



## **Is your dog old or does it have a medical condition?**

As dog owners and dog lovers many of us already know the grief and pain that comes with the passing of our beloved dog. None of us want to think about this but by planning for the worst we can face it a little better when it comes. If your pet has been unwell or is very old and naturally approaching the end of their life, it is good to have a plan in case the worst should happen.

If your dog is old or has a medical condition, you must disclose this on the Booking Register so that I am fully informed and can make sure that your dog gets the care and attention that it needs. I will create a daily routine which is appropriate for your dog's age and health so the more information that you give me the better prepared I will be.

### ***Your questions answered.***

#### **What happens to your dog should it fall ill while you are away?**

I have my Canine First Aid certificate, but I will contact my vet if I think that treatment is required for your dog (Donald S McGregor & Partners Ltd in Thurso). If this is necessary, the dog will remain with them under specialist care and I will contact you to enable you to talk directly to the vet about your dog's condition and treatment.

#### **What happens to your dog should it pass on while you are away?**

The Hirsell is a small facility without cold storage so your dog will be taken to the vet who will deal with it according to your wishes. The SRUC Lab will only carry out an autopsy at your request. This must be arranged with the vet. If you have other wishes, for example you want to collect your dog to be laid to rest at a place of your choice, you must tell the vet.

### ***Essential Information***

- I need your contact details to reach you when you are away or the name and contact details of a friend or relative who can take responsibility on your behalf.
- Bodies cannot be stored at The Hirsell so the dog will be taken to the vet as soon as possible. You must communicate directly with them regarding your wishes. If you do not want to be notified while you are away you must tell me your wishes so I can tell the vet.

### ***Finally***

Nothing makes a bad situation worse than not having a plan. When we are upset and under pressure we can make decisions that we may regret later. Help yourself and your dog by deciding on your wishes for what you want to happen when the times comes.



If your pet has been unwell or is very old and naturally approaching the end of their life, it is good to have a plan in case the worst should happen.

Have you thought about this? What are your wishes?

I need your contact details to reach you when you are away or the name and contact details of a friend or relative who can take responsibility on your behalf.

- If you or your representative are **not sure what is best to do** if your dog becomes ill, I will use my experience and judgement to decide.
- In the event of **not being able to reach you or your representative** I will use my experience and judgement to decide what to do if your dog becomes ill.
- If I feel that your dog is in **urgent need of specialist vet care** I will get them to the vet as soon as possible without wasting time on the phone. From there I will contact you so that you can discuss your dog's condition and treatment directly with the vet.

If the worst happens, I cannot keep bodies on the premises so I will take your dog to the vet as soon as possible. From this point on you must communicate directly with them.

The main options the vet offers are:

- Return the dog to you or your representative so that you can take it to the resting place of your choice. [The vet may store your dog for a short time]
- Send the dog to Orkney for an individual cremation (you get the ashes back). See [www.obackpetcremations.co.uk/](http://www.obackpetcremations.co.uk/) for full details. The vet can sign the paperwork on your behalf if you have told them your wishes.
- Send the dog to Janetstown for a communal cremation (no ashes)

If you **do not wish to be notified while you are away** you must let me know your wishes so I can tell the vet or, if you have discussed your wishes with the vet, please let me know.

**The Hirsels' veterinary practice is:**

DS McGregor & Partners Veterinary Surgeons  
Veterinary Surgery,  
Janet St,  
Thurso KW14 7EG  
Tel: 01847 892387

- ☐ I wish to be notified
- ☐ I do not wish to be notified
- ☐ I have discussed my wishes with my vet
- ☐ I have not discussed my wishes with my vet

Name and emergency contact details of the friend of relative who you wish to deal with this while you are away:

SIGNED:

DATE:

Notes: