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- AWL Press Release -

**“Economic down-turn creates a crisis for abandoned animals...”**

The AWL cares for over **12,000 strayed and abandoned cats and dogs each year**. The month of September has shown the lowest rehoming rates seen at the Coombabah Rehoming Centre since the year 2000, suggesting to all at AWL that the economic down-turn is hitting South East Qld hard.

From this, it is easy to see how big a problem the Gold Coast faces with pet overpopulation. A contributing factor to this issue is the lack of adopting families there are to place them with after they have come to the AWL.

**For every animal that is adopted from the Animal Welfare League, a minimum two more animals take his or her place.** Katie Garrett Marketing Manager from the AWL says, “This is a scary position to be in. It makes it very hard to manage when there are more coming in than going out.”

With the average rehoming figure for cats being 250, the month of September saw only 99 cats go home, figures that indicate that Queenslanders are doing it tough financially and thinking twice before adopting a family companion.

With 12,000 animals each year, the AWL is desperate to see rehoming figures restored to their normal.

**For more information or an interview please call Kim Assim on  
(07) 5509 9030.**