

Companion Animal Health Projects in Western NSW

Taylor Smith – Western NSW Local Health
District

Jessica Spencer – Aboriginal Environmental
Health Unit

Overview

- Community consultation
- Clinic week
- Post surgery follow up
- Evaluation

Project Aims

Healthy Animals Healthy People



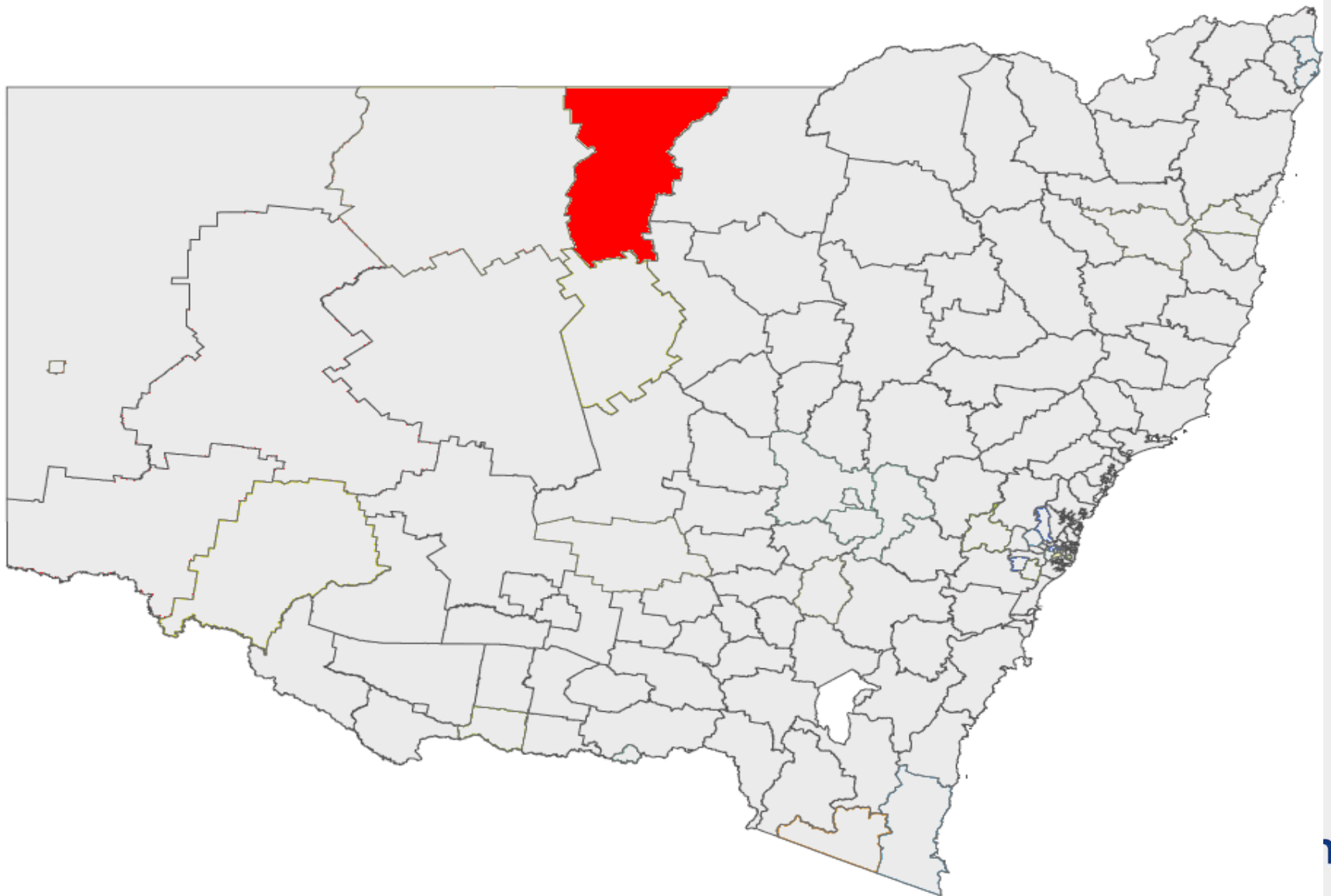
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Stakeholder roles and responsibilities

- RSPCA
- Aboriginal Affairs
- Aboriginal Environmental Health Unit
- Western New South Wales Local Health District
- Brewarrina Shire Council
- Ngemba Working Party
- Weilmoringle Local Aboriginal Land Council

NSW Local Government Area



Brewarrina, Weilmoringle and Goodooga



Community Consultation Phase

RSPCA Dog & Cat Health/ Education Program

Date: Thursday 13th October
Where: 'The Old Bowling Club'
Time: 9am onwards



This is a FREE service organised by the Goodooga Community Working Party. It is for Goodooga residents only on a Pension or Health Care card. It is a voluntary program offering:

- De-sexing of male and female dogs and cats
- Vaccination for Parvovirus for dogs
- Microchipping
- Health check and health care advice
- Treatment for worms, ticks, fleas, mites
- Putting down very sick or unwanted dogs and cats
- Information about health care of your pet

Please note: If you want your animal de-sexed, you need to make sure they don't eat anything from the night before & right up to the surgery. Every dog de-sexed gets a free collar.

Supported by Goodooga Community Working Party and:



Veterinary Services – Health checks



Veterinary Services – Surgery



Veterinary Services – Recovery



Clinic Week – Environmental Health Role

- Education
 - Hand Hygiene and pet ownership
 - Yard Maintenance



Results of Clinic week

- 103 Health checks
- 118 dogs and cats desexed



Post clinic follow up/ evaluation

- Follow up visits approx. 2 weeks post surgery
- Ensure welfare of animal
- Offer assistance to remove sutures
- Complete short evaluation

Results of Follow up/ Evaluation

- 72% of pet owners followed up
- 26% of dogs seen at the time of home visits
- 86% of dogs present required assistance in suture removal

Results of Follow up/ Evaluation

- 1 person said they would have had their dog desexed
- 85% of pet owners understood the post surgery information
- 85% followed the worming instructions

Public Health Importance of Companion Animal Health Projects

- 2.3% of dogs had MRSA
- High prevalence of Q Fever
- Game and raw meat
- Increased Public health risk



Challenges

- Distance
- Time limitation
- Accessing people
- Roaming animals
- Inexperienced animal handlers
- Target group



Recommendations

- Public health value in companion health projects
- Education around responsible pet ownership
- Record Aboriginality of pet owners
- Involve students from local schools
- Support employment opportunities
- Include follow up visits in future projects

The Future

- Funding for 7 Animal Health Projects
2017/18 financial year
- Recall notices to be mailed out to
encourage an annual check up
- Strengthening our relationship with
RSPCA

Acknowledgements

- RSPCA
- AMMRRIC
- NSW Aboriginal affairs
- Brewarrina Shire Council
- Brewarrina, Goodooga and Weilmoringle communities

