



MEDIA RELEASE

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BRISBANE BANS USE OF POUND DOGS FOR RESEARCH AND TEACHING

The Australian Association for Humane Research Inc. is pleased to learn that Brisbane City Council has agreed to cease the provision of pound animals to Queensland University for research and teaching purposes.

Chief Executive Officer, Helen Rosser, said today *“We congratulate Brisbane Council on making such a progressive decision. Abandoned animals in pounds and shelters have already suffered the fear and distress of losing their carers and familiar territory. Their use in research is the ultimate betrayal and one that cannot be condoned in a caring society.”*

The dogs are used for training veterinary students, however students can gain hands-on experience by assisting with and performing supervised surgeries in private veterinary practices on patients in genuine need of assistance – as is practiced in UK veterinary colleges and how human doctors learn in teaching hospitals.

“Students can become compassionate and competent veterinarians without having to kill those they are training to protect. They can gain valuable experience operating under strict supervision on animals who will actually benefit from the surgery. This way they will also gain experience in observing and monitoring post-operative recovery which is one of the major components of health care.”

Logan and Caboolture Councils continue to provide their pound animals to Queensland University and it is hoped that this precedent will convince them to reconsider their policies in this regard.

“Suggesting that they will die anyway is a callous and unacceptable excuse. It is creating a dependence on pet overpopulation/homelessness rather than addressing the real problem of why they are in that situation in the first place.” **Ms Rosser concluded.**

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