

Direct Debit Terms and Conditions For [Insert Name of Veterinary Practice]

Terms & Conditions

Welcome to [The Pet Healthcare Subscription Plan] from your Veterinary Practice. The information noted below makes up the terms and conditions of the Contract between You and Your Veterinary Practice. It is recommended that at the outset of Your Subscription, You carefully read through these terms and conditions and all of the additional documents that form the Contract. Please keep these terms and conditions in a safe place so that you may refer back to them at a later date.

This Contract is between You and Your Veterinary Practice. Your payment plan is administered by Merlin Simple Payment Solutions Ltd for and on behalf of Your Veterinary Practice (this includes collecting fees from you and passing those fees to Your Veterinary Practice on a monthly basis).

1. Definitions and Terms

The terms shall have the following meanings:

- **Application Form** is the document that is completed by You or Your Veterinary Practice at the start of the Subscription which sets out the Subscription category and Monthly Subscription Fee.
 - **Contract** means the Plan agreed between You and Your Veterinary Practice which comprises these terms and conditions; Your Application Form and Your Veterinary Practice's promotional and advertising material.
 - **Healthcare Plan** means [The Pet Healthcare Subscription Plan] provided by Your Veterinary Practice
 - **Merlin SPS** means Merlin Simple Payment Solutions Ltd, a company registered in Scotland (Company number SC697206) and having its registered office at Q Court, 3 Quality Street, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, EH4 5BP.
 - **Monthly Subscription Fee** is the monthly amount charged by Your Veterinary Practice to cover the cost of the treatment(s) and/or services provided to Your Pet under the terms of this Contract.
 - **Subscription** means the Healthcare Plan provided to You by Your Veterinary Practice for the purpose of maintaining Your Pet's health.
 - **You/Your** is a reference to you, the holder of the Subscription who is named on the Application Form.
 - **Your Pet** means the animal named on the Application Form as beneficiary of the Subscription.
 - **Your Veterinary Practice** means the veterinary practice named on the Application Form.
2. **Treatment that Your Pet is Entitled to:** The Contract entitles Your Pet to receive the routine and preventative treatment required to maintain Your Pet's health as prescribed by Your Veterinary Practice. A full list of inclusions is available from Your Veterinary Practice. The cost and scope of goods and services provided under this contract are set by Your Veterinary Practice.
3. **Treatments that are not covered by this Contract:** This Contract only entitles Your Pet to the treatment required to monitor its health, as prescribed by Your Veterinary Practice. There is no insured benefit under the Contract. The Contract is not an insurance policy and it is not a substitution for pet insurance. This Contract does not:
- a. Unless specifically referenced in the Veterinary Practice's relevant promotional and advertising material, entitle Your Pet to the cost of any consultations that may

precede or succeed any treatment and/or clinical procedure or operation that is deemed clinically necessary by Your Veterinary Practice.

- b. Cover the treatment of other animals: The Contract is for Your Pet, who is named on the Application Form. It is not transferable between animals.
 - c. Cover treatment at another surgery or practice: Your Contract is between You and Your Veterinary Practice. Your Subscription cannot be transferred to another practice outside of Your Veterinary Practice's company group. Where You choose for Your Pet to have routine preventive treatment anywhere other than Your Veterinary Practice, Your Pet will not be covered by this Contract. If You wish to transfer Your Contract to another practice that is owned by Your Veterinary Practice, you may ask Your Veterinary Practice for details.
4. **Payment of Subscription Fees:** Your Monthly Subscription Fee will be determined with reference to Your Pet's species. Your Contract will continue from month to month until it is ended by either You or Your Veterinary Practice. [Your Monthly Subscription Fee will be deemed to be paid at the time it is received by Merlin SPS.](#) You must pay the Monthly Subscription Fee by Direct Debit in favour of Merlin [SPS](#) as collecting agent for Your Veterinary Practice. Any other amounts due to Your Veterinary Practice for treatments outwith Your Contract are payable directly to Your Veterinary Practice. Your liability to pay the monthly fee continues until the Contract is terminated in accordance with these terms and conditions (please see sections 8 and 9 below).
 5. **Alteration of Monthly Subscription Fee and Categories:** Your Veterinary Practice reserves the right to review the Monthly Subscription Fee and Healthcare Plan once a year and Your Monthly Subscription Fee may change as a result. Your Pet's Monthly Subscription Fee may also change as Your Pet reaches different age and weight thresholds, at Your Veterinary Practice's sole discretion. You will be given at least 28 days' notice of any change to the Monthly Subscription Fee and any notice sent to Your email address or last known postal address will be treated as adequate notice. If You do not accept the increase Monthly Subscription Fee, You will be entitled to terminate in terms of section 8 below. If You tell us You want to terminate during the 28 day notice period, You will not be charged the increased Monthly Subscription Fee.
 6. **Changes to Direct Debit:** Following a decrease in the Monthly Subscription Fee, Your Monthly Subscription Fee will be automatically changed at the next available collection date. Where You are given notice via email of an increase to Your Monthly Subscription Fee, Your Monthly Subscription Fee will be increased at the end of the 28 day notice period. If You need to change your bank details or Direct Debit collection date, you may contact Your Veterinary Practice 10 working days prior to the due date for collection and we will make the change. There is no fee attributable to this change. If, however, any of your Direct Debit payments are returned to Your Veterinary Practice unpaid, we will be entitled to charge an administration fee, as narrated section 10 below.
 7. **Your Responsibilities:** You are responsible for ensuring Your Pet attends Your Veterinary Practice regularly for health checks and that you comply with the advice and treatment Your Veterinary Practice prescribes. You are responsible for ensuring that Your Veterinary Practice is provided with up-to-date contact information for You, including postal address, email address and telephone number. You are also responsible for informing Your Veterinary Practice if Your Pet is lost or stolen or deceased.
 8. **Terminating the Contract on an anniversary:** You may cancel the Contract on an anniversary of joining the Pet Health Subscription Plan. To do so, you must give no less than 28 days' notice in writing to Your Veterinary Practice or to Merlin [SPS](#). The notice will only be effective if you

have paid Your Monthly Subscription Fee for the entirety of the notice period. In the event that you fail to pay the Monthly Subscription Fee for the entirety of the notice period, the Contract shall continue in full force and effect.

9. **Terminating the Contract on any other date:** If You cancel at any time other than on an anniversary of joining the Pet Health Subscription Plan, Your Veterinary Practice is entitled to charge You either the outstanding amount for treatment received, or the monthly payments due until the anniversary of Your Pet Health Subscription Plan, whichever is lower. Your Veterinary Practice may end Your Contract for any reason by giving You not less than 28 days' notice. Such notice will be deemed valid if sent to Your last known postal or email address. If, in the reasonable opinion of Your Veterinary Practice, they are not able to maintain Your Pet's health due to any act or omission on your part, Your Veterinary Practice may end the Contract with immediate effect. Your Veterinary Practice may also end this Contract if in its opinion You, and/or any person who brings Your Pet to Your Veterinary Practice in relation to Your Pet's care, are aggressive and/or abusive to any of Your Veterinary Practice's staff.
10. **Non-Payment:** If Your Veterinary Practice is unable to collect the Monthly Subscription Fee payment, Your Contract will be automatically suspended and you will not receive any benefits or services associated with the Healthcare Plan. In these circumstances Your Veterinary Practice will contact you to ascertain whether you wish for the payment request to be re-presented to Your bank. If you wish for the payment request to be represented, you must confirm this to Your Veterinary Practice within 21 days of the date of the failed payment and Merlin SPS will re-present the payment request to Your bank within 3-5 working days. In the event that Your Veterinary Practice is again unable to collect the Monthly Subscription Fee payment, Your Veterinary Practice reserves the right to charge a £10 administration fee for each failed payment. This administration charge will be added to your account. If either (a) as outlined above, You fail, within 21 days, to confirm to Your Veterinary Practice that they may re-present the payment request or (b) the second payment attempt is unsuccessful, Your Healthcare Plan will be cancelled automatically. If Your Healthcare Plan is cancelled automatically because of failed Direct Debits, You will be charged the full price of any products and services received during the course of Your Contract.
11. **Refunds:** No refund of fees will be allowed except in the case of administrative error or death of Your Pet or You. If Your Monthly Subscription Fee is refunded, in full or in part, by Merlin SPS, Your Monthly Subscription Fee will be treated as unpaid, and section 10 above may apply.
12. **Variation of These Terms and Conditions:** These terms and conditions may be varied on 28 days' written notice to You. The variation may be actioned by Your Veterinary Practice or by Merlin SPS on Your Veterinary Practice's behalf. Details of the variation will be sent to Your last known postal or email address. If You do not wish the Contract to continue in light of these changes, You have the right to cancel in terms of sections 8 or 9 of these terms and conditions. If you are cancelling because of variations to the terms and conditions, You will not be required to pay more than one final Monthly Subscription Fee. If you have not exercised your right to cancel within 28 days of receiving written notice of the changes to the Terms and Conditions, You will be deemed to have accepted the variations.
13. **Liabilities:** Merlin SPS collects Your Monthly Subscription Fees on behalf of Your Veterinary Practice. The Contract is not with Merlin SPS and Merlin SPS accepts no liability to You whether in respect of contract, negligence, defective or unsatisfactory treatment in connection with any service it administers on behalf of Your Veterinary Practice. This does not affect any right or remedy You may have against Your Veterinary Practice. Merlin SPS has no obligation to pay

Your Veterinary Practice any fees not received by Merlin SPS from You, or any monies owed to You by Your Veterinary Practice.

14. **Your Personal Data:** Merlin SPS & Your Veterinary Practice will hold and use Your personal data, as defined by UK data protection laws, for the purpose of administering Your Healthcare Plan. Your Veterinary Practice will only use your personal information as set out in its privacy policy, which can be found here: [insert details of privacy policy](#).

Your Veterinary Practice and Merlin SPS may record and monitor inbound and outbound telephone calls for training purposes. These calls may also be referred to in relation to any future queries. Your data will not be shared with other organisations for their marketing activities. We will only share your information if there is a legal requirement for us to do so. Both Your Veterinary Practice and Merlin SPS will take all reasonable precautions to ensure the security of your data. You have the right to see Your personal data. If you have any queries about the data we hold, or how we use it, please write to either Your Veterinary Practice or Merlin SPS.

15. **Complaints Procedure:** If you are unhappy with any aspect of Your Pet's care, should raise this with Your Veterinary Practice directly. Should You have a complaint about the administration of your payment plan, please contact the Merlin SPS at office@merlinsps.co.uk or 01259 235815.

16. **Governing Law and Jurisdiction:** this Contract is governed by and construed exclusively in accordance with the Law of Scotland. The parties consent to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of Scotland.

Last Reviewed April 2022