The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Mary Coughlan TD, today announced an increase of almost 25% in the overall level of funding being provided to organisations involved in the provision of animal care and welfare services throughout the country. Minister Coughlan also confirmed that the number of such organisations being supported by her Department was being increased by thirteen to 107, representing every county in the country.

Minister Coughlan announced that payments totalling some EUR1.46 million will be paid immediately to the 107 organisations to assist in their work in 2008 and brings the total amount of assistance provided by her Department to animal welfare organisations since 1995 to more than EUR8.65 million.

The Minister paid tribute to the animal welfare organisations and the thousands of voluntary workers throughout the country and said that “these bodies do tremendous work in rescuing, rehabilitating and providing new homes to neglected and abused animals.” The Minister said that, while the grants being announced today do not cover the full costs of the increasing demands being placed upon these organisations, “the substantial increase in the level of funding was in recognition of the vital role played by such organisations in animal welfare, particularly in respect of small animals” and acknowledged that “animal welfare organisations still require the ongoing generous financial support of the general public to enable them to fulfil their mission to promote animal welfare and relieve animal suffering in Ireland.”

The Minister said that the increase in funding for animal welfare organisations was evidence of the Government's commitment in the area of animal welfare. She added that significant progress was being made in her Department in drafting a new Animal Health and Welfare Bill which would deliver on the commitments in the Programme for Government, including making provision for the proper protection of the welfare of animals and a significant increase in the penalties for offenders as well as the consolidation of responsibility for the welfare of all animals within her Department.

Minister Coughlan said that, given her new fisheries' responsibilities, she was particularly pleased that among the first-time recipients of funding is the Irish Seal Sanctuary which has, for many years, been providing welfare support for rescued marine wildlife found in difficulty around the Irish coast.

In conclusion, the Minister repeated the old adage that "a pet is for life, not just for Christmas." Minister Coughlan appealed to parents and others to think responsibly when considering giving a pet as a Christmas present and reminded people of the numbers of animals that are abandoned every year as soon as the Christmas novelty has worn off. The Minister urged people to heed the warnings and advice offered by the animal welfare organisations in this regard.
GRANT ALLOCATIONS TO ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANISATIONS

Ability Dogs, Co Cork   3,000

*Ability Dogs Limited/Colleens K9*
*Cloghroe Blarney Co. Cork*

Animal Help Net Kerry   3,000

Animals In Need, Co Donegal   10,000

Animal Rescue Skibbereen, Co Cork   5,000

Animal Trust Fund, Co Sligo   5,000

ASH Animal Sanctuary, Wicklow   15,000
*http://www.ashanimalrescue.com/*

Audrey Quinn, Edenderry, Co Offaly   3,000

Avalon Greyhound Sanctuary, Woodford, Co Galway 10,000
*http://www.amerigreyhoundalliance.org/avalon.html*

Bilberry Goat Heritage Trust, Waterford 3,000

Breda & Geraldine Carolan, Kells, Co Meath   3,000

Carlow SPCA   15,000
*http://www.ispca.ie/members/carlow.html*

Cats Aid, Dublin   15,000
*http://www.catsaid.org/*

Cavan SPCA   15,000
*http://www.ispca.ie/members/cavan.html*

Clare Animal Welfare, Ennis   15,000
*http://www.clareanimalwelfare.net/*

Clare SPCA, Clonoghan.   10,000
*http://www.ispca.ie/members/clare.html*

Clifden Animal Rescue, Co Galway   3,000

Clondalkin Animal Aid, Dublin   10,000
*Tel: 4594018 / 4592514*
*Email: clondaa@hotmail.com*
Collon Animal Sanctuary, Louth  20,000
Ivy Cottage, Drogheda Road, Collon, Co.Louth.
Tel: 041 26749

Cork Animal Care Society  20,000
http://www.animalcaresociety.ie/

Cork Cat Action Group  10,000

Cork Dog Action Welfare Group (DAWG)  3,000
http://www.dogactionwelfaregroup.ie/

Cork SPCA  25,000
http://www.cspca.ie/

Cottage Rescue, Co Tipperary  5,000
http://www.cottagerescue.ie/

Cry for Help Cattery, Co Westmeath  5,000
http://www.therightdog.org/awolinks.htm

Dog Rescue Ireland, Dublin  15,000
http://www.irishanimals.ie/dogs/10.html

Dogs in Distress, Dunboyne, Co Meath  5,000
http://www.dogsindistress.org/

Dogs Aid Animal Sanctuary, Dublin  5,000
http://www.dogsaid.ie/

Donegal Pet Rescue  20,000
http://www.donegalpetrescue.com/

Drogheda Animal Rescue, Co Louth  20,000
http://www.dar.ie/

Dublin Animal Rescue Group  3,000
http://www.animalrescue.ie/

Dublin SPCA,  100,000
http://www.dspca.ie/

Dungarvan SPCA  15,000
*Dungarvan Rescue Kennels
Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.
Tel: 051 291106
Email: rescuekennelsdungarvan@iolfree.ie

East Galway Animal Rescue  3,000
http://www.egar.org/
Enniscorthy SPCA 15,000  
http://www.ispca.ie/members/wexford.html

Florence O'Connor, Kerry 3,000

Friends of Animal Rescue Centre, Westmeath 20,000  
http://www.friendsofanimalsmullingar.com/

http://www.friendsofanimalsmullingar.com/foa_2006_000013.htm

Galway SPCA 25,000  
http://www.glaltiger.com/gspca/

Glansilagh Animal Rescue, Co Cork 3,000
Sallybrook, Glanmire, Co. Cork

Hillview Animal Sanctuary, Cork 10,000
Copeen, Kilmichael, Co. Cork
Tel: 026 46376

Inistioge Puppy Rescue, Co Kilkenny 10,000  
http://www.inistiogepuppyrescue.com/

Irish All Pure Bred Rescue, Tipperary 5,000

Irish Horse Protection League, Wicklow 10,000
Aldave Manor, Kilbride, BLESSINGTON, County Wicklow
Ph: +353 1 582 460

Irish Horse Welfare Trust, Wicklow 20,000  
http://www.ihwt.ie/

Irish Raptor Research Centre, Sligo 10,000  
http://www.eaglesflying.com/

Irish Seal Sanctuary, Co Dublin 10,000  
http://www.irishsealsanctuary.ie/

ISPCA, Longford 100,000  
http://www.ispca.ie/members/longford.html

Joan's A.R.C., Glengevlin, Co Cavan 5,000

Kerry SPCA 20,000  
http://www.ispca.ie/members/kerry.html

Kerry Greyhound Connection, Beaufort, Co Kerry 5,000  
http://www.therightdog.org/awolinks.htm

Kildare and West Wicklow SPCA 15,000
Kilkenny SPCA  10,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/killkenny.html

Kilmeady Lodge Animal Sanctuary, Co Cork  5,000
http://www.therightdog.org/awolinks.htm

Laois SPCA  15,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/laois.html

Last Hope Animal Charity, Navan, Co Meath  5,000
http://www.lasthope.ie/

Leitrim Animal Welfare Trust  25,000
http://homepage.eircom.net/~leitrimanimals/

Leitrim SPCA  15,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/leitrim.html

Limerick Animal Welfare  20,000
http://www.limerickanimalwelfare.com/

Limerick SPCA  15,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/limericksPCA.html

Longford SPCA  20,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/longford.html

Louth SPCA  25,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/louth.html

MADRA, Co Galway  3,000

Mayo Animal Welfare, Westport  5,000
http://www.mayoanimalwelfare.org/

Mayo Cat Rescue 3,000
http://www.irishanimals.ie/cats/11.html

Mayo SPCA  10,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/mayo.html

Meath SPCA  20,000
http://www.irishanimals.com/spcas/22.html

Monaghan SPCA  25,000
http://www.irishanimals.ie/dogs/31.html

New Ross SPCA  15,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/wexford.html
North County Dublin SPCA 20,000  
http://www.ispca.ie/members/dubinfo.html

North West SPCA, Mayo  15,000  

North Wexford SPCA, Gorey  10,000  
http://www.nwspca.com/

Offaly SPCA  20,000  
http://www.irishanimals.com/spcas/24.html

PAWS Animal Rescue, Co Tipperary  25,000  
http://www.paws.ie/

Petwatch Co Ltd, Dublin 15,000  
132, RIALTO COTTAGES  
DOLPHINS BARN  
DUBLIN 8

Renvyle Animal Rescue Group, Co Galway  3,000

Roscommon SPCA  10,000  
http://www.ispca.ie/members/roscommon.html

Roscrea SPCA  15,000  
http://www.roscreaspca.com/

Sathya Sai Sanctuary Trust for Nature, Sligo  10,000  
http://www.donkeys.ie/

Safe Haven, Co Offaly  5,000

Second Chance Animal Rescue (SCAR) Co Clare  3,000  
http://www.secondchanceanimalrescue.net/

Sligo Dog Welfare Services  5,000

Sligo SPCA  20,000  
http://www.sspca.net/

South East Birds of Prey Centre, Co Wexford  3,000  
http://www.birds.ie/
St Francis Animal Sanctuary, Co Sligo  3,000  
Binnadden, Co. Sligo

St Francis Dispensary for Sick and Injured Animals, Dublin  10,000  
http://www.therightdog.org/awolinks.htm
The Athlone & West Midlands SPCA, CO Westmeath 15,000
http://www.aspca.ie/

The Cats Protection Association of Ireland, Dublin 20,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/cpa.html

The Daisy Fund, Kerry 10,000

The Donkey Sanctuary, Cork 50,000
http://www.thedonkeysanctuary.ie/

The Equus Foundation, Co Kildare 3,000

The Inner City Cat Rescue Group, Dublin 3,000

The Irish Blue Cross, Dublin 40,000
http://www.bluecross.ie/

The Sunset Appeal, Co Wexford 5,000
http://homepage.eircom.net/~sunsetappeal/index.htm

The Tigger Trust, Kerry 5,000
http://www.tiggertrust.com/

Tipperary Friends of Animals, Nenagh 15,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/tipperary.html

Tipperary SPCA 15,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/tipperary.html

Tralee Animal Welfare Group 10,000
http://www.therightdog.org/awolinks.htm

Traveller Animal Welfare Help & Advice, Co Wicklow 3,000

Tryfanberg Animal Rescue, Westport, Co Mayo 3,000

Waterford SPCA 20,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/waterford.html

West Cork Animal Welfare Group 20,000
http://www.westcorkanimals.com/

Westmeath SPCA 10,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/westmeath.html

Westown Animal Shelter, Kildare 10,000
http://www.therightdog.org/awolinks.htm

Wexford SPCA 25,000
http://www.ispca.ie/members/wexford.html

Wexford Pet Helpers, Enniscorthy 3,000
Whiskers New Park Animal Sanctuary, Co Galway  15,000
http://www.whiskersnewpark.org/

Wicklow SPCA  25,000
http://www.irishanimals.com/spcas/32.html

Wildlife Rescue, Co Cork  3,000

TOTAL  1,459,000


Other Websites That You May Find Useful

Animal Rights Action Network
http://www.aran.ie/

Alliance for Animal Rights
http://www.afarireland.org/index.html

Irish Animals.ie
http://www.irishanimals.com/all.html

Irish Animal Welfare Association

ISPCA