

HKE:HKE

12 December 2023



The Chair
Portfolio Committee No. 8
Hon. E Hurst MLC
Parliament of New South Wales
6 Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Hurst

Inquiry into Pounds in New South Wales Hearing – Tuesday 14 November 2023.

Supplementary Questions – Dubbo Regional Council.

Question 1:

What strategies do you believe would be most effective in reducing euthanasia rates in pounds, and how can the State Government help to reduce unnecessary euthanasia?

Dubbo Regional Council believe the most effective way to reduce euthanasia rates is too firstly prevent unwanted litters and backyard breeders by making desexing mandatory unless the animal is owned by a registered breeder.

To ensure the desexing of animals, state funded desexing programs would assist in increasing the numbers of animals being desexed. This would also reduce the number of animals in the community and therefore not as many animals would be in pounds. The flow on effect of this would result in less animals requiring to be rehomed by rescue organisations therefore more room would be available for genuine stray dogs or surrenders to be rescued.

The other reason many dogs go unclaimed in animal pounds is due to them not being registered and microchipped or out of date details on the registration and microchip. Thus, making it extremely difficult to contact the owner to arrange the return of the animal.

Rather than a once in a lifetime registration which comes at a high cost, a yearly registration would not only be cheaper but would ensure details are more likely to be updated.

The high cost of once in a lifetime registration that must be paid before a pound can legally release an animal, can be a burden to many people as a result of this they are unable to collect



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the animal. These animals are then left to be rescued or rehomed if they cannot be rehomed eventually, they will require euthanasing.

Yours faithfully

Helen Eyre
Manager Environmental Compliance