

**Submission
No 143**

COMPANION ANIMAL BREEDING PRACTICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Organisation: Holroyd City Council
Name: Mr Merv Ismay
Position: General Manager
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16 Memorial Avenue
PO Box 42
Merrylands NSW 2160

T 02 9840 9840
F 02 9840 9734
E hcc@holroyd.nsw.gov.au
www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

DX 25408 Merrylands
TTY 02 9840 9988
ABN 20 641 226 986

Environmental & Planning Services

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Joint Select Committee on Companion Animal Breeding Practices in NSW
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Joint Select Committee Members

COMPANION ANIMAL BREEDING PRACTICES IN NSW

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in regard to the important issue of animal breeding practices in NSW. Holroyd City Council, like other councils in NSW, deals with stray, abandoned and unwanted companion animals on a daily basis. Council welcomes action to reduce the number of these animals ending up being impounded including, as a priority, actions to control breeding.

In September 2002, Holroyd City Council adopted a Low Kill Policy for companion animals. Since this time, Council has been actively working towards educating the community about responsible pet ownership and reducing euthanasia rates of healthy and adoptable companion animals.

Results of the policy have shown a reduction in euthanasia rates of dogs down from 64% (end 2002/2003) to 7% (end 2013/2014). Council acknowledges that these results could not have been achieved without the effort of the rescue groups that operate within our community.

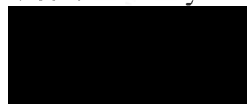
Of particular concern to Council is the large increase in cat impounding figures in recent years, and the continued euthanasia in high numbers. 62% of cats impounded in Holroyd in 2013/2014 were euthanased because they could not be rehomed.

To continue to reduce the number of animals impounded and euthanased, Council considers that it is vital to tackle the issue of over breeding State wide and to prevent so called 'backyard breeders' and 'puppy farms'.

Council's Companion Animals Advisory Committee has advocated for and supports licensing breeders, limiting the number of animals kept by breeders and banning the sale of dogs and cats in pet stores. It considered that these measures would help reduce the oversupply of kittens and puppies and reduce impulse purchasing of these animals and calls on the NSW Government to implement these legislative changes.

Council looks forward to the outcomes from the Joint Select Committee inquiry.

Yours faithfully



Merv Ismay
GENERAL MANAGER

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