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| **Retail Assistant Job Description** |

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| **Job Title:** | Retail assistant |
| **Reporting to:** | Charity Shop Manager |
| **Responsible for:** | Supervisors & Volunteers |
| **Location:** | RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford & District Branch Charity Shops |

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| **Job Purpose**: |
| To ensure the smooth daily operation of the shop, ensuring it operates within RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford & District Branch Health & Safety guidelines. Assist the shop manager in ensuring operating procedures are maintained in order to maximise sales and profit. To a motivated team of volunteers, whilst promoting the work of the RSPCA. |
| **About the Department and role:** |
| The RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford & District Branch is an independent branch of the RSPCA. Our Animal Centre cares for, rehabilitates and rehomes hundreds of cats, dogs and small animals each year. The RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford & District never puts a healthy animal to sleep.The RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford & District Branch rehabilitates and rehomes approximately 800 animals each year from our animal centre in Halifax.The Branch has 10 Charity Shops and an eBay shop. The profits from which are used to support our animal centre. The Shop Manager role includes:* **Retail Sales** – Maximising income from donated stock ensuring the highest standards of retail display and merchandising. Maintain our standard trading hours.
* **People** – Lead and inspire the team to continuously improve and evolve, creating a “can do” team, and a supportive and positive culture, working closely with other branch departments to promote a collaborative culture.
* **Training and Development** – Ensure all staff and volunteers receive timely and ongoing training, development, coaching and feedback to ensure that they grow and fulfil their duties to the best of their abilities.
* **Resource management** - Maximise available resources of finance, staff, buildings and equipment to deliver excellent standards whilst achieving financial targets. Find creative and innovative solutions to drive productivity and efficiency.
* **Financial management** - Adhere to financial procedures laid down by the Branch Manager to ensure maximum economy of resources and achieve best value for money.

* **Volunteers** - Recruit and build a strong volunteer team who feel supported, respected and valued and become an asset to the charity shop.
* **Health and Safety** - Ensure that all the Health & Safety requirements required by law in the charity shop are met.
* **Security** - Maintain security of the charity shop buildings, contents and data as required by the General Data Protection Regulations.
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| **Specific responsibilities** |
| **Retail**Ensure shop trading hours are strictly adhered to.Ensure a high standard of retail display and merchandisingBe pro-active in the generation of donated stock, managing stock collection efficiently and effectively and in accordance with branch & society guidelines.Process donated stock to the agreed standards and timescales.Ensure that the shop and window presentation standards are met including the rotation of goods, window displays and promotional activities.Ensure high levels of customer service are maintained. |
| **People**Recruit, train, manage and support volunteers, and adhere to the agreed branch standards & policies and any relevant legislation.Ensure that appropriate HR policies and procedures are adhered to in compliance with the relevant employment legislation and branch employment policies and procedures, seeking guidance from the shop manager and senior management as required.Promote good staff and volunteer relationships.Attend management meetings and training courses as requested. |
| **Finance & Administration**To assist the shop manager in meeting the agreed sales targets and ensure that direct costs are kept to a minimum.Maximise gift aid income from donated goods.Ensure all financial management, cash handling, daily banking and security procedures are followed.Completion of all necessary administration and paperwork required by the role.Manage the sales and administration of any bought-in (i.e. new) goods.Compliance with the Branch Finance Policy. |
| **Security of Buildings & Equipment**Assume responsibility as a key holderMinimise stock loss.Ensure all equipment is well maintained and any damage and necessary repairs are reported. |
| **Health and Safety**Ensure the health and safety of staff, volunteers and the general public in the charity shop.Ensure the appropriate standards of cleanliness are maintained throughout the shop including the sales floor, stock processing area, offices and communal areas.Ensure compliance with the branch’s health and safety policy (including fire safety, risk assessments and security procedures) and relevant legislation. |
| **General**Attend management meetings and training courses as requested.Help promote the shop in the local area using all available promotional opportunities (subject to any branch rules for communication with the media).Actively promote all branch & society initiatives and campaigns to promote awareness of the charity.Attend AGM and fundraising events as required.  |

**Person Specification**

**ES = Essential, D = Desirable, A = Application Form, I = Interview, E = Exercise/Practical Assessment**

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| **Person specification:** | **How assessed** |
| **Educational qualification, skills, experience and behaviours** | **ES** | **D** | **A** | **I** | **E** |
| Good general level of education to GCSE standard or equivalent |  |  | A |  |  |
| A levels or higher |  |  | A |  |  |
| First aid Trained |  |  | A |  |  |
| Retail management experience |  |  | A | I |  |
| Charity retail management experience |  |  | A | I |  |
| Excellent customer care skills with the ability to handle difficult and sensitive situations |  |  | A | I |  |
| Supervisory or managment experience |  |  | A | I |  |
| Experience of working with and recruiting volunteers |  |  | A | I |  |
| Experience of managing budgets and accounts |  |  | A | I |  |
| Experience of cash handling and financial management procedures (including completion of sales records) |  |  | A | I |  |
| Training, coaching and mentoring skills |  |  | A | I | E |
| IT literate and skilled in MS Office applications |  |  | A | I | E |
| Good Planning, organisational and time management skills |  |  |  | I |  |
| Willingness to learn and acquire new skills through training and development |  |  |  | i |  |
|  Ability to motivate, inspire and positively influence others |  |  |  | I | E |
| Excellent communication and interpersonal skills (verbal and written) |  |  | A | I | E |
| Sound judgement and decision making |  |  | A | I | E |
| Ability to establish and maintain good working relationships with colleagues at all levels |  |  |  | I | E |
| Emotional resilience to manage the potentially emotional demands of the role |  |  | A | I | E |
| A positive and proactive attitude and willingness to work with members of the public, staff, and volunteers |  |  | A | I |  |
| Willing and able to travel around the Branch area and work at other charity shops if required |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sympathy with the RSPCA’s aims and policies |  |  |  |  |  |
| Full, clean manual UK driving licence. |  |  | A |  |  |