



The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill
Minister for Multiculturalism and
Minister for Disability Services

MEDIA RELEASE

28 August 2017

DON'T FORGET YOUR PET WHEN PLANNING AHEAD

Our pets share as much of our lives as any family member and to many pet owners, they're just as important. Our 'best friends' are there for us every day, offering unconditional love. What happens to them if we're not there?

Attorney General Mark Speakman and Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams are launching a pet emergency card to prevent furry, feathered and finned friends from being left home alone when their owner dies or is seriously ill or injured.

Most pet owners feel like their pets are family. The pet emergency card will bring peace of mind to pet owners who now have a way of ensuring others know to look after their pets in case of serious injury or death.

Mr Williams says, "The conveniently sized card is designed to fit in your wallet. There is space on the card for a pet owner to write their pet's name and the details of who to contact in case of emergency."

The law already allows pet owners to make arrangements for the ongoing care of their animal companions after life events both unexpected and inevitable.

Owners can make provision for pets in their will, power of attorney and enduring guardianship documents. NSW Trustee & Guardian prepares these documents for thousands of people in NSW each year.

NSW Trustee & Guardian can help get you started on your planning ahead documents, and if an accident or illness leaves you without the capacity to make decisions, your appointed attorney can look after your financial affairs while your enduring guardian will make medical and lifestyle decisions for you.

"Importantly, your appointed attorney is allowed to enter your home and assist your pets if you are unwell," said Mr Williams

Emergency pet cards are free and can be ordered through the NSW Trustee & Guardian website www.tag.nsw.gov.au. To prepare a will, power of attorney or enduring guardianship documents, call 1300 364 103 or visit www.tag.nsw.gov.au.

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Your pet emergency card

Use this card to record emergency contact information like the name of your attorney and enduring guardian.

Card goes here

Plan ahead with NSW Trustee & Guardian

You can make your Power of Attorney, Enduring Guardianship and Will documents at a plan ahead day or one of our branches. We regularly hold plan ahead days at community venues across NSW. Check our website for upcoming days in your area www.tag.nsw.gov.au/planahead

There is an agent for NSW Trustee & Guardian at every Local Court in NSW.

Service NSW Centres also offer information on NSW Trustee & Guardian services.



FREE pet emergency card inside!

Services

- Will Making
- Will Safe Storage
- Power of Attorney
- Enduring Guardianship
- Trust Administration
- Deceased Estate Administration
- Financial Management

Contact us on 1300 364 103 or visit www.tag.nsw.gov.au

Make sure your pet will be looked after if something happens to you

- Power of Attorney
- Enduring Guardianship
- Will



Plan ahead for your pet

Pets are important members of the family for most Australians, but what would happen to your pet if you were unable to care for it?

By including your pet in your planning ahead documents – Power of Attorney, Enduring Guardianship and Will – you can help ensure it will always be looked after.

Power of Attorney and Enduring Guardianship

If something happens to you while you are alive your Power of Attorney and Enduring Guardianship documents can be used to give instructions about the care of your pet.

Your attorney can make decisions about your finances, including money to be spent on your pet. Importantly, your attorney is allowed to enter your home if you are unwell and help your pets.

Your enduring guardian can make health, medical and lifestyle decisions, including what services may be required to care for your pets.

Include your pet in your Will

You can make sure that your pet is looked after when you die by stating how you would like your pet cared for in your Will.

There are different options available such as leaving money to a loved one or animal charity with a request to look after your pet, or setting up a trust for your pet's care and maintenance.

We can help

NSW Trustee & Guardian have a lot of experience preparing planning ahead documents and providing people with support and advice to work through the different options available when planning ahead for a pet.





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MEDIA RELEASE

My pet is home alone

If I am sick or injured, please contact the person on the back of this card to care for my pets.

If I am sick or injured, see pet card in purse or wallet.

My pet is home alone

Compliments of: **NSW Trustee & Guardian**

NSW GOVERNMENT

Name & breed of pets: _____

Emergency contact: _____

Contact no: _____

Vet no: _____

Compliments of: **NSW Trustee & Guardian**

NSW GOVERNMENT