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## Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

### Liverpool Branch

Registered charity no. 232254  
Branch Secretary and Administrator: John Smallwood DMA ACIS FRSA  
Animal Centre Manager: Karen Falconer

13 March 2019

Dear Mr Harden,

I have been made aware of a number of media comments and social media speculation about the future of our site in Halewood. Specifically, it seems to have been suggested that the reason for the closure is related to the Council's wider plans for the East of Halewood site.

I just wanted to confirm, in writing, that this is absolutely not the case and that this is not a rumour we wish to perpetuate.

In fact, the Council has actually been incredibly supportive to our organisation whilst we experienced significant financial difficulties. The help and assistance your Officers has given has been crucial in allowing us to realise the value of our land in Halewood which we had initially hoped would have allowed us to relocate. Unfortunately as time has progressed and we have achieved greater clarity as to our own financial position the Trustees have rightly determined that this is no longer an option for us. Despite this, the sale of our site as part of the proposed East of Halewood development remains a priority for us as it will assist us in addressing our financial liabilities referenced above.

Of course it is with regret that we have taken the decision to close this facility but we are appreciative of your input to date and for your offer of ongoing support especially towards those staff that will be affected by our decision. Please feel free to share this letter with third parties if it helps to clarify the position locally.

Yours faithfully.

John Smallwood  
Secretary/Administrator

[www.rspca.org.uk](http://www.rspca.org.uk)

Patron HM The Queen

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