

## PANEL OF SPEAKERS

Confirmed speakers for the *Pets in Housing 2018* conference include:



### TARYN GRAHAM

*PhD Candidate in Population and Public Health at the University of Calgary, Canada*  
Research on the effects of pets in housing restrictions on young adults



### DEBBIE ROOK

*Senior lecturer in law, University of Northumbria*  
An overview of international pets in housing legislation



### SANDRA MCCUNE

*Scientific Leader for Human-Animal Interaction, WALTHAM Centre for Pet Nutrition*  
The health and social benefits of the human-animal bond



### CLARE KIVLEHAN

*Dogs Trust*  
Scale of problems facing animal shelters from pets surrendered due to housing policies, an overview of the Lets with Pets programme



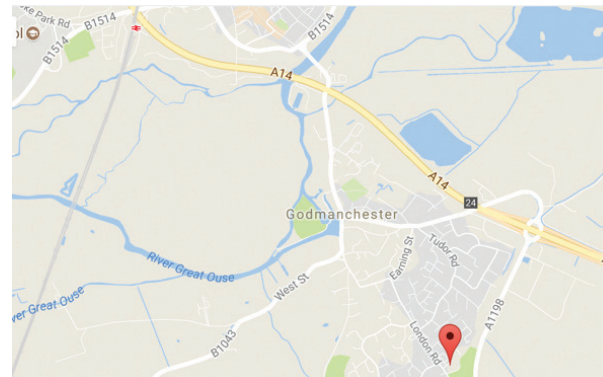
### JADE STATT

*Vet and founder of StreetVet*  
Her work with charity StreetVet, offering free veterinary treatment to the homeless and their dogs on the streets of London and other cities

[www.scas.org.uk](http://www.scas.org.uk)

## TRAVEL DETAILS

Further details can be found on the College of Animal Welfare website <http://www.caw.ac.uk/about-us/centres/huntingdon/>



### RAIL

The closest station is Huntingdon, which is a few minutes by car/taxi. It is on the main line from London King's Cross and Peterborough.



### ROAD

The College of Animal Welfare has excellent main road access being only half a mile from the A14, a few miles from the A1 and just a few minutes away from Huntingdon town centre.



### CONTACT DETAILS

For further information about the conference or to book a place, visit the website [www.scas.org.uk](http://www.scas.org.uk). To get in touch please email [info@scas.org.uk](mailto:info@scas.org.uk)

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## PETS IN HOUSING 2018: PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLBEING PROGRAMME



HEAR THE EVIDENCE,  
DEBATE THE ISSUES,  
TAKE ACTION ON THE  
OUTCOMES!

IT'S TIME TO  
PROMOTE POSITIVE  
PET POLICIES IN  
HOUSING

## CONFERENCE 2018

**MARCH 17, 2018**

College of Animal Welfare, Headland House, London Road,  
Godmanchester, Huntingdon PE29 2BQ



## WHY PETS AND HOUSING?

The UK's housing crisis is at the forefront of discussions involving every sector of society. Allowing pets in housing has documented benefits and SCAS's Pets in housing 2018 conference will discuss the evidence for how pets promote health and wellbeing to help drive positive change in attitude and legislation to ensure pet owners are not turned away from private or social housing.

Among other things, this will help stop the negative cycle that develops when a person is forced to choose between giving up their pet or obtaining or keeping accommodation. The power of the human-animal bond may be underestimated or ignored and, faced with giving up a pet, an owner will often choose to keep the pet and thus 'select' a life on the street when they are evicted. The negative cycle continues, so when the pet owner applies for a new place to live, they are told they must give up the pet to be accepted. And so it continues.

## STATISTICS

Pet ownership is documented to have positive and far-reaching impacts throughout society, and these are not just limited to improved physical and mental health. Here are some further examples of the positives of owning a pet.

- Pet ownership in the UK is estimated to reduce use of NHS to the value of £2.45bn/year through reduced visits to the doctor
- Decrease in use of prescription drugs – eg, blood pressure medication and antidepressants leading to further savings in healthcare
- Having pets in the home is linked to enhanced immune function in children, reduction in respiratory infections, lower incidence of allergies, fewer ear infections and gastroenteritis
- Pet ownership can reduce instances of loneliness, help ease bereavement, facilitate social communication and create social capital
- 'Reading to dogs' programmes improve children's motivation and interest in reading – estimated that poor literacy skills cost the UK over £2bn a year

*From: The Economic Impact of Companion Animals in the UK by Sophie Hall, Luke Dolling, Katie Bristow, Ted Fuller and Daniel S Mills (2017)*

## PROVISIONAL AGENDA

9.00	Registration and coffee
9.30 – 10.00	Opening address
10.00 – 10.45	Presentations
10.45 – 11.00	Coffee
11.00 – 12.30	Presentations
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch + SCAS AGM + networking
14.00 – 15.30	Presentations
15.30 – 15.45	Coffee
15.45 – 17.00	Workshop on 'taking action' and closing remarks
17.00	Close

## JOIN US

For this one-day conference as we hear about research from leading authorities into how the human-animal bond promotes health and wellbeing and discuss this in relation to housing issues. We will explore, debate and capture actions to help focus attention and drive solutions to ensure pet owners are not forced into making an impossible decision: choosing a pet or choosing accommodation.

We encourage anyone involved in housing to join us to hear about pet owner committees and how they manage pet owner issues in housing, perspectives from initiatives overseas and how pets create safer, friendlier communities.

## CONFERENCE AIMS

The aims of the Pets in housing 2018 conference include the following.

1. To raise awareness of how a 'positive pet policy' promotes health and wellbeing.
2. To highlight the consequence of not allowing pets into housing.
3. To help landlords, housing associations, local authorities, care home owners, politicians and other stakeholders better understand the human-animal bond and its benefits throughout society.
4. To push for legislative change to allow pets in housing across all sectors. To make the evidence available to Government, MPs and others and encourage them to promote the reasons why pets should be allowed in housing, supported by SCAS.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- SCAS members
- Landlords, tenants' associations, housing trusts, those involved in housing
- Social workers
- MPs and Government representatives
- Psychiatrists and psychologists
- NICE representatives, NHS staff, mental health workers
- Vets, veterinary nurses, animal welfare organisations
- Care home organisations, housing charities, Age Concern, other stakeholders
- Press

The conference is **FREE** for SCAS members and **£50** for non-members, including refreshments and buffet lunch. Visit [thewebsite](http://thewebsite) for details and to book your place [www.scas.org.uk](http://www.scas.org.uk)

