
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Councillor Rod Buhr

Telephone: (02) 6840 1701
Facsimile: (02) 6840 1791



PO Box 62
Wellington NSW 2820

Email: wc.rodbuhr@gmail.com
Web: www.wellington.nsw.gov.au

18 April 2013

Ms Michelle Alber
President
Sydney Pet Rescue and Adoption Incorporated

Via e-mail: malber@optusnet.com.au

Dear Michelle

Re: Wellington Companion Animal Issues

Thank you for your time on the telephone on Wednesday, 17 April, to discuss the Wellington Council approach to pound animals.

I am able to confirm the following response Council has, and is adopting, to address the issues we discussed:

Upgrade of Pound Facilities

As we have indicated, Council has been planning to upgrade the Wellington Pound facilities and provision has been made in the draft budget for the financial year 2013/14. Preliminary works will commence after finalisation of plans and quotations for construction. We have previously sought and received advice on the nature of the improvements from the RSPCA based in Dubbo. I am anticipating that works will be able to commence this financial year.

Installation of Cameras

I am pleased to advise that cameras have been installed at the Wellington Pound that should ensure we are aware of when the facility is visited and by whom. We are arranging technology which will allow our staff to be made aware of people dropping off dogs at the Pound, out of normal hours, via their mobile telephone linked to the cameras.

Review Council's Policy and Procedures

Council's policies in this area are being reviewed and updated, where required, to ensure compliance with all relevant regulations and legislation.

Adopt-a-Pet Programme

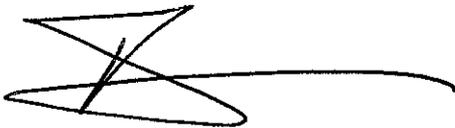
Council will be establishing an *Adopt-a-Pet Programme* with the aim of re-homing unwanted companion animals within the local community. Details of this programme will become an additional Quick Link on Council's web page.

Public Education Campaign

Council has negotiated with the local newspaper to place a regular column in the paper that highlights animal health and care issues. The local vet is being very supportive in this endeavor. We will be looking to develop this approach in more detail over the longer term.

Wellington Council is a rural council in the Central West of New South Wales and dogs have been an integral part of our community and our grazing practices for generations. Council is committed to ensuring all companion animals do receive a fair go in this community.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rod Buhr', written over a horizontal line.

Clr Rod Buhr
MAYOR