

City of Casey Domestic Animals Management Forum RSPCA – 16 June 2017

Domestic Animals Act - Section 84Y Agreements

Background

- » DEPI (as was known then) notifies all Vets
March 2013 re: responsibilities/legal
requirements for seized/surrendered dogs/cats
under DAA

Background/DAA requirements

- » Section 84D – a person (other than auth officer) who seizes animal under Sect 84 or 84A **MUST** deliver that animals to an auth officer –
- » Penalty = 5PU

Casey Action

- » All (20+) Vets in City of Casey invited to attend forum at Casey Office on 25 September 2013.
- » Limited response received
- » Forum held with only handful of willing participants (6 Vet)

Casey Action

- » Forum informed of legalities of 84Y agreements and what can/cannot be done.
- » Draft 84Y agreement distributed to all present (and later to all Vet Clinics via mail with letter)

Implementation of 84Y

- » Several Vet clinics establish formal 84Y agreements with Casey.
- » Initial agreements for 1 year only
- » Upon completion of 1 year – option to enter into further 3 year agreement (if both parties agree)

Implementation of 84Y –some conditions

- » Must attempt contact with owner promptly
- » Reasonable care of any seized animal
- » Clinic may retain custody of animal for up to 3 days
- » If unable to locate owner must hand animal over to Council
- » Repeat offenders must be handed over to Council

Implementation of 84Y - Benefits

- » Pre 84Y agreement (2012) - 1633 dogs impounded
- » Post agreement (2016) - 1132 dogs impounded – reduction of – 501 dogs
- » Pre 84Y agreement (2012) - 970 cats impounded
- » Post agreement (2016) – 824 cats impounded - reduction of – 146 cats

Benefits Continued

- » Dog reunification rates increased from 68% to 87.4% (over 4 year period)
- » Cat reunification rates increased from 11.9% to 20.5% (over 4 year period)