
From: Leon Marskell
Sent: Wednesday, 13 December 2023 2:33 PM
To: Portfolio Committee 8
Cc: Kate Stares; David Smith; Jim Baldwin; Compliance Admin; Karen Robinson
Subject: CM: Response to supplementary questions from the Portfolio Committee 8.

Good afternoon Teneale,

Thank you for the email and the list of

Please find our response to these questions.

a. How often are routine inspections and audits of pounds occurring at the moment?

Campbelltown City Council conducts regular six-monthly Work Health and Safety Inspections and an Annual Internal Audit in collaboration with our Risk and Work Health & Safety teams.

While additional ad hoc inspections and audits are sporadically conducted by external agencies, such as the RSPCA and SafeWork these are often done unannounced in response to a complaint.

Council does not have a record of the frequency of or data from these ad hoc inspections from external parties. However, it's common for regulatory authorities to perform routine inspections and audits of pounds to ensure compliance with animal welfare standards and regulations.

b. How do you see routine inspections and audits of pounds improving standards of care for animals?

Routine inspections and audits serve several purposes in improving standards of care for animals in pounds:

Inspections ensure compliance and verify that pounds are adhering to established standards and regulations regarding animal housing, cleanliness, health care, and overall welfare. These inspections and audits can also identify any areas where improvements or corrections are needed.

Routine Inspections can provide an opportunity for education and training for pound staff. During these inspections staff may receive guidance on best practices for animal care, handling, and facility management.

Regular and periodic audits create a system of accountability and continuous improvement for pound operators. Knowing that inspections will occur periodically encourages ongoing compliance and the maintenance of high standards.

Inspections often uncover issues that need attention, such as inadequate housing conditions, lack of veterinary care, and at times insufficient staff training. Through identifying these problems, Council can work with the assessors and staff to rectify them and ensure better care for the animals and working conditions for the people. These inspections also could be a source of information sharing as inspectors identify a good procedure at one facility, they can share it with others.

Improving the frequency and thoroughness of routine inspections and audits can significantly contribute to raising the standards of care for animals in pounds, ensuring their well-being and proper treatment while they are in these facilities awaiting adoption or other outcomes.

In closing, the Council thanks the Committee for the opportunity to provide feedback on this important issue.

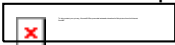
Regards

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W: www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au



Campbelltown City Council acknowledges and respects the Dharawal people as traditional custodians of this land, and extends these respects to all Aboriginal Elders, past and present, and people from all Aboriginal nations.



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