  
*Please contact us if you are unsure on 0161 882 0680 and select option 4.*

### About Our Rats

- Our rat adoption fee is £10 per each.** This cost includes a pre-adoption veterinary consultation with an exotics vet specialist.
- If you wish to view a rat please contact us via telephone 0161 882 0680 and select option 4.** Rats are kept in foster homes so it is essential we speak to you before referring you to meet the rats.
- Please only approach us when you are completely ready to adopt.** We cannot 'hold' animals for long periods.
- You can place a reserve on an animal once you have met them** but please note that animals can only be reserved for 1 week after the meeting has taken place.
- Once you have found your chosen animal please contact us to arrange the home visit.**

### Home visit

- We aim to do home visits within one week of a reservation being placed. *If you are privately renting please make sure you have written permission from your landlord to keep a pet in the property.*

#### **At the home visit we are looking to see that:**

- You have a good understanding about the financial implications and commitment involved in adopting your chosen animal. *Rats will need handling daily, plenty of human contact and careful monitoring of their diet.*
- That a rat will be able to express their natural behaviour in the accommodation you have for them and that you will provide suitable substrate and bedding material for them.
- That you understand the dietary needs of a rat and the need for them to see a specialist vet if they fall ill.
- Our visitors will endeavor to answer any questions you may have so please make a list!

### After the Home Visit

- The outcome of the home visit will be shared with you within 24 hours.** If the home visit is successful we expect you to collect your rat within 7 days.
- Make sure you have all your supplies ready before collecting your rat.**
- Please bring along with you a suitable carrier and your adoption fee.** It sounds obvious but so many people do forget!

### Our promise to you

- We are here for you for the life of your animal—if you have any questions please get in touch.
- Your home visitor will contact you 4-6 weeks after the adoption to find out how you are all getting on.
- If for any reason in the future you cannot keep your cat they *must* be returned to the branch (this forms part of your adoption contract with us). Please bear in mind that we will usually need a few days warning to arrange space.

[www.rspca-manchesterandsalford.org.uk](http://www.rspca-manchesterandsalford.org.uk)