Ken Vowles
Minister for Primary Industry and Resources

**Tails Wagging after RSPCA Grant**

17 January 2017

Some of the Territory’s most unfortunate dogs will have a fortunate start to 2017 with bigger kennels and an exercise yard, thanks to a $50,000 Animal Welfare grant awarded to the RSPCA.

Ken Vowles, Minister for Primary Industry and Resources today visited the RSCPA Darwin Regional Branch to see the progress of the upgrades to facilities.

“The Animal Welfare Fund grant program supports not-for-profit organisations that help animals, raise awareness of animal welfare, and promote good animal management practices.

“The RSPCA is a worthy recipient of the grant as a not-for-profit organisation that operates on limited funding and relies heavily on donations and volunteers to continue their community work.

“The Animal Welfare grant will cover upgrades to existing kennel facilities with better drainage, establishing an exercise area and upgrading quarantine facilities.

“The kennel upgrades are 60 percent complete. The concreting and drainage is all done and work has begun on building the structures.

“Staff contributed to the design of these upgrades, so we know that people with hands-on experience are addressing the needs of the centre.” Mr Vowles said.

Kerri-Ann Laurence, General Manager RSPCA Darwin Regional Branch said “being at the shelter isn’t easy on any animal and it’s wonderful to think of them having more room and space to run around.

“The grant allows us at RSPCA to incorporate the Sheltermate system for updating medications and treatments using an in-situ ipad.

“Harnessing technology will help with the smooth management of dogs in our care.” Ms Laurence said.

“The RSCPA’s role in the community is instrumental and the much needed upgrades to facilities will provide relief to the hardworking staff,” said Mr Vowles.


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