

**Submission
No 72**

INQUIRY INTO POUNDS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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I assist rescues by answering SOS calls about cats and finding rescues/fosters/forever homes. I am disgusted at the cruelty shown to cats by the govt/council who don't care because cats don't get votes and they ignore the problem, and a public who dump, abuse and treat cats like trash. All govt/council want to do is take to a pound and put to sleep, it is too much effort for them to rehome. RSPCA also does this, please ask any rescue of their experience with the RSPCA. The Govt needs to STOP the cat hate which spurs the cat haters on and deters people from adopting. Stop blaming the cats for killing wildlife dogs, foxes, possums and HUMANS kill more wildlife. Desexing needs to be free or highly subsidised. Stop the giving away of free kittens on Gumtree, people who get a free kitten don't invest in their cat and don't desex and then dump the kittens. There needs to be harsher penalties for dumping and cruelty to cats to deter people - nothing happened to the boys who killed Brandy the cat in Sydney. Pounds need more money, more room to house cats and make determined efforts to rehome the cats. Killing a scared cat in a pound is cruel, my cats would be scared in a cage in a pound, I would hate for someone to kill them based on fear. A society can be judged on how they treat animals and you have failed miserably. Parts of Sydney where cats are dumped and suffering look like a third world country after an earthquake. Pounds need to work with rescues and not against them by being killing centres and rehome. Stop blaming the cats for lazy and cruel humans who dump.