Wudinna District Council

2024-2029

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN



Wudinna District Council
11 Burton Terrace, WUDINNA
www.wudinna.sa.gov.au

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Record of Review

Date	Activity	Notation
2 April 2019	Updated and review of plan, circularise with staff for comment	Completed
16 April 2019	Table at Council meeting for endorsement	Minute ref 10.6.1
17 April 2019	Submission to Dog and Cat Management Board for approval	Completed
30 July 2019	DCMB comments received and incorporated in the Plan	Completed
5 August 2019	Draft Plan to formal Public Consultation	Completed
4 September 2019	Closure of Public Consultation period	Completed
17 September 2019	Adoption by Council	Minute ref 10.5.2
27 September 2019	Submission to DCMB for S26A Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 approval	Completed
4 November 2019	DCMB approval received – letter 29 Oct 2019	Completed
4 November 2019	Final Plan released	Completed
5 September 2024	Updated and review of plan, circularise with staff for comment	Completed
17 September 2024	Tabled at Council meeting for endorsement	Minute ref 11.4.3
18 September 2024	Draft Plan for formal Public Consultation	Open until 11 October 2024
20 September 2024	Submission to DCMB for S26A Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 approval	Via Email
11 October 2024	Closure of Public Consultation period	Completed
15 October 2024	Adoption by Council	Minute ref 11.4.3
24 October 2024	Approval Received by DCMB	Letter
24 October 2024	Final Plan release	

Executive Summary

The Wudinna District Council is located on central Eyre Peninsula, covers an area of 5,394 square kilometres and has a current resident population of 1,136 (ABS, Census 2021). It encompasses the townships of Wudinna and Minnipa and settlements of Warramboo, Kyancutta, Pygery and Yaninee.

The district's main service centre is Wudinna which is located on the Eyre Highway, 693 kilometres east of the South Australian/Western Australian border, 580 kilometres west of Adelaide and more than 200 kilometres from the larger regional centres of Port Augusta, Whyalla and Port Lincoln.

This Animal Management Plan has been prepared by the Wudinna District Council (the Council) to further promote a planned approach to undertaking its responsibilities under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995. It will guide domestic animal management by the Council over the next 5 years.

The Plan identifies strategies and actions to implement the mission, aims and objectives for domestic animal management and relates these back to the wider policy context. It has been prepared in consultation with the community and endorsed by the Council.

This Plan contains a range of actions to be undertaken by the Council. These actions will enable Council to maintain a balance between competing interests and to ensure that animal management in the district addresses legislative requirements.

The Plan's Mission is to promote and facilitate responsible ownership of dogs and cats to meet the needs of pets and their owners while respecting the rights of other members of the community and protecting the environment.

The Plan aims to:

- promote responsible dog and cat ownership;
- ensure public safety and enhance the amenity and environment;
- ensure that the expenditure of registration fees addresses domestic animal issues.

This is in line with Council's Community and Growth Strategic Plan 2024-2034 Strategy 5.3 - Ongoing Services, which in relation to animal management, seeks to:

- Facilitate the registration of dogs;
- Action Client Action Requests (CARs) in relation to dogs;
- Assist property owners to deal with nuisance and feral cats;
- Generally deal with matters under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 and from time to time the Animal Welfare Act 1995 in liaison with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA)

The Dog and Cat Management Act was enacted in 1995 and at the time of writing this report is subject to further change debate by virtue of amendment bills. These will need to be taken into account if and when they are enacted. The objectives of the Act are to:

- Encourage responsible dog and cat ownership;
- Reduce public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats, and
- Promote the effective management of dogs and cats (including through the mandatory de-sexing and microchipping of dogs and cats).

To achieve the objectives of the Act there is growing recognition that enforcement of laws will not, on its own, result in lasting, voluntary changes in behavior. It needs to be supplemented by non-regulatory approaches such as public education and improved signage. In this new environment, it is essential that Council take a strategic approach to managing domestic pets.
This strategy will provide Council with a sound basis and direction from which it can plan, co-ordinate and make future decisions to meet the needs of the community over the next 5 years.

The Law and Guidelines

The responsibilities for dog and cat management in South Australia are prescribed in the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995. Under the Act councils are required to administer and enforce the provisions relating to dogs and cats within its area.

Prescribed responsibilities include the appointment of a Registrar, maintenance of a Dog Register, the appointment of a full-time Authorised Officer for management of dogs and cats, to make arrangements for dogs seized and its other obligations under the Act. A council is also able to make by-laws relating to the management of dogs and cats within its area.

The Act also provides for the appointment of the Dog and Cat Management Board, which has responsibilities to plan, promote and advise on effective management of dogs and cats in the State, to monitor Councils management of their responsibilities, to issue guidelines for councils, to advise and assist councils to undertake their responsibilities.

The Board also has a role to provide advice to the Minister to keep the Act under review, to undertake research into companion animal management and to provide education programs for dog management officers and community awareness information. The Act also provides that a council may appoint a cat management officer for its area of responsibility.

While these provisions provide the legal framework for the council's responsibilities and the penalties that can be imposed on dog owners for non compliance, this Plan seeks to implement a balanced approach that caters to everyone's needs both pet owners and the wider community.

Mission Statement

"To create an environment which encourages responsible pet ownership, where people and pets integrate safely and harmoniously within the community of the Wudinna District Council."

Aims

- Provide effective management of dogs and cats within the community.
- Encourage responsible dog and cat ownership.
- Ensure public safety and amenity in relation to dogs and cats.
- Provide for the welfare and safety of impounded dogs and cats.
- Ensure the expenditure of registration fees is directed to domestic animal management.

Objectives

1. Provide effective management of dogs and cats within the community.

1.1 Ensure that officers of Council effectively administer the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.

1.2 Encourage education of dog and cat owners.

1.3 Maximise dog registration.

1.4 Minimise the number of dogs wandering at large.

1.5 Enforce identification of dogs and encourage the identification of cats.

1.6 Encourage the community to report all dog attacks and harassments to Council.

1.7 Provide suitable on-leash activity areas.

1.8 Maximise the publics understanding of the roles of the Dog Management Officer and Council in the community.

1.9 Maintain data collection to better understand dog and cat management issues.

1.10 Encourage the registration of cats on the State database (DACO).

2. Encourage responsible dog and cat ownership.

2.1 Provide education material to residents, school children and visitors to the Council area.

2.2 Enforce the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.

3. Ensure public safety and amenity in relation to the activities of dogs and cats.

3.1 Prevent, as far as possible, the following detrimental impacts of dogs and cats:

- Barking dogs;
- Wandering dogs;
- Dog attacks/harassment;
- Dog faeces in public places; and
- Nuisance caused by cats.

4. Provide for the welfare and safety of impounded dogs and cats.

4.1 Ensure that impounded dogs and cats are returned to owners as soon as practical.

4.2 Ensure that all impounded dogs and cats have clean safe facilities while impounded.

5. Ensure the expenditure of registration fees is directed to domestic animal management issues.

5.1 Conduct regular reviews of income and expenditure to ensure that Council is using best practice with available funds.

Strategies

Strategy 1

Provide effective management of dogs and cats within the community.

1.1 Ensure that officers of Council effectively administer the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.

The strategies to ensure that officers of Council operate within the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 are:

- To ensure that relevant staff have the necessary experience, knowledge and skills to perform the required functions;
- Provide for ongoing training and development of skills; and;
- Provide appropriate policy and procedural guidance.

Actions:

1.1.1 Council's Chief Executive Officer continues to review staff training and development needs as an integral part of annual performance reviews;

1.1.2 Council's Chief Executive Officer continues to include animal management training and development needs in relevant staff training plans;

1.1.3 Council review its current policy and procedures if and when it is found necessary.

1.2 Encourage education of dog and cat owners.

Generally speaking most dog and cat owners want to do the right thing. Registration of dogs and general compliance with the Act is relatively high throughout the community. Council must do everything in its power to ensure that residents and visitors understand their obligations to act responsibly with their pets.

Actions:

1.2.1 Council continues to provide information and educational literature through the community monthly newsletter, council offices, school, library and with mail outs of registration renewal reminders;

1.2.2 Council encourages dog obedience training.

1.3 Maximise dog and cat registration.

Legislation in SA requires all dogs of or over 3 months of age must be registered. Councils cannot expect to obtain an acceptable level of dog management without obtaining maximum registration. This can therefore be seen to be the most important issue at hand and is the key factor controlling all other effective and successful dog management strategies. Dog registration ensures that:

- Owners are identified as well as their dogs;
- Maximum funding is available for Council to carry out its responsibilities under the Act;
- Responsible dog owners and the rest of the community do not have to financially support irresponsible and unthinking dog owners.

Actions:

1.3.1 Council continues to conduct ongoing surveys to identify unregistered dogs.

1.3.2 Council continues to provide registration renewal reminders via the mail and the community monthly newsletter.

Cat registration is available via DACO. Ratepayers with microchipped cats should record their owner and cats details on Dogs and Cats Online to ensure that if a cat is lost it can be reunited with it's owner quickly.

1.4 Minimise number of dogs wandering at large.

A dog wandering at large can be a threat to livestock and members of the public, particularly children and older people and Council is aware that serious attacks can arise in these circumstances. Council will therefore implement strategies to minimize its occurrence in the community.

Under the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act it is an offence to allow a dog to wander at large. A dog will be taken to be wandering at large if it is in a public place, or a private place without the consent of the occupier and no person is exercising effective control by way of a physical restraint.

The strategies are in two parts; the first to encourage owners to have adequate fencing and control over their dog and the second is the actions of the Council to the dogs 'wandering at-large'.

Actions:

1.4.1 Owners be made aware of their responsibilities to:

- Adequately fence their property to control their dog;
- Train their dog so as to not leave their premises; and
- Keep their dog under effective control when in a public place.

1.4.2 A dog management officer conduct random (day of the week and times of day) patrols of all public areas and detain dogs wandering at large.

1.4.3 Council respond to calls from the general public of a dog wandering at large. The priority of the Council will be;

- To return the dog to the owner except where the dog is found to be repeatedly wandering;
- Unidentified dogs and repeat offenders will be impounded in accordance with the Act;
- Unclaimed dogs that are suitable as pets will be eligible for distribution to persons seeking a pet, (subject to Council approval). Dogs being re-homed under this program will be required to be registered; and;
- Unclaimed dogs, which are unsuitable as pets, will be referred to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) for assessment of potential for re training and re housing. If this option is not available/successful, animals will be surrendered to the RSPCA (if available) or will be euthanised.

1.4.4 To encourage compliance, the principal Dog Management Officer will give written warnings for first offences that are not of a major nature, where no harm to a person or other animal has occurred. Penalties prescribed by the Act will be applied for re-offenders.

1.5 Enforce identification of dogs and encourage identification of cats.

Identification of dogs is imperative to provide sound animal management practices. Residents and visitors to the area must identify their dogs at all times.

It is mandatory to Microchip all dogs and cats (as from 1 July 2018).

Generally speaking pet owners do not allow their pets to wander at large. Accidental escape accounts for approximately 90% of dogs wandering at large. Often these dogs are not identified and therefore cannot be returned to the owner. The costs associated with impounding unidentified dogs and cats and the stresses placed on the animal and their owners can be avoided.

Actions:

1.5.1 Council staff enforce identification of dogs. That Council educate the public regarding the correct identification of dogs and cats.

1.5.2 Council staff encourage cat owners through education of the need to identify their cats so that in the event that it is trapped, it is not deemed to be a stray and consequently destroyed.

1.6 Encourage the community to report all dog attacks and harassments to Council.

Knowledge is the Councils best tool to reduce the number of dog attacks that occur in the community. The collection of data will enable Council to understand the situations that lead to such attacks and therefore the community must be encouraged to provide information regarding all attacks regardless of the severity.

Actions:

1.6.1 Council continue to promote the reporting of all dog attacks and harassment by dogs on humans and livestock throughout the community.

1.6.2 Council provide for the formal reporting, in person or via telephone and follow up, of dog attacks and harassment by dogs, through use of its Client Action Request (CAR) forms and tracking system.

1.7 Provide suitable on-leash activity areas.

Providing suitable on and off leash activity areas is beneficial to the success of animal management. Dog owners need suitable areas to exercise their dogs safely.

Equally, other members of the community must have the ability to use the amenities without fear of harassment by uncontrolled dogs. In areas such as streets, roads and places the public congregate such as shopping areas, dogs must be restrained effectively.

Dogs must be restrained effectively in all public places. ‘Public place’ means a place which the public has access (whether an admission fee is charged or not) and includes streets, roads, footpaths, shopping centre car parks, ovals and sporting arenas.

If parks assessed by Council for their suitability are available, dog owners should be able to exercise their dogs without restrain providing the owner exercises effective control. ‘Park’ means a park, garden, reserve or other similar public open space, or a foreshore area within the Council district.

Unfortunately within Council’s area there are very few parks, none of any size and none of which are suitable for owners to exercise their dogs without restraint. Sporting reserves are under the control of incorporated

community bodies and hence not available for declaration as “off-leash” area, even if they were assessed as suitable for this purpose. These sporting reserves are however extensively used by dog owners to exercise their dogs, under direct control or restraint and no complaints have been received regarding this practice.

Action:

1.7.1 Council continues to allow on-leash exercise of dogs in its parks.

1.8 Maximise the publics understanding of the Dog Management Officer and the Councils role in the community.

Some people have little or no understanding, or respect, for the role performed by Animal Management Officers and Council in the community. This can lead to mistrust and in the worst cases a total lack of respect for the Officers and the Council.

Action:

1.8.1 Council continue to regularly inform the public of their role and current animal management issues.

1.9 Maintain data collection to better understand dog and cat management issues.

Council must have accurate information in order to fully understand animal management issues. All complaints and follow up details, are therefore recorded via the Client Action Request System. Actions initiated by staff are recorded on formal Incident Report sheets, all of which are retained, together with correspondence and other records, in a dedicated file in Councils records management system.

Action:

1.9.1 Council continues to maintain accurate data and conduct annual analyse of complaints/actions to identify, report on and respond to, any trends regarding animal management issues.

Strategy 2

Encourage responsible dog and cat ownership.

2.1 Provide education material to residents and visitors to the Council area.

There are three factors that contribute to successful pet ownership. They are:

- The Owner, who needs to be aware of responsibilities of pet ownership, ensure that the dog is correctly registered, immunized and desexed. The owner is also responsible to ensure that the dog is trained and to be aware of the dogs behaviour at all times, including when away from the home such as at work. The owner is also responsible to ensure that the dog has adequate food, water and shelter and that the dog is regularly exercised.
- The Breed determines the size and often the temperament of the dog and its susceptibility to genetic defects. When selecting a pet it is important to seek appropriate advice on the soundness of animals being considered and their suitability to the home/yard that the dog will be kept in and the family that the dog will be joining, particularly if small children are involved.
- The Home environment is made up of the part of the home that the dog will have access to. In most cases this will include an enclosed yard and possibly part of the house. Important factors are the adequacy of the fencing, whether the dog can see out of the yard through a gate, adequacy of shelter, food/water and whether there are children, closeness of neighbours, other dogs and access to on leash and off leash exercise areas are all important factors.

Successful pet ownership has both financial and time commitments and it is therefore important that people contemplating pet ownership endeavour to match their choice of pet for their particular home and family circumstances.

Actions:

2.1.1 Provide advice that Online information regarding breeds and assistance in pet selection is available at Petcare Information and Advisory Service, www.petnet.com.au or the Dog and Cat Management Board of SA ,www.dogandcatboard.com.au

2.1.2 People contemplating obtaining a dog or a cat be encouraged to become familiar with the responsibilities of dog or cat ownership prior to obtaining a dog or a cat.

2.1.3 People who obtain a new dog or cat are aware it is **mandatory to have it desexed and microchipped** and are encouraged to have dogs trained.

2.2 Enforce the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act.

Consistent enforcement of the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act is an important factor in educating the public to act responsibly with their pets.

Responsible pet owners expect irresponsible pet owners to be dealt with through the provisions of the Act. Effectively there cannot be an incentive to act responsibly with our pets unless there is a disincentive for those who are not responsible.

Action:

2.2.1 The provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act be consistently enforced in accordance with Council policy.

2.2.1 Breeders be made aware of their registration compliance requirements.

Strategy 3

Ensure public safety and amenity in relation to the activities of dogs and cats.

3.1 Reduce the following detrimental impacts of dogs and cats;

Barking dogs

Barking dog complaints are one of the most difficult and time consuming areas of Council responsibility. Barking dog complaints are subjective depending on an individual's tolerance for dog noise. Having said that, Council must investigate and resolve this type of complaint.

In order for Council to resolve the complaint they require full cooperation from the complainant to collect meaningful evidence suitable to a court of law, if the complaint cannot be readily resolved with the owner of the dog(s). On receipt of a complaint Council will provide information to the dog owner and, if the problem continues, diaries to the complainant. If and when the diaries are returned, and the complaint substantiated, Council will take the appropriate course of action. Fortunately Council receives very few complaints about barking dogs.

Actions:

3.1.1 Council continues to follow the above procedure for the investigation of noise nuisance complaints.

3.1.2 Council will provide educational material to dog owners to assist in changing barking behavior in the event of a complaint regarding dog noise nuisances.

Dog attacks/harassment

As previously stated all dog attacks/harassment must be recorded and investigated. In order to reduce the incidence of dog attacks Council must educate the public to act responsibly. The issue of dog attacks and harassment is of great concern to the general community, particularly in relation to children and the elderly.

While a minority of dogs are involved in attacks and harassment, all dogs have the potential to bite, regardless of size, age, breed or temperament, particularly in situations where they are frightened, dominant, protective or possessive. How to avoid being bitten or how to read a dog's body language are important issues on which to educate the public.

Actions:

3.1.3 Council collates statistics related to dog attacks and examines the types and breeds of dog registered in the Council area to determine any trends applicable.

3.1.4 Council provides the opportunity to people who have been attacked/harassed, or whose stock has been attacked/harassed, to apply for an appropriate Order to be made.

3.1.5 Council maintains a history of dogs that have attacked/harassed and makes appropriate Orders where considered necessary.

Dog faeces in public places

The management of dog faeces is an important environmental and health issue and is an issue on which the community has strong feelings. Ongoing education on responsible dog ownership including the need to prevent dogs fouling public places and private property is required.

Action:

3.1.6 Council continues to educate the public on all aspects of responsible dog ownership throughout each year:

3.1.7 Council to provide "Pet Waste" dispenser bags at selected sites in the community

Nuisance caused by cats

Under the provision of the Dog and Cat Management Act an unowned cat can be trapped when found wandering on private property. If an occupier traps a cat and it is identifiable the cat must be released unless the cat is more than one kilometre from a genuine place of residence. Under the provisions of the Act a cat must be identified by way of a collar with ownership details or by way of a microchip.

Action:

3.1.7 Council continues to provide cat traps to residents experiencing problems with cats.

Strategy 4

Provide for the welfare and safety of impounded dogs and cats.

4.1 Ensure that impounded dogs are returned to owners as soon as practical.

Council quickly follows the procedures laid down in the Act when identified and unidentified dogs are impounded, to provide the owner with the opportunity to have the dog released from the pound as soon as possible.

Action:

4.1.1 Council continues to diligently attempt to contact dog and cat owners as quickly as possible after a dog is impounded.

4.2 Ensure that all impounded dogs and cats have clean safe facilities while impounded.

Council maintains and operates its dog and cat holding facilities in accordance with the "Code of Conduct for Pounds and Shelters" as set down by the Dog and Cat Management Board.

Action:

4.2.1 Council continue the above practice and conducts an annual review of the pound for compliance.

Strategy 5

Ensure the expenditure of registration fees is directed to domestic animal management issues.

5.1 Conduct regular reviews of income and expenditure to ensure that Council is using best practice with available funds.

Under the provisions of the Act Council must utilize money generated from dog registrations in the area of dog management. The implementation of this plan is a clear demonstration of Councils desire to fulfil this obligation.

Council maintains appropriate records of income and expenditure in this area and provides a budget to the Dog & Cat Management Board each year.

Action:

5.1.1 Council continues to review dog management expenditure needs, from dog registration income, as part of its annual budget development processes.

Strategy 6

Council to enforce it's By Laws with respect to Dogs and Cats.

6.1 Promote and enforce new Council By Laws with respect to Dogs and Cats within the Council district

As called for under the previous version of this plan, Council By Laws are in place:

By Law 5	Dogs By Law	By Law effective 24 December 2023	By Law expires 1 January 2031
By Law 6	Dogs By Law	By Law effective 24 December 2023	By Law expires 1 January 2031

By Laws assist with the localised management of Dogs and Cats and include limits of animal numbers at locations

Action:

6.1.1 Council undertake actions in terms of it's By Laws in the areas of Dog and Cat Management.

Strategy 7

Council to investigate off leash areas within it's district.

7.1 Investigation and if appropriate implementation of off leash area(s) within township zones with respect to Dogs within the Council district

Council to investigate off leash area(s) (dog park) within it's area to promote the safe exercise and containment of dogs.

Action:

7.1.1 Council undertake investigation of possible locations, planning and assessment for the potential development of off leash contained areas focusing on township zones.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Strategies	Actions/Targets	KPIs
Strategy 1 Provide effective management of dogs and cats within the community.		
1.1 Ensure that officers of Council effectively administer the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.	• Ensure that relevant staff have the necessary experience, knowledge and skills to perform the required functions;	Annual performance appraisal.
	• Provide for ongoing training and development of skills; and;	Annual training plan/training undertaken.
	• Provide appropriate policy and procedural guidance.	Policies and procedures in place and regularly reviewed.
1.2 Encourage education of dog and cat owners.	• Provide information through community newsletter, council offices, school and library and with mail outs of registration renewal reminders; and	Newsletter items/availability of literature.
	• Encourage dog obedience training through provision of information and registration discounts.	% of discounted registrations for obedience trained dogs.
1.3 Maximise dog and cat registration.	• Regular physical surveys of township and settlements to identify unregistered dogs; and	Survey frequency.
	• Registration renewal reminders via the mail and the community monthly newsletter.	Mail out and article at start of July each year & subsequent follow up mail outs and articles.
1.4 Minimise number of dogs wandering at large.	• Owners be made aware of their responsibility to control dogs;	Newsletter items/written warnings and expiations issued.
	• Random patrols of public areas and detention of dogs wandering at large.	Patrol frequency.

	• Response to complaints from the public of dogs wandering at large; and • Written warnings and expiations in accordance with Council's policy.	Client Action Request (CAR) database/Dog & Cat Management Statistics (Form 28). As above.
1.5 Enforce identification of dogs and encourage identification of cats.	• Promote requirement for registration tags on dog collars; and	Warnings and expiations issued.
	• Inform cat owners through education of the need to identify their cats.	Newsletter items/availability of literature.
1.6 Encourage the community to report all dog attacks and harassments to Council.	• Council promotes the reporting of all dog attacks and harassment by dogs on humans and livestock; and	Newsletter items/Annual Report.
	• Council provides for the formal reporting, and follow up, of dog attacks and harassment by dogs, through use of its Client Action Request (CAR) forms and tracking system.	Client Action Request (CAR) database.
1.7 Provide suitable on-leash activity areas.	• Council continues to allow on-leash exercise of dogs in its parks.	Absence of any prohibitions.
1.8 Maximise the public's understanding of the Dog Management Officer and the Councils role in the community.	• Council regularly informs the public of their role and current animal management issues.	Newsletter items/Annual Report.
1.9 Maintain data collection to better understand dog and cat management issues.	Council continues to maintain accurate data and conduct annual analyse of complaints/actions.	Client Action Request (CAR) database/Dog & Cat Management Statistics (Form 28)/Annual Report.

Strategy 2 Encourage responsible dog and cat ownership.		
2.1 Provide education material to residents and visitors to the Council area.	• Provide advice that; ○ Online information regarding breeds and assistance in pet selection is available at Petcare Information and Advisory Service, www.petnet.com.au or the Dog and Cat Management Board of SA www.dogandcatboard.com.au	Newsletter items/availability of literature.
	○ People contemplating obtaining a dog or a cat be encouraged to become familiar with the responsibilities of dog or cat ownership prior to obtaining a dog or a cat.	
	○ People who obtain a new dog are encouraged to have it trained.	
2.2 Enforce the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act.	• The provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act be consistently enforced in accordance with Council policy.	Client Action Request (CAR) database/Dog & Cat Management Statistics (Form 28)/Annual Report.

Strategy 3 Ensure public safety and amenity in relation to the activities of dogs and cats.		
3.1 Reduce the following detrimental impacts of dogs and cats.		
• **Barking dogs**	• That Council follows the procedure set out in this Plan for the investigation of barking dog complaints.	Client Action Request (CAR) database & investigation records.
	• Council will provide educational material to dog owners to assist in changing barking behaviour.	As above

• **Dog attacks/harassment**	• Council collates statistics and examines the types and breeds of dog to determine any trends applicable.	Dog & Cat Management Statistics (Form 28) & D&CMB incident reports.
	• Council provides the opportunity to people who have been attacked/harassed, or whose stock has been attacked/harassed, to apply for an appropriate Order to be made.	Client Action Request (CAR) database & investigation records.
	• Council maintains a history of dogs that have attacked/harassed and makes appropriate Orders where considered necessary.	Client Action Request (CAR) database/investigation records/DCMB incident reports.
• **Dog faeces in public places**	• Council continues to educate the public on all aspects of responsible dog ownership throughout each year.	Newsletter items/availability of literature.
• **Nuisance caused by cats**	• Council continues to provide cat traps to residents experiencing problems with cats.	Cat trap loan records.

Strategy 4 Provide for the welfare and safety of impounded dogs and cats.		
4.1 Ensure that impounded dogs are returned to owners as soon as practical.	• Council continues to diligently attempt to contact dog owners as quickly as possible after a dog is impounded.	Dog & Cat Management Statistics (Form 28)
4.2 Ensure that all impounded dogs and cats have clean safe facilities while impounded.	• Council maintains and operates it dog holding facilities in accordance with the "Code of Conduct for Pounds and Shelters	Construction, facilities and condition of pound.

Strategy 5 Ensure the expenditure of registration fees is directed to domestic animal management issues.		
5.1 Conduct regular reviews of income and expenditure to ensure that Council is using best practice with available funds.	• Council continues to review dog management expenditure needs, from dog registration income, as part of its annual budget development processes.	Annual returns to D&CMB/Council's income and expenditure records/Council's annual resolution on registration fees.

Strategy 6 Council to enforce it's By Laws with respect to Dogs and Cats.		
6.1 Promote and enforce new Council By Laws with respect to Dogs and Cats within the Council district	• Council promote and enforce it's Dog and Cats By Laws to assist reduction of compliance issues.	Client Action Request (CAR) database/Dog & Cat Management Statistics (Form 28)/Annual Report.

Strategy 7 Council to investigate off leash areas within it's district.		
7.1 Investigation and if appropriate implementation of off leash area(s) within township zones with respect to Dogs within the Council district	• Council undertake investigation to possible locations, planning and assessment for the potential development of off leash contained areas focusing on township zones	Report presented to Council for consideration and further action if warranted