



## **Saving on energy, spending more on animal welfare**

Wood Green The Animals Charity is one of the largest rehoming centres in Europe. Set in 52 acres of beautiful countryside in Cambridgeshire, they promote good animal welfare and responsible pet ownership by providing support, guidance and education to members of the public. Not only are Wood Green dedicated to finding secure, loving new homes for thousands of animals in need, they also take care of the environment.

Wood Green started using renewable energy in 1990, when their first wind turbine was erected at their headquarters - the Godmanchester Centre. This 225kW turbine stood 43m high and within five years it had already paid for itself. After 20 years of successful operation and at the end of its working life, Wood Green decided to replace this turbine with a more powerful one that would generate a lot more electricity: the EWT DW54-500 with an installed capacity of 500kW, measuring 102m to the tip of the blade. The turbine is expected to pay for itself within seven years. It generates enough electricity to make Wood Green's Godmanchester Centre almost entirely energy self-sufficient.



## EWT Wood Green The Animals Charity Case Study



To support their drive for energy self-sufficiency and environmentally friendly work practices, Wood Green The Animals Charity set up their own Energy Committee, which looks at all aspects of energy saving, as well as participating in future clean energy and ecology projects. The Committee passionately believe in reducing the Charity's impact on the environment through carbon reduction and making every effort to negate climate change.

The electricity generated by the EWT turbine will power the animal shelter at Godmanchester Centre, and the energy savings made will allow the Charity to spend more on caring for the vulnerable animals in its care. Having more money to spend on helping the animals will translate into vital improvements, such as investments in new veterinary surgery and upgraded kennel blocks. With the power output of the EWT DW54-500 turbine, supported by other forms of renewable energy such as solar panels, Wood Green aims to be energy self-sufficient by the end of 2015.

### Benefits to the charity and the local community:

- Savings on energy costs are being re-invested into the charity, allowing for improved animal care.
- Between approximately 560-1340 tonnes CO2 per annum will be replaced by the turbine, compared to either gas or coal fired power stations (source: RenewableUK).
- The turbine generates approximately 1800 MW/h per annum. Any surplus power is fed into the local grid network.
- Wood Green won Best Business Environmental Project in the Green Heart Community Awards organised by Hunts District Council in 2013 for making a real change to their environment by reducing their environmental footprint.
- With over half of all households in the UK owning a pet, animals are everywhere. By educating children in schools about responsible pet ownership, the Charity can help children make a difference to both pets in their homes now and also their pets of the future.



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