

The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill

MEDIA RELEASE

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OVER \$20 MILLION ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

The NSW Liberal and Nationals Government is boosting the record investment in improving animal welfare outcomes with two additional initiatives worth over \$20 million, including a \$15.6 million digital renovation of the NSW Pet Registry and a new \$5 million grant program for animal rehoming organisations.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams MP said approved local rehoming organisations could apply for up to \$100,000 to improve rehoming outcomes and reduce euthanasia rates.

"Families in Castle Hill love their pets, and that's why the Liberals and Nationals in Government have made this record investment to support animal welfare" Mr Williams said.

Minister for Local Government said rehoming organisations and charities across the state would see the benefits of this new grant program.

"The Liberal and Nationals Government is committed to improving the welfare of animals, and we know that rehoming organisations have an important role to play," Mrs Tuckerman said.

Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government Victor Dominello said the Office of Local Government and Department of Customer Service are working together on the upgrade, with a pilot program currently underway involving up to 10 breeders and 50 new pet owners.

"Under the Pet Registry pilot, breeders can easily enter litters of puppies and kittens, vets can add microchip numbers, and owner transfers are instant," Mr Dominello said.

The pilot runs until June and the first phase of the new online Pet Registry is expected to be rolled out across the State from the end of 2023.

Both programs bring the total investment by the Liberal and Nationals Government in animal welfare and rehoming work to over \$60 million in the 2022-23 financial year alone.

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