

Kennel Assistant Volunteer Role Description

Job Title	Kennel Assistant Volunteer
Location:	ISPCA Longford/Mallow/Donegal
Department:	Animal Care
Reports to:	ISPCA Centre Manager/Volunteer Coordinator
Time Commitment:	Flexible, shifts are a minimum of four hours

The overall purpose of the role

The Kennel Assistant Volunteer plays a huge role in the day-to-day care of rescued dogs and puppies at the Centre. Most animals the ISPCA rescues have been cruelly treated, and may have had little to no contact with people or other animals. The Kennel Assistant Volunteer helps provide a comfortable and safe environment for the dogs and puppies during their rehabilitation at the ISPCA. The ISPCA can have in excess of 50 dogs/puppies on site at our National Animal Centre.

Principal Responsibilities

- Feeding all dogs and puppies, cleaning and replacing all water bowls.
- Deep cleaning and disinfecting all kennels and compound areas.
- Replacing and washing/disinfecting all dog and puppy bedding/toys.
- Monitoring animal feed and reporting any signs of illness or unusual behaviour.
- Walking the dogs, lead training and socialising with other animals.
- Assisting the Care Assistants with medications/veterinary assessments and treatments.
- Washing and grooming dogs upon arrival where their coats are neglected.
- Spending extra time with newly arrived dogs who may be nervous, helping build their confidence and trust.
- The Kennel Assistant Volunteer role is working both indoors and outdoors in all weather conditions.

Skill levels required

Experience working with animals particularly dogs/puppies in similar capacity or in veterinary practice an advantage. Physical efforts/training is required for bending, stooping and lifting. Knowledge of zoonosis, dog behaviour, medical and treatment protocols ideal. Excellent interpersonal skills and desire to work with animals and people required. Experience handling animals is an advantage, but not essential as we provide full training.

Benefits of Volunteering

There is huge satisfaction to be gained helping to rehabilitate Ireland's most cruelly treated and neglected dogs and puppies. You will be involved in helping them ready to go to new, loving homes where they will be loved and cared for, for the rest of their lives. You will also be meeting like-minded animal lovers and gaining valuable experience working in an animal welfare environment.

Volunteer Procedure

A copy of the volunteer procedure is available upon request from the ISPCA Volunteer Coordinator. All volunteers must be over 16 years of age for insurance purposes. No expenses are available. Exercise judgement and follow Health and Safety procedures as set out by ISPCA Management.

Time commitment

Due to the nature of the role, shifts are required to be a minimum of four hours based on a rostered system.