

NDN Cooperative Desexing Program

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Strategic Director
Animal Welfare League Qld
National Desexing Network
Getting 2 Zero



Prevention of unwanted animals
is the key

DESEXING

DESEXING

DESEXING

DESEXING



Don't like surprises?

DESEX YOUR PET!

**July is National
Desexing Month**

Did you know...

- Desexed animals live longer and healthier lives
- Desexed pets are less likely to fight or get lost
- Desexed pets are more affectionate and become better companions
- Desexing reduces unwanted puppies and kittens being dumped or left in pounds and shelters
- Desexing is more affordable with the assistance of National Desexing Network



Desexing saves lives.

NATIONWIDE LOW COST DESEXING DURING JULY!



Ph: 1300 368 992
Visit ndn.org.au

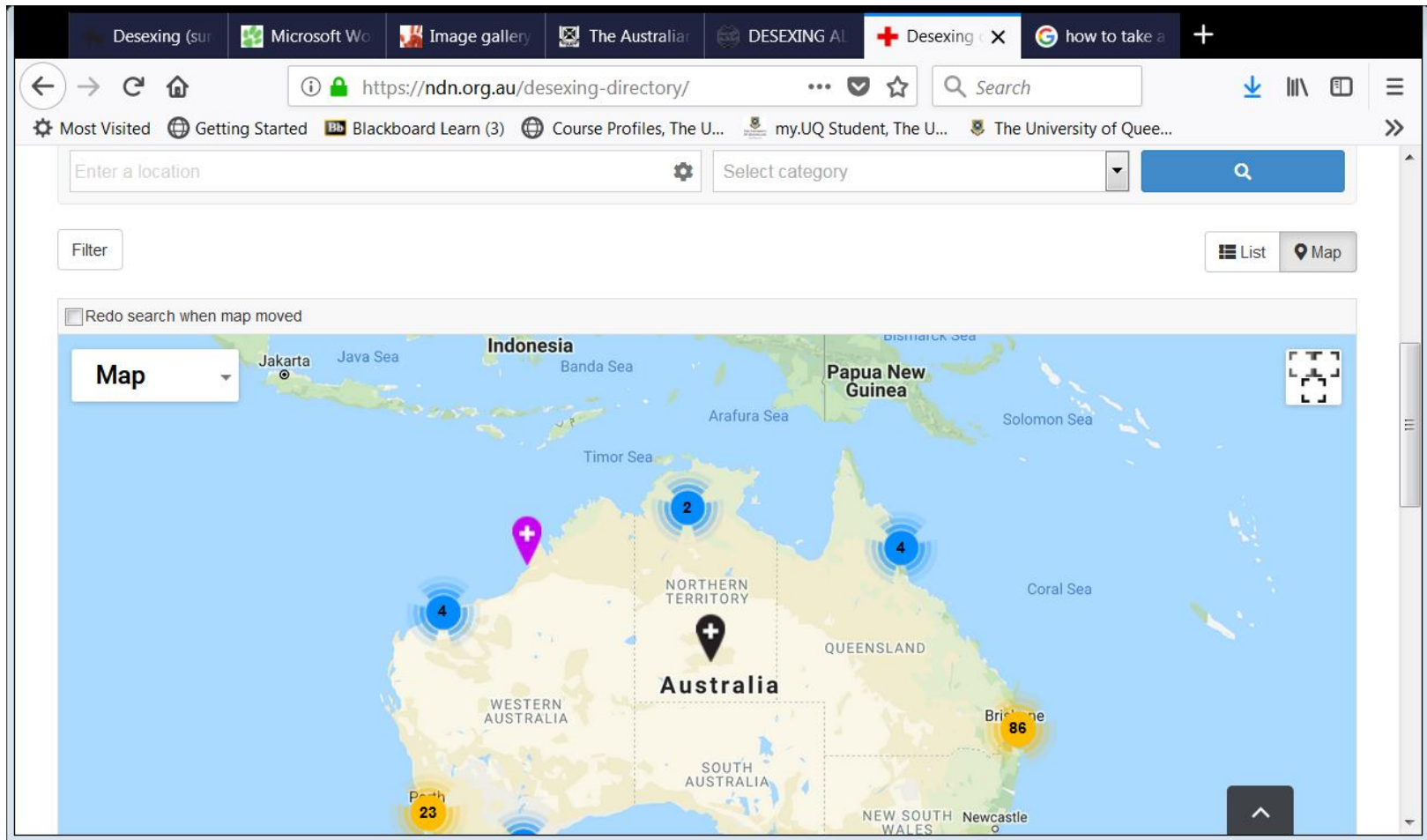


A proud initiative of

**Animals
Australia**
the voice for animals

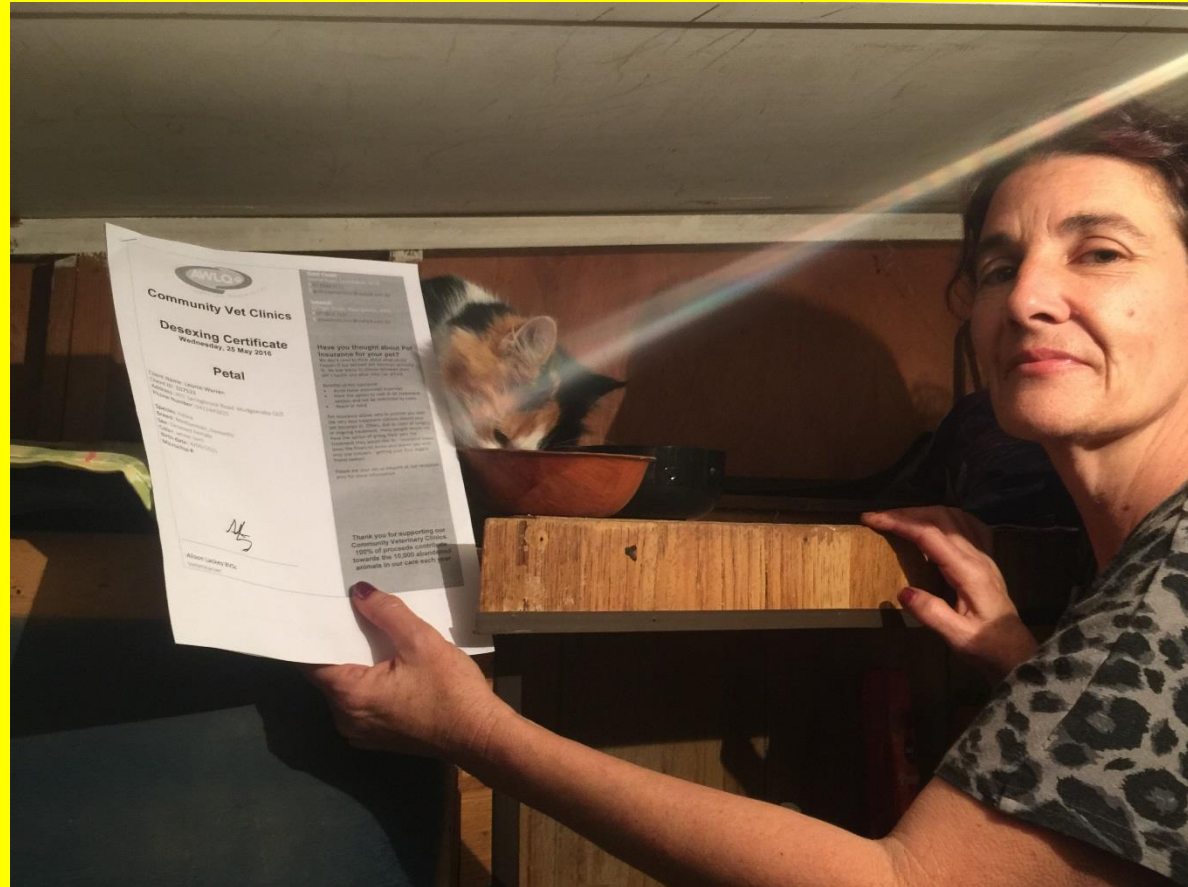


National Desexing Network



NDN Cooperative Desexing Program

Ongoing
targeted
low cost desexing
program
to help
those in need
in your city/town
.



NDN Cooperative Desexing Program

The costs shared by:

- Owners
- Council
- Local Vet Clinics
- National Desexing Network



How Cooperative Desexing Programs work

- Council budgets a set amount per year e.g. \$5000 - \$55 000
- directly subsidises desexing costs of residents in financial need i.e.
 - pension, concession
 - low incomes
 - large numbers of cats
 - residents willing to desex and adopt stray unowned cats



G2Z Cooperative Desexing Program

CATS	Owner pays	Council Subsidy	Vet receives* Covers all costs incl wages
Male cat castration	\$35	\$55	\$90
Female cat spey	\$55 for first cat \$35 for additional cats	\$65 \$85	\$120

Consistent conditions

- So low income earners can afford to participate:
 - 24 hour pain relief included
 - no requirement to vaccinate before desexing.
 - If animals are **pregnant or in season**, owners are not asked for additional payment. Instead **vets claim an additional \$55 from the Council Desex Fund.**



NDN currently manages the program Free of charge to Councils!

- NDN invites all local vets to participate
- NDN receives owner calls and determines eligibility
- issues vouchers
- manages Council funding to reimburse vet clinics
- organises promotional materials



Councils involved in NDN Cooperative Desexing Programs

- Currently 7 Councils in Queensland
 - Gold Coast (8 years), Lockyer Valley Regional Council, Ipswich City, and Fraser Coast (2 years), Camden Council, Brisbane City Council and Banana Shire Council (first year)
- Contributions range from \$8000 - \$52 000 – all funding goes to desexing for residents in need

Focus on cats

- More prolific breeding rate of cats than dogs
- Double or triple euthanasia rates in most Australian states
- A greater proportion of unwanted litters of kittens than puppies in pounds and shelters.



NDN Cooperative Desexing Program for dogs

Desexing subsidies can
contribute to management
of dogs too

ie. dogs and puppies who
are neglected, untrained
and wandering

However, dogs are more
expensive to desex and
require a greater Council
contribution.

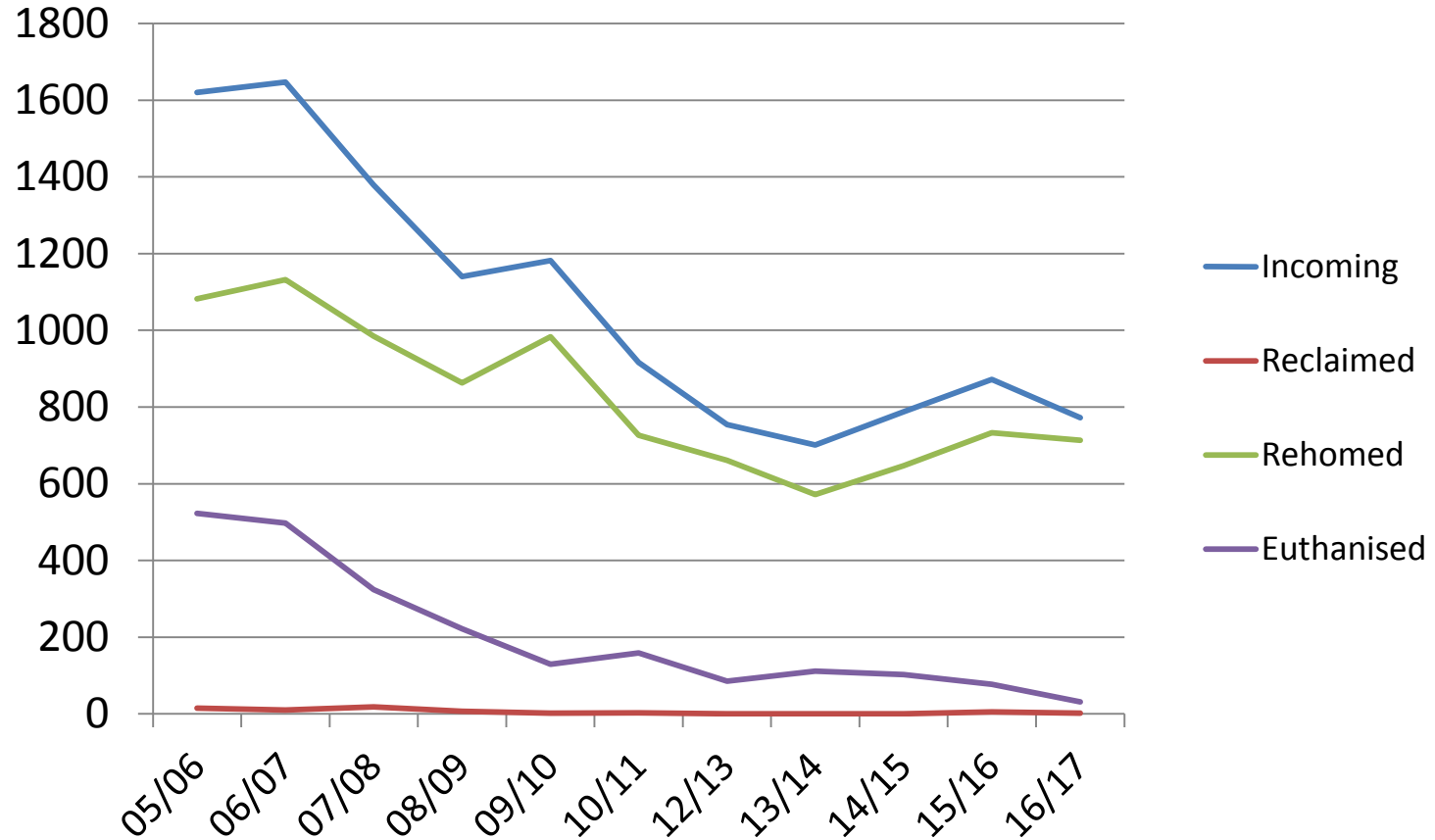


Benefits of Councils funding desexing



1. Fig 2: Gold Coast Kittens 2005/6 - 2016/17

Note: 2011/12 not included due to change of data systems causing possible inaccuracies



Desexing focus more effective to manage cats than registration / microchipping

Cat Euth Rates			
	2005/6	2010/11	Reduction
NSW	68%	62%	6%
Gold Coast	49%	17%	32%

2. COUNCIL SAVINGS BY FUNDING DESEXING SUBSIDIES instead of COLLECT/HOLD/EUTHANASE.

**These savings increase exponentially as for each prevented litter, thousands more kittens who would have been produced BY EACH CAT IN THE LITTER are also prevented.*

Cat management strategies	Collect/Hold/ Euthanase one cat/one litter	Council Desexing Subsidy (average) One cat	Savings by preventing one unwanted cat / or one litter	Savings in 1 year if 300 cats desexed (cost \$18 000), preventing one litter each *
COSTS/SAVINGS held 4 days(on average)	\$220/260	\$60	\$160/200	\$48 000
COSTS held 14 days (on average)	\$420/480	\$60	\$360/420	\$108 000

COUNCIL SAVINGS BY FUNDING DESEXING SUBSIDIES instead COLLECTING/HOLDING/REHOMING

Cat management strategies	COST Collect /Hold/ Rehome one cat	COST Council Desexing Subsidy (average) One cat	SAVINGS by preventing one unwanted cat, instead of rehoming	Savings by desexing 300 cats (cost \$18 000), instead of rehoming *
COSTS/SAVINGS	\$620	\$60	\$560	\$168 000

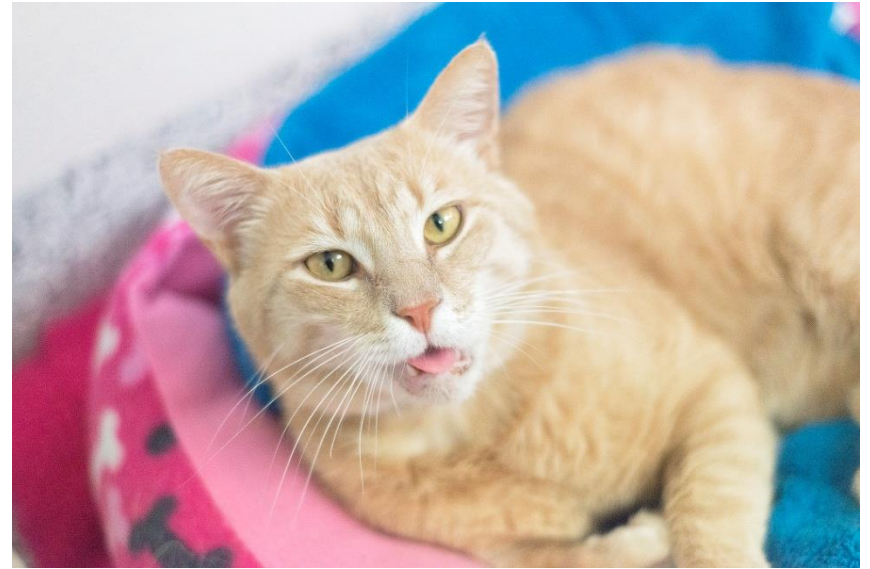
3. Positive animal management

- AMO's able to offer support rather than just fine and take animals away
- Greater job satisfaction
- Community support
- Todd Stosuy, Field Services Manager, County of Santa Cruz, CA, USA
Proactive Community Animal Control
- <http://www.g2z.org.au/6th-national-g2z-summit-2015.html>
AIAM invited speaker/workshop 2016



4. Help people comply with desexing/breeder permit laws

- ACT, Tas, WA, SA, NSW legislated requirement to desex
- Councils need to support those in your community who have limited capacity to desex their cats or who are trying to help a stray cat which has arrived on their doorstep



Is your cat desexed?

Do you have a breeder permit?

Changes to Gold Coast City Council animal management legislation now require residents who intend to breed their cat or dog, to obtain a breeder permit from council.

To reduce numbers of unwanted and euthanased pets at local pounds, GCCC, with the national Desexing network (NDN) and the Animal Welfare League Qld, is running a subsidised desexing program.

**Contact the National Desexing Network (NDN)
to find out if you are eligible 07 5509 9001**

Desexing vouchers for female cats at participating Gold Coast veterinarians. NDN also has information on discounted desexing for dogs and male cats.

* conditions apply

The desexing program is an initiative of the Gold Coast City Council and Queensland State Government working with AWLLQ and NDN.

**Desex your
female cat**

with the subsidy
for only

\$40*



Helping residents in need

- Some Councils have been offering a voucher e.g. \$50 toward desexing,
- As some vets charge \$250 - \$300 to desex a female cat, residents on low income still cannot afford to desex their cats, with a balance of at least \$200 - \$250, plus an extra \$70 - \$100 if the cat is pregnant or in-season.



Reduces nuisance issues

- Fewer unwanted animals born means fewer stray and abandoned animals.
- This means fewer issues for non-pet owners as well as pet owners.



Cooperative Desexing Programs also Prevent Unowned/Feral Cats

SA Study 2014 -

- 46% of owned cats are not contained to their property at all times.
- Less than half of owned cats are desexed at 3-6 months
- Undesexed wandering cats can breed & contribute to the unowned cat population



The community will help

The community will help by adopting or rehoming stray and even unsocialised cats if they get help with desexing

Many of these frightened cats can become rewarding companions



Developing Your Cooperative Desexing Program Step x Step – It's easy

1. Persuade Council to budget a set amount for the program (Summary and Benefits documents provided)
2. NDN contacts all local vets to invite to participate
3. Council pays budgeted amount to NDN who pays this subsidy to the vets
4. NDN provides materials for promotion



Can't afford to desex your cat?



**Do you have a pregnant cat or an
accidental litter of kittens?**

Camden Council, the National Desexing Network and
participating vets are here to help those in financial
need!

Camden Council CAT DESEXING SUBSIDY*

YOU ONLY PAY...

FEMALE CAT \$55 MALE CAT \$35

ADDITIONAL FEMALE CATS \$35

Cats should be desexed from 2-3 months
old as they can become pregnant from
just 4 months old.

Ph: 1300 368 992

*For Camden Council residents only. Conditions apply; available while funds last.

Proudly supported by



Advertise in Council newsletters, on social media, websites

Can't afford to desex your cat?



City of Gold Coast with Animal Welfare League Qld, National Desexing Network and participating vets are here to help those in financial need!

City of Gold Coast Cat Desexing Subsidy*

YOU PAY

FEMALE CAT \$55 MALE CAT \$35

ADDITIONAL FEMALE CATS \$35

Call today! Phone: 07 5509 9001

*Gold Coast residents only. Conditions apply.



Animal Welfare
League Qld
Est. 1959

CITY OF
GOLDCOAST™





MEDIA RELEASE

Desexing subsidy across Gold Coast to reduce unwanted kitten increase

Animal Welfare League Queensland (AWLQ) and the City of Gold Coast Council are promoting a cat desexing subsidy to residents in need across the coast to stem the number of unwanted kittens.

“With kitten breeding season about to start, we urgently need everyone to desex cats before they can potentially have their first litter of kittens from just four months of age and up to three litters in just 12 months,” AWLQ Strategic Director Joy Verrinder said. .

“For every cat which breeds, there are eight or nine fewer homes for existing cats each year.”

From tomorrow (*Wednesday, November 9*) AWLQ’s National Desexing Network is promoting the Cooperative Desexing program for people struggling to afford to desex their cats.

Nine clinics are participating across the length of the Gold Coast, including Arundel Vet Surgery, AWLQ Community Vet Clinic Coombabah, Companion Care Veterinary Surgery at Ormeau, Jacobs Well Vet Surgery, Pimpama Pet Vet, Pimpama Vet Surgery, The Pines Vet, Pet Wellness Centre in Burleigh, and Tugun Vet Surgery.

“It’s a wonderful community support service being provided by these vets. We are so grateful for their generosity and goodwill, and encourage people to support them,” Ms Verrinder said.

Procedure Continued

5. Cat owners phone NDN,
to determine if eligible,
offered a choice of
participating vet clinics.

6. Desexing vouchers sent
to owners with expiry date
of one month



Procedure Continued

7. Cat owners make appointment with chosen vet clinic

8. They give the voucher to the vet clinic at desexing appt, and pay their contribution.

9. Vet clinics return vouchers and claim form at end of month to NDN for reimbursement using Council funds.

10. NDN keeps records and provides reports on numbers desexed



Councils

Cooperative Desexing Programs

- NDN has had to increase its staff as more Councils come on board, so please notify us as soon as possible if you are thinking of budgeting for this.
- This extra cost may need to be shared across Councils as a small management fee to accommodate extra staff needed as the program grows
- However AWL SA have offered to contribute to NDN's extra staff costs to support this program when Councils in SA participate



What's great about proactive Cooperative Desexing Programs

- Reduced costs to Councils
- Positive & ethical outcomes for
 - local governments
 - cats and dogs
 - owners in need
 - non-owners
 - vets
 - wildlife

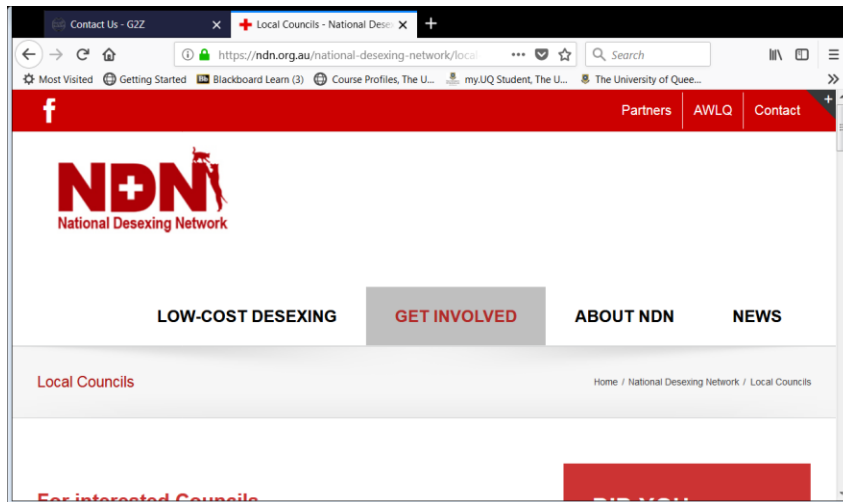


We look forward to helping you!

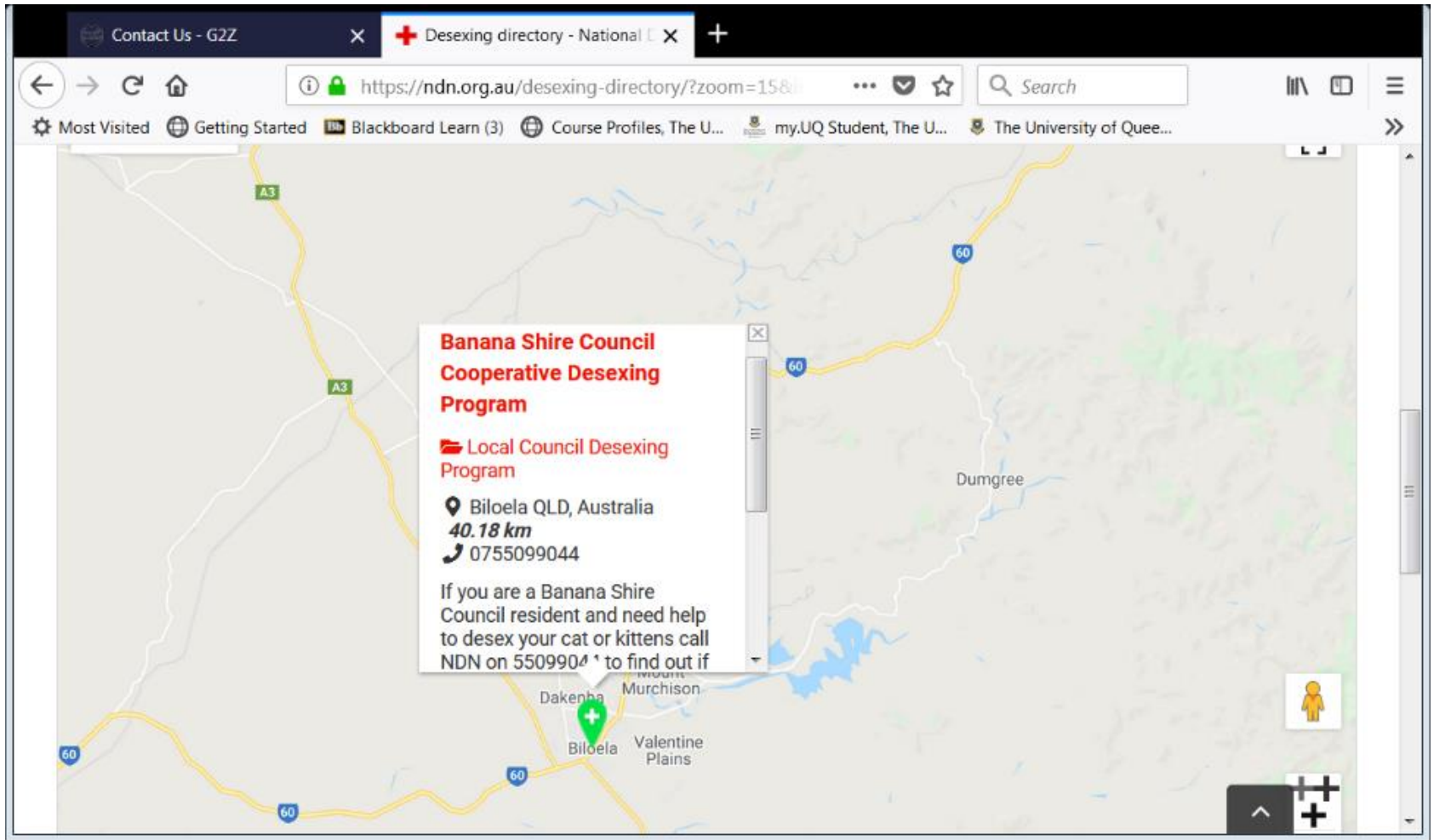
- Please introduce yourself to Nell and myself at our G2Z stand
- We would love to discuss any existing desexing program you offer or your interest in Council starting a Cooperative Desexing Program



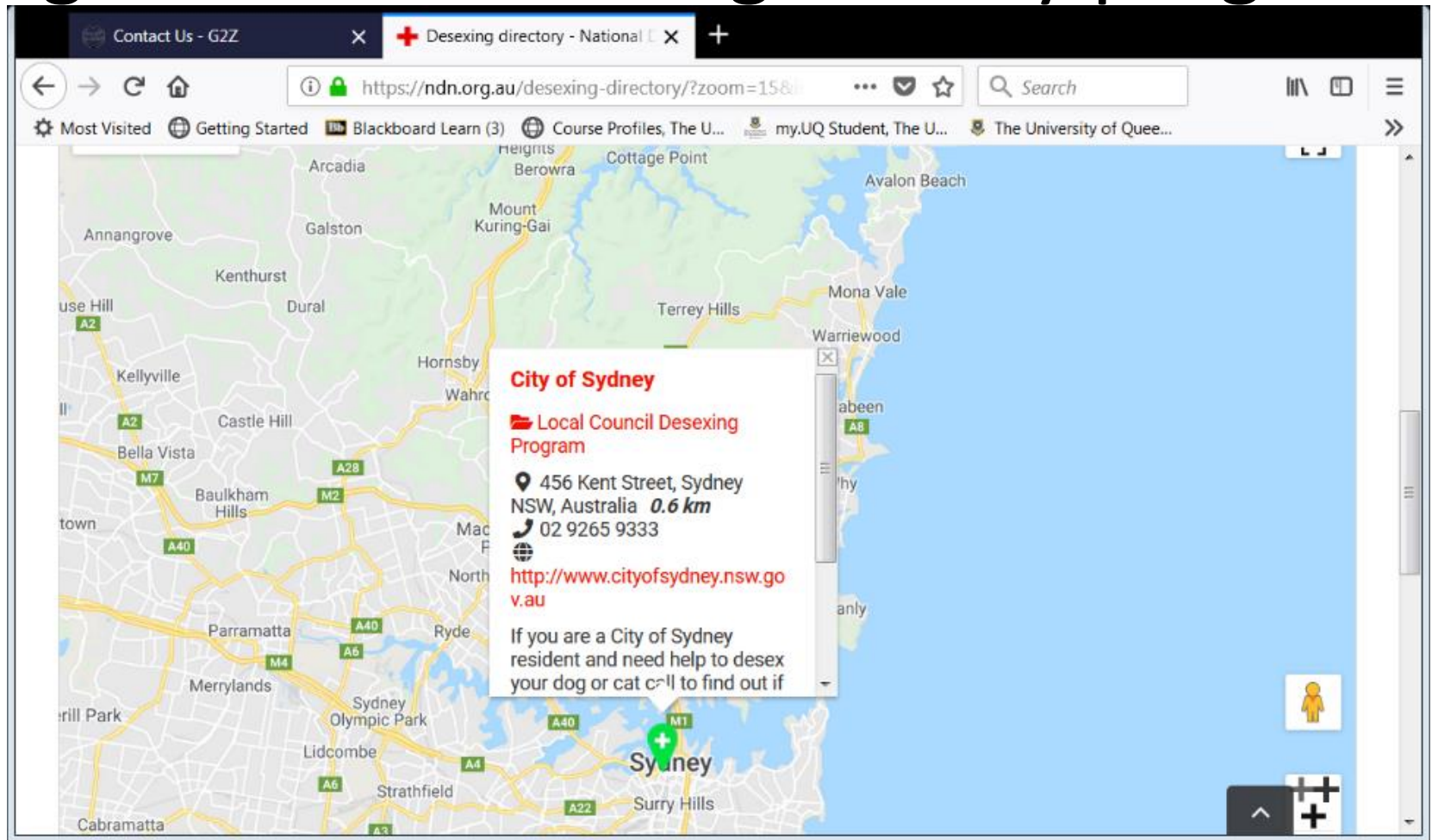
Register your interest in a Cooperative
Desexing Program or list your own
desexing program for promotion through
the NDN Website www.ndn.org.au

A screenshot of the NDN website's 'Council desexing subsidy information' form. The browser address bar shows 'https://ndn.org.au/national-desexing-network/local'. The page has a red header with a Facebook icon, 'Partners', 'AWLQ', and 'Contact' links. Below the header is the NDN logo with the text 'National Desexing Network'. A navigation bar contains 'LOW-COST DESEXING', 'GET INVOLVED' (highlighted in a grey box), 'ABOUT NDN', and 'NEWS'. Below this is a 'Local Councils' section with a breadcrumb trail 'Home / National Desexing Network / Local Councils'. The main content area is titled 'Council desexing subsidy information' and contains a form with the following fields: 'Name of Council *', 'Contact person *' (with sub-fields for 'First name' and 'Last name'), 'Position *', and 'Phone number *'. There is a red box at the bottom right of the form area.

We promote Council's Cooperative Desexing Programs on the NDN site



We also promote any other Council or organisation desexing subsidy program



Cooperative Desexing Program

Resources available at the G2Z stand

Summary and Benefits docs



NDN CO-OPERATIVE CAT DESEXING PROGRAM

Purpose

This targeted ongoing low cost desexing program to help residents in need prevents abandonment and cats, reduces numbers of wandering, unowned and feral cats, reduces Council costs of collecting, holding, euthanasing or rehoming unwanted cats, and supports breeder permit and desexing legislation and reduces wildlife predation. This program has focussed on cats due to their faster breeding rate and higher intake euthanasia rates of kittens and cats. However, it can also be developed to apply to dogs.

How it works

1. Councils fund an annual amount e.g. \$5 000 to \$50 000, to subsidise desexing costs for cat owners in need
 - holders of pension, concession or health care cards
 - people on low incomes
 - people with large numbers of cats/dogsCouncil funds used proactively in this way over a number of years, along with other G2Z strategies have to reduce the number of abandoned cats and dogs in the community.
<http://www.g2z.org.au/pdf/Benefits%20of%20funding%20cooperative%20desexing%20programs%20>
2. Costs are shared between owners, Council, animal welfare groups and veterinarians. Prices must be low enough to allow owners on a pension or low income to contribute, yet still cover veterinary costs.



The Benefits of Councils Funding NDN Co-operative Desexing Programs

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