## INQUIRY INTO POUNDS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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It is unconscionable that companion animals frequently spend their last days in fear and misery in a pound or animal shelter because of inadequate facilities and inhumane treatment, followed by their killing. As a nation, we are surely better than turning a blind eye to the often-publicised appalling rate of killing in pounds and animal shelters. We urgently require more funding to be allocated to animal facilities which are meant to protect companion animals, as well as robust laws with regulated heavy penalties for those who contravene animal protection legislation. Such laws should include mandatory transparency and accountability. I am calling for the NSW government to step up to the plate and rectify its woefully inadequate companion animal laws.