Animal neglect reaches deplorable level

THE number of unwanted animals in the Northern Territory is deplorable and people need to stop breeding them, a veterinary service said.

Arc Animal Hospital wildlife manager Mandy Hall was outraged after a seven-month-old bull arab cross was brought into the clinic with severe skin conditions which it appeared to have suffered for 90 per cent of its life.

"For the amount of animals that are being dumped, euthanased or needing rehoming compared to our population – those numbers are deplorable," Ms Hall said.

Palmerston council rangers picked up the dog after it was dumped at Marlow Lagoon.

The dog was hairless, and required urgent attention.

"The pound should be a safety net for animals, not for the convenience of people to euthanise," Ms Hall said.

The $500 donated by Mohni Pour Nowrouz last month, whose dog Buddy was attacked by intruders in Malak, will go towards the neglected dog’s recovery. However, Ms Hall said it was not enough.

"The chronic skin condition is going to take time and medication until the entire skin condition is cleared up," she said.

The dog will need intensive nursing and hospitalisation, medications, treatment for parasites, vaccinations, desexing and a microchip. Any remaining funds will go towards the hospital’s next rescue.

If you would like to make a donation, contact the Ark Animal Hospital on 8932 9738.

FORTEIGHT NT career advisers and VET co-ordinators toured Robertson Barracks earlier this month.

Broad spectrum ran the site tour, aimed at providing Territorians with an understanding of services and employment opportunities provided on the Defence Base Services and Land Material Maintenance contract.

Employment opportunities, work experience, school-based and general apprenticeships were discussed. NT Department of Education Manager for Careers Programs Carla Sivour said the site tour was a great success.

"The career advisers and VET co-ordinators were able to identify the many opportunities available to local youth."

Meinaher costs windfall

SYDNEY: NSW taxpayers will foot the bill for legal costs incurred by colourful Auburn property developer Salim Mehajer when he successfully challenged a temporary ban from civic offices by NSW Supreme Court Justice Peter Garling last month, which he overturned a four-month suspension order made by the Office of Local Government.

"There is great benefit in developing these intellectual resources right across the whole of the north – not just concentrating this vital research effort in one location."

"I will be pushing for the Menzies School of Health Research in Darwin to feature prominently in this research effort.

Mehajer lost out to Cairns, which was chosen to house the $5 billion Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund headquaters last week.

Darwin’s race for research

HAYLEY SORENSEN

DARWIN and Townsville are the frontrunners in the race to host the headquarters of a $75 million co-operative research centre for Northern Australia.

The headquarters will co-ordinate research in fields such as agriculture, food and tropical and remote health and is a “core element” of the Australian Government’s agenda for developing the north.

The research will be conducted at universities across the top of Australia, including North Queensland’s James Cook, Central Queensland University and Charles Darwin University, with an administrative base yet to be decided.

ICU and CDU have both made formal bids to host the centre. CRC interim head John Wharton said the dollars would follow the research, not the administrative base.

"The money is going to be spent where the research is, and that will be right across Northern Australia," he said.

Mr Wharton said he hoped the hub would be operational by May or June, prior to the Federal Government going into caretaker mode before the election, which would likely hold up the process. The research would be industry-led, with businesses matched up with the research partner most suited, Mr Wharton said.

He said an extensive consultation period that concludes today had taken on the views of about 800 people across Queensland, the NT and Western Australia.

Chief Minister Adam Giles said the NT was the logical location for some parts of the CRC. "With its initial focus on agriculture, food and tropical medicine, I’d expect the Australian Government would be amenable to house one of these components across the three jurisdictions involved," he said.

"There is great benefit in developing these intellectual resources right across the whole of the north – not just concentrating this vital research effort in one location."

"I will be pushing for the Menzies School of Health Research in Darwin to feature prominently in this research effort.

Mehajer lost out to Cairns, which was chosen to house the $5 billion Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund headquaters last week.