

## WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR PET DOG TO MAKE A PATIENT HAPPY

We need motivated and committed volunteers to carry out therapeutic visits to hospital patients with their friendly dogs.

This is a rewarding role which brings great enjoyment and comfort to patients.

We work with our partner organisations '*Pets as Therapy*' and '*Therapy Dogs Nationwide*' to ensure that our visiting dogs are of the right temperament



## Will I and my dog be suitable for the role?

You will need the following:

- To be motivated, reliable and committed
- To enjoy visiting frail and/or unwell patients
- To have owned your dog for at least 6 months
- To become a member of Pets as Therapy or Therapy Dogs Nationwide (annual fee of £19 for individuals or £29 for joint membership)

Your dog:

- Can be any breed or size
- Must be at least 9 months of age
- Must be friendly and enjoy being stroked and petted by strangers
- Must be healthy and fully vaccinated

## Becoming a Therapy Dog Volunteer

Patience is needed as the recruitment process is robust and is likely to take several months.

### Stage 1

You will need to register with either Pets as Therapy or Therapy Dogs Nationwide, who will carry out reference checks for yourself and a temperament and behaviour check for your dog. This stage can take a few months.

Please contact **either** Pets as Therapy **or** Therapy Dogs Nationwide using the contact details below:

Website: <http://petsastherapy.org/>  
Tel: 01494 569130  
Email: [reception@petsastherapy.org](mailto:reception@petsastherapy.org)

Website: <http://therapydogsnationwide.org/>  
Email: [enquiries@therapydogsnationwide.org](mailto:enquiries@therapydogsnationwide.org)

### Stage 2

When your membership of Pets as Therapy or Therapy Dogs Nationwide has been confirmed please get in touch with:

Sarah Morgan-Jones, Volunteer Service Manager, [sarah.morgan-jones@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:sarah.morgan-jones@wales.nhs.uk),  
01685 721721 ext 23264

At this stage an application form will need to be completed and Occupational Health and DBS checks will need to take place. You will also be required to attend an induction session into the Health Board

Following completion of stage 2, a placement will be agreed with you and your volunteering can begin.