



# Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter

## Desexing your Pet

The desexing of dogs and cats is not compulsory in NSW. Such a law would be almost impossible to enforce, even though there is a great deal of concern about the number of unwanted or unowned animals born each year.

The reality is that the overwhelming majority of owned companion animals are already desexed.

The benefits of desexing are:

- Reduced likelihood that your dog or cat will stray.
- Reduced fighting and aggression.
- Reduced antisocial behaviour such as spraying to mark territory.

Desexing your pet before the age of six months is generally encouraged and it is recommended you talk to your vet about the options.

The registration system under the Companion Animals Act provides a strong incentive for companion animals to be desexed.

If you are unable to have your animal desexed because of financial concerns, talk to your vet or local animal welfare association as they may be able to assist you.

### Are you a Registered Breeder?

If you are not a Registered Breeder of either dogs or cats it is advisable to have your animal desexed.

### Should you let your animal have one litter before you have it desexed?

There is no scientific evidence to show that it is better to allow an animal to have one litter before being desexed.

### Animals purchased from the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter

Council has adopted a policy that states that all animals that are sold from the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter will be desexed prior to sale.



This document contains important information. If you do not understand it, contact the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450.



### Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter

Address: 10 Mulgrave Road  
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Council Website: [www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)  
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9am-12:30pm and 2pm-4:30pm  
Saturday 9:30am-11:30am  
Sunday 7am-9am  
Public Holidays 7am-9am