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## **Family face penalty for horrific animal cruelty**

### **Woman and two daughters plead guilty of cruelty and receive fine over four thousand pounds**

Brent Magistrates court – The Mayhew Animal Welfare Officer's attended court last week to witness the legal conclusions to one of their animal welfare cases. The family pleaded guilty to animal cruelty and was given a substantial fine and hours of community service and banned from keeping animals.

The woman, from Queen's Park, and her two daughters came to the attention of The Mayhew Animal Welfare Officer's (AWOs) after they were called to remove two guard dogs from the garden of a house. On arrival at the property in January this year the Officer's discovered a Rottweiler and German shepherd, both dreadfully emaciated and suffering from infected wounds and dehydration.

The Mayhew AWO's removed the Rottweiler and took him back to The Home, where he received veterinary treatment but had to be euthanized due to his condition. The RSPCA later attended the property and removed the German shepherd, who received veterinary care for severe burns caused by boiling liquid being poured over him and has since gone on to recover and find a new family home.

Animal Welfare Officer Claire Harper said: *"I was absolutely sickened by the appalling neglect and cruelty these dogs faced at the hands of their uncaring owners. I can only hope something positive will come out of this case by highlighting the importance of seeking professional help before an animal is made to suffer"*

She added: *"The family had the means to adequately feed these dogs and seek veterinary treatment, but chose to ignore the dire situation they were in. I am pleased that the Court has recognized this and delivered a fitting sentence."*

For photographs of Prince, the German shepherd, please contact Klare Kennett, Senior RSPCA Press Officer at [KKennett@rspca.org.uk](mailto:KKennett@rspca.org.uk)

ENDS

For the Editor

**The Mayhew Animal Home** was established in 1886 for the benefit of "the lost and starving dogs and cats of London so that they should have sanctuary from the cold inhumanity they are being dealt outside". Today, The Mayhew is one of the busiest animal sanctuaries in London, rescuing thousands of animals from cruelty and neglect each year. We provide shelter and care for cats, dogs, rabbits and when the need arises, for a wide variety of other animals.

The Mayhew Animal Home strives to tackle the companion animal welfare crisis from every possible angle. The organisation is pro-active, innovative and continually works to assist animals and their carers. The Mayhew offers a wide variety of community services providing advice, care and assistance to animals and their carers whatever their circumstances.

