
1 Introduction

- 1.1 In recognition of the response by Fire and Rescue Services to incidents involving trapped animals, and an increasing expectation from the public and other agencies that the Fire and Rescue Service will respond to such incidents, the CFOA National Animal Rescue Practitioners Forum was established in 2008.

2 Aims and decision making powers of the forum

- 2.1 Develop national standards for animal rescue training and techniques.
- 2.2 Identify and establish accreditation for animal rescue training.
- 2.3 Identify and share best practice in relation to animal rescue Incidents.
- 2.4 Develop an effective marketing and communications strategy to support the activities of the forum.
- 2.5 To offer advice and support to Fire and Rescue Services and other organisations regarding animal rescue.
- 2.6 The forum will commission and co-ordinate work packages to develop policies and procedures. Where necessary proposals/documents will be submitted to the CFOA National Operational Response Group on behalf of the forum.

3 Procedures/practices

- 3.1 As currently determined within individual Fire and Rescue Services.

4 Supporting documentation/support/relationship to other procedures etc

- 4.1 CFOA Operational Response Medium Term Plan (July 2008).
- 4.2 Fire and Rescue Service Act 2004 – Section 11 (2) (a) (b).

5 Forum membership

- 5.1 The forum will be chaired by Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service.
- 5.2 Membership of the forum is open to all Fire and Rescue Services.
- 5.3 British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA).
- 5.4 Royal Society Prevention Cruelty Animals (RSPCA).
- 5.5 Representatives from other organisations will be invited to attend as appropriate.

6 Support/note taking

- 6.1 This will be provided by Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service.

7 Action/timescales

- 7.1 Meetings will be planned quarterly.
- 7.2 The venues for meetings will be agreed by the forum.

