

## 12 December 2023

## **Rehoming companion animals**

Whenever an owner has to give up a pet it is never easy, so it is important to know the best process to ensure the best outcome for your pet.

"Owners may need to give up a pet when matters beyond their control force the situation. Owners might find that family members have allergies to the pet, or they may no longer be able to care for the pet. Whatever the reason, the fact remains that it is hard to give up your loyal companion," said Warrumbungle Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Ambrose Doolan. "Finding the right new home for your animal can be hard, and it is important that owners know how to do it correctly."

There are many rehoming options available to pet owners, and certain strategies that can be used to help increase the chances for success. For instance, if the pet isn't de-sexed, have it done before trying to rehome them, this will make the pet more desirable to a new home. Take multiple photos from different angles so people can see the pet clearly. Provide as much information about the animal as possible, likes and dislikes, habits, personality etc.

"Many people would prefer to take in a pet that comes from a good home and is already trained. Making the right connection with a potential new owner can be done a number of ways including a meet and greet with the pets so any potential owners can see how the animal behaves around other people," said Cr Doolan.

If you are looking at a rehoming facility to take your animal the <u>NSW Approved Rehoming</u> <u>Facilities</u> list is available online. Be sure to ask for the facilities rehoming process as there is often a waiting list and it can be some weeks before they can take your pet.

"Warrumbungle Shire Council does take surrendered animals for a fee, however we are not a rehoming facility and strongly suggest residents use the power of social media to rehome animals," said Cr Doolan.

Animals available for adoption from Council can be found on <u>Council's Webpage</u> and Facebook page.

"It is important to take the right steps when rehoming animals to ensure the best outcome for the owner, the animal and the community," Cr Doolan concluded.

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