

INQUIRY INTO POUNDS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

I have had contact with the desperate situation in pounds both as a family adopting rescue animals and as a volunteer with rescue groups. The no of animals surrendered and abandoned eg tied to the pound fence has become overwhelming. All shelters are currently full and healthy animals are being euthenased in greater nos simply due to lack of space. More and more councils are closing local pounds putting added pressure on those remaining eg HAWKESBURY, BARC..Opening hours are very restrictive for working people and the locations on the outskirts of Sydney makes it even more difficult to access. Housing density and weight restrictions for pets in apartments has meant larger animals are most vulnerable. Pound staff are under extreme pressure and understaffed. Animals esp the very young and old are dying of hypothermia .on wet, cold, concrete floors. The vet shortage and cost of vet services has exacerbated the no of surrendered animals generally as has the discard of animals adopted during covid for companionship.The conditions in most pounds are appalling. HELP is desperately needed please. .Individuals and rescue groups are going under with the volume, cost and lack of fit for purpose facilities. Vets and pound staff euthenasing healthy animals are adversely affected as are those trying to assist.