

Scottish SPCA urges public to be aware of seals and seal pups this winter

Scotland's animal welfare charity expects to care for over 100 grey seal pups of various ages over the course of the autumn/winter season. This year any seals that they rescue will carry Harry Potter themed names.



Centre Manager Colin Seddon said, "Grey seals come ashore to give birth in autumn and winter which is why we see such an increase at this time of year.

"We are urging the public not to approach seal pups which have come ashore and to keep dogs on a lead in case they frighten them into the water.

"If you spot a pup with a white coat on a public beach, please contact our animal helpline as chances are, it is in trouble and needs our attention.

"Grey seal pups which no longer have a white coat may still need our assistance if they are on a public beach for more

than four hours, or have visible signs of injury, such as bleeding, glued together eyes or generally looking unwell.

“The public should contact our animal helpline and an operator will be able to assess the situation.

“If a seal pup looks and acts healthy it should be left alone.”

Anyone who discovers an injured or distressed wild animal should call the Scottish SPCA animal helpline on 03000 999 999.

To stay up to date on the seals brought into the Scottish SPCA wildlife centre, follow #SSPCASealSquad on social media.