



Media Release

Monday 6 May 2019

Take advantage of Council's FREE microchipping

Camden Council is encouraging residents to take advantage of its FREE microchipping program after changes to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Companion Animal Breeding Practices, passed earlier this week, could see residents face fines of up to \$5,500.

From Monday 1 July, residents selling or giving away kittens, cats, puppies or dogs will need to include an identification number (either a microchip, breeder-identification or rehoming organisation number) in advertisements. This will apply to all advertisements in newspapers; on local posters, community notice boards as well as all forms of online advertising, including on social media.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Theresa Fedeli, said the new law encourages responsible pet ownership, which Council has long-supported.

"Being a responsible pet owner is all about giving your pets the best life possible, while remaining respectful of your neighbours, community and the natural environment around you," Cr Fedeli said.

"All cats and dogs need to be registered and microchipped – it is incredibly important.

"Through Council's continued efforts in this area, we have been able to achieve high levels of rehoming rates across the Camden area. In 2017-18, 90 per cent of dogs and cats who entered our Animal Care Facility were released, sent to a rescue organisation or adopted into a fur-ever home.

"Thanks to these identification numbers, residents buying or receiving these pets will be able to see really important information, including the animal's breed, sex, age and whether it is de-sexed."

Residents had the opportunity to learn more about responsible pet ownership, as well as about the best ways to care for and train dogs of all shapes, sizes and breeds, at the much-loved Paws in the Park event yesterday. The event, which entertained thousands of people and their pooches, will be back again next year.

If you suspect that an advertisement does not include a valid identification number you should contact RSPCA NSW on 9770 7555, Animal Welfare League NSW on 8899 3333 or the police.

For more information on this law change, visit dpi.nsw.gov.au

To organise microchipping for your pet, call Council on 4654 7777.

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