

MEDIA RELEASE

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EXPANSION WORKS MILESTONE AT RSPCA CENTRE

The exciting next chapter of NSW's largest animal shelter begins today as the first stage of construction work reaches completion at the RSPCA NSW Sydney Shelter at Yagoona.

Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock joined RSPCA NSW CEO Steve Coleman, Member for East Hills Wendy Lindsay and Member for Holsworthy Melanie Gibbons to tour construction works of the \$12 million expansion of the adoption facility funded by the NSW Government.

"The Sydney Shelter has served the community since its construction in the early 1970s, looking after thousands of animals and finding them loving family homes," Mrs Hancock said.

"I was delighted to announce \$12 million last year to ensure the facility can meet the space, welfare, health and safety needs of the animals, staff, and community now and into the future.

"The new Companion Animal Village will expand and improve kennel and cattery facilities, allowing even more furry friends to find a home, as well as increase capacity for various educational, training and community programs."

The \$12 million investment builds on a previous \$7.5 million contribution by the NSW Government to rebuild and refurbish veterinary facilities at the RSPCA centre.

"This facility has been the State's epicentre for animal services and adoptions since its construction and is responsible for supporting, educating and helping communities across NSW," RSPCA NSW CEO Steve Coleman said.

"The upgrades will benefit the 30,000 animals RSPCA NSW takes in annually and will ensure that we are able to promote responsible pet ownership in a positive way."

Ms Lindsay said this project has been a welcome shot in the arm for local contractors and builders, who have worked on site for the last 6 months.

"Projects like this not only boost the local economy, but once complete will ensure our beloved furry friends are cared for before finding their fur-ever home," Ms Lindsay said.

Ms Gibbons said the Government is committed to supporting animal shelters across the State.

“In the last year alone, the Government has provided \$5.88 million from the Companion Animals Fund to our 128 local councils to care for our beloved pet cats and dogs,” Ms Gibbons said.

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