

The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier and Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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CASTLE HILL RESIDENTS ENCOURAGED TO ADOPT A PET

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams MP is encouraging local residents considering welcoming a new furry family member into their home to adopt a cat or dog from a local pound or local rehoming organisation.

Mr Williams said local residents adopting from local pounds and rehoming organisations are not only providing a new forever home for a homeless cat or dog but they can also take advantage of discounted pet registration fees.

"Local councils, such as The Hills Shire Council play an important role in caring for lost and surrendered animals in pounds and shelters" Mr Williams said.

"I encourage people thinking of rescuing a pet to visit their nearest local council pound or rehoming organisation and meet their new furry best friend.

"As well as being wonderful new companions, rehoming abandoned cats and dogs has the added benefit of reducing the burden on animal pounds, shelters and rehoming organisations and, importantly, helps lower euthanasia rates."

Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock said the NSW Government is celebrating an important milestone in animal welfare reaching the \$1 million mark for pet registration discounts for rehomed dogs and cats.

"The Government introduced half-price pet registration fees for animals adopted from council pounds and animal shelters in 2016 to encourage would-be pet owners to consider adopting homeless pets," Mrs Hancock said.

"I am pleased to announce that nearly 40,000 cat and dog owners have benefited from these permanently discounted pet registration fees.

"Animal welfare organisations such as the RSPCA, Animal Welfare League and Cat Protection Society, local council pounds and shelters and rehoming organisations do a wonderful job finding surrendered cats and dogs new forever homes."

** The Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter is located at 10 Mulgrave Road, Mulgrave NSW 2756 and can be contacted on +61 2 4560 4644 **

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