



SHROPSHIRE

Fire and Rescue Service

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**BRIGADE ORDER
TECHNICAL
NO. 13**

PART 7

ANIMAL HALTER

PART 7 – ANIMAL HALTER

PURPOSE

The animal halter is provided for instances where an animal needs to be controlled during rescue operations.

STRATEGIC AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Strategic Aim 3 “Secure the highest level of safety and welfare for all staff by providing effective supervision, training, equipment and systems of work.”

Corporate Objective 6 “Maintain and improve the health, safety and welfare of all employees”.

ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND REVIEW

The **Risk and Safety Manager** is responsible for ensuring this Order is implemented across the Brigade.

Watch Commanders and Officers in Charge will be responsible for the day to day operation of the Order.

The **Operational Equipment Officer** will review this order annually in *January* and as and when organisational changes take place.

DESCRIPTION

The animal halter consists of a length of cotton rope, two metres in length. At one end a spliced eye is formed, and at 400 mm from that eye, a 50 mm metal ring is spliced into the halter.

ISSUE

Animal halters are issued to all Rescue Pumps and the Rescue Tender.

USE

Feed the running end through the eye splice and use the loop so formed to place over the animals muzzle. Once the halter is around the muzzle, take the running end over the head and behind the ears and feed through the metal ring. The halter is now secure around the animals head and can be used to restrain or lead the animal, as necessary. Keeping an animals head down can often have a calming effect.

SAFETY

When trapped or in pain animals are liable to react without warning and can cause serious injury to anyone in the vicinity. Firefighters should always be vigilant and ensure that they can move to a safe area, and not be trapped between a solid structure and the animal, should it become agitated. Remember, some animals may bite and cause injury with their hooves and horns.

STANDARD TESTS

The halter should be visually inspected after use and washed with soap and water if soiled. It should be allowed to dry naturally. Animal halters should not be used for any other purpose. Damaged halters should be returned to Stores for repair or replacement.