



Registered Charity No. 1152194  
Charity registered in Scotland. No. SC033910

## 16. PETS AS THERAPY WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

### **BENEFITS OF THE SERVICE**

Throughout the UK over 130,000 people benefit every week from the services provided by Pets As Therapy in hospitals, hospices, residential homes, day care centres, special needs schools amongst others. Pets As Therapy offers this service to people of all ages and our service is entirely free to all establishments visited.

At present over 4,200 volunteers are active throughout the UK with further requests for our service growing all the time. There are over 7,000 establishments currently receiving visits, with several hundred more on the waiting list.

### **COSTS OF THE SERVICE**

#### **VOLUNTEER COSTS**

The average cost to the charity per volunteer is £75 per year, of which £19 is generously met by subscription from the volunteers themselves, leaving a shortfall of £56 per volunteer per year, costs which must be met by the Charity.

#### **INSURANCE**

Pets As Therapy carry public liability insurance with an indemnity limit of £5,000,000, which the Charity has to pay for.

#### **STAFF**

The Charity has a very small complement of staff - the whole charity is managed by only 4 full-time and 4-part time workers; this is unlike many other charities which normally employ many more staff. Our staff (all on very modest salaries), provide help and advice to the volunteer force, encourage new volunteer recruitment and develop the value and effectiveness of the Charity's service.

#### **RUNNING COSTS**

We must also take into account the cost of paper, envelopes, printing, legal costs, accountancy, assessment and other training courses, postage, telephone, newsletters and many other items. For example, to send out just 1 sheet of paper to all of our volunteers would cost the Charity £965.

We hope this gives you some insight into the funding of the Pets As Therapy Charity and we are dedicated to providing the best possible service and support to both volunteers and visited establishments as well as the most cost-effective service for the Charity.

The Charity's latest accounts are readily available to anyone who wishes to view them and can be obtained from the Charity Commission's website [www.charity-commission.gov.uk](http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk)