



Moira Shire Council

**Domestic Animal Management
Plan**

2018 – 2021



Adopted October 25 2017

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Domestic Animal Management Plans

Under Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act, every Council must prepare a domestic animal management plan, as follows:

68A Councils to prepare domestic animal management plans

- (1) Every Council must, in consultation with the Secretary (*of the Department of Primary Industries*), prepare at 4 year intervals a domestic animal management plan.
- (2) A domestic animal management plan prepared by a Council must—
 - (a) set out a method for evaluating whether the animal control services provided by the Council in its municipal district are adequate to give effect to the requirements of this Act and the regulations; and
 - (b) outline programs for the training of authorised officers to ensure that they can properly administer and enforce the requirements of this Act in the Council's municipal district; and
 - (c) outline programs, services and strategies which the Council intends to pursue in its municipal district—
 - (i) to promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats; and
 - (ii) to ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations and any related legislation; and
 - (iii) to minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals; and
 - (iv) to address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats; and
 - (v) to encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats; and
 - (vi) to minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance; and
 - (vii) to effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and to ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this Act and the regulations; and
 - (d) provide for the review of existing orders made under this Act and local laws that relate to the Council's municipal district with a view to determining whether further orders or local laws dealing with the management of dogs and cats in the municipal district are desirable; and
 - (e) provide for the review of any other matters related to the management of dogs and cats in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary; and
 - (f) provide for the periodic evaluation of any program, service, strategy or review outlined under the plan.
- (3) Every Council must—
 - (a) review its domestic animal management plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan; and

- (b) provide the Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan; and
- (c) publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.

INTRODUCTION

Local Government has long been the level of government primarily responsible for addressing domestic animal management issues through the enforcement of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

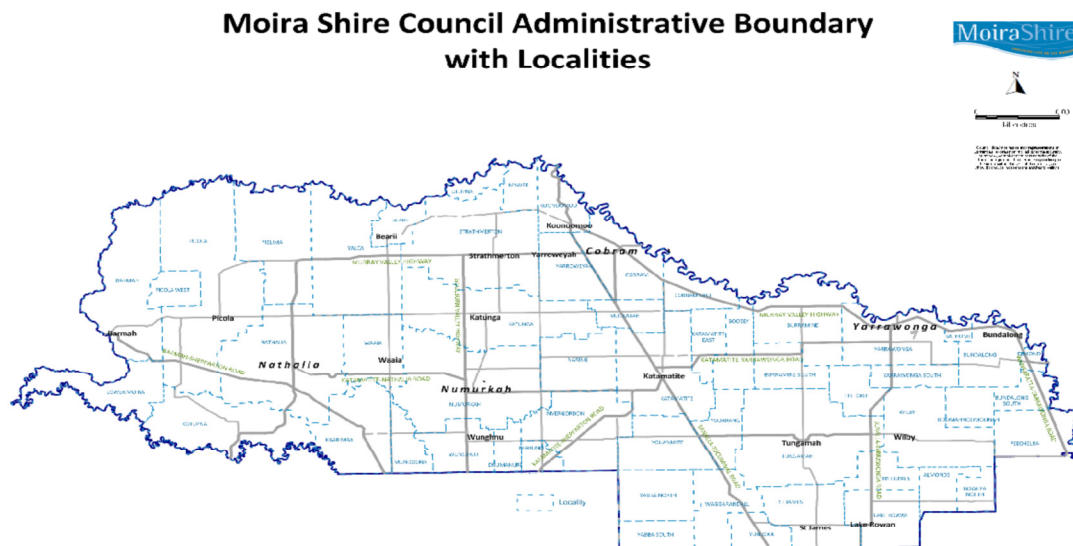
Moirá Shire Council has prepared a new Domestic Animal Management Plan 2018-2021 (DAM Plan) in accordance with the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*. The four-year DAM Plan builds on the previous Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-2017, creating the framework of the planning, development and evaluation of Councils animal management services and programs. The DAM Plan summarises the professional, consistent and proactive approach undertaken within the municipality.

Shire Demographics

The ‘municipal district’ of the Moirá Shire is situated in the Northern Country of Victoria and is bounded by the Murray River, Goulburn and Ovens River.

The Moirá Shire has an area of 4,058 sq. km, and a population of approximately 28,820 people. The municipality has four major towns; Cobram, Nathalia, Numurkah and Yarrowonga and 22 smaller communities - Barmah, Bearii, Bundalong, Burramine, Invergordon, Kaarimba, Katamatite, Katunga, Koonoomoo, Kotupna, Lake Rowan, Peechelba, Picola, St James, Strathmerton, Tungamah, Waaia, Wilby, Wunghnu, Yabba North, Yalca and Yarroweyah.

Moirá Shire boasts strong agricultural, dairy, horticultural and viticultural operations, manufacturing and food processing sectors; a thriving tourism industry; quality affordable housing and access to excellent education, health, and business services, sporting and recreation facilities.



Local Government Act 1989

Victorian Councils are largely empowered under the *Local Government Act 1989* with its primary objective “to provide leadership for the good governance of the municipal district and the local community”.

Moirá Shire Council strives to achieve this objective through the development of a Council Plan which outlines actions and strategic goals over a four year period.

The Council Plan consists of four (4) strategies:

- A great place to live
- A thriving local economy
- A clean green environment
- A well run Council

The strategies are then broken down further to include strategic objectives, goals and strategic actions which must address Councils statutory responsibilities and obligations in a proactive and equitable manner and outline Councils accountability for the services it delivers to the community.

The DAM Plan is included is Strategy 1 - A great place to live. The intent of this strategy is “We will have a connected and welcoming Shire for all by providing well planned places and quality services.

The strategy addressing the DAM Plan is to “protect the Safety and Amenity for the Community” with the performance measure being defined as “implementing the Domestic Animal Management Plan and reporting compliance to Council in a timely manner.”

Domestic Animals Act 1994

The *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (the Act), the *Domestic Animals Regulations 2015* (the Regulations) and all relevant Codes of Practice aim at promoting animal welfare, the responsible ownership of dogs and cats and the protection of the environment through the provision of various animal management services.

Animal Management is a rapidly evolving area with various amendments to the Act, the Regulations and Codes of Practice being introduced. The amendments reflect the changing priorities within the community regarding dangerous and restricted breed dogs, animal welfare, domestic animal businesses, euthanasia rates and pound operations.

To improve and promote the importance of the animal management service and to ensure that the legislative amendments are incorporated within every Victorian Council’s service, the Government has adopted a formalized approach with Section 68A of the Act requiring that each Council prepare and implement a DAM Plan every four years. Section 68A of the Act also outlines the requirements of the DAM Plan and includes the key issues that must be addressed.

The purpose of the Act is to promote animal welfare, the responsible ownership of dogs and cats and the protection of the environment by providing for:

- a scheme to protect the community and the environment from feral and nuisance dogs and cats; and
- a registration and identification scheme for dogs and cats which recognises and promotes responsible ownership; and
- the identification and control of dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs; and

- a registration scheme for domestic animal businesses which promotes the maintenance of standards of those businesses; and
- matters related to the boarding of dogs and cats; and
- the regulation of the permanent identification of dogs, cats, horses and other animals; and
- payments to the Treasurer from fees received by Councils under this Act; and
- other related matters.

Domestic Animal Regulations 2015

Under Section 100 of the Act, regulations surrounding the management of dogs and cats can be made by the Governor including prescribing specifications for declared dogs, including a standard for a restricted breed, permanent identification (microchipping) requirements and various other matters. The current Regulations came into effect in 2015 and are the *Domestic Animals Regulations 2015* (The Regulations).

Code of Practice

Under Section 59 of the Act, the relevant Minister may make Codes of Practice which specify standards for the conduct of domestic animal businesses and private keeping. The Codes of Practice may specify all or any standards for the keeping, treatment, handling and care of animals; standards for the facilities, equipment and conditions at business premises; and standards for the procedures and practices to be adopted with animals.

Once a Code of Practice has been made, it is an offence for a person or body corporate to conduct a domestic animal business that does not comply with the relevant Code of Practice.

Council acknowledges the existence of the following Codes of Practice's:

- Code of Practice for the Operation of Dog Training Establishments
- Code of Practice for the Operation of Greyhound Establishments
- Code of Practice for the Operation of Boarding Establishments
- Code of Practice for the Operation of Breeding and Rearing Businesses
- Code of Practice for the Management of Dogs and Cats in Shelters and Pounds
- Code of Practice for the Operation of Pet Shops
- Code of Practice for the private keeping of cats
- Code of Practice for the private keeping of dogs
- Standard for Restricted Breed Dogs in Victoria
- Code of Practice for the debarking of dogs
- Code of Practice for the use of animals from municipal pounds in scientific procedures
- Australian Code of Practice for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes

Council Purpose

The core purpose of the Moirá Shire Council animal management service is to:

- create an environment where people and pets can peacefully coexist within the community;
- minimise any adverse impacts on the environment and protect the community from feral and nuisance dogs and cats by providing a service to deal with wandering, aggressive or nuisance animals;
- manage a registration and identification scheme for dogs and cats which recognises and promotes responsible ownership;

- identify and control dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs;
- support and regulate animal welfare standards in domestic animal businesses;
- educate the community on responsible pet ownership and animal welfare issues;
- ensure that impounded animals are cared for in accordance with the Code of Practice for the management of dogs and cats in shelters and pounds;
- endeavour to reunite impounded pets with their owners;
- decrease the euthanasia rate in the pound;
- promote the re-housing of suitable pets with a suitable new owner;
- provide specialist advice to Council in animal management matters; and
- to ensure that the needs of the wider community are reflected through the administration and enforcement of the Act, the Regulations and Codes of Practice.

Process Applied in Developing the Plan

This Domestic Animal Management Plan has been developed in four stages. The first stage has a better understanding of Councils existing animal management services in order to identify gaps and prioritise future actions. The review included evaluating the level of implementation of Councils current Domestic Animal Management Plan, Policies, Procedures and Strategies and conducting a survey within the local community.

Following the review, the second stage was to undertake a literature review by gathering and evaluating;

- recommendations made by the Department of Environment Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR);
- relevant government legislation, Codes of Practice and guidelines;
- information from organisations involved with domestic animals;
- submissions made by animal welfare agencies and industry groups;
- benchmarking statistics provided by other Local Councils; and
- statistics collected through the Domestic Animal Management Plan Survey.

Key references important to this plan were:

- *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (the Act);
- *Domestic Animals Regulations 2015* (the Regulations);
- relevant Codes of Practice;
- Council Plan;
- Department of Environment Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) Domestic Animal Management Plan manual and template;
- Moira Shire Council Local Laws;
- Moira Shire Council Pound Register;
- Moira Shire Council Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-2017;
- Moira Shire Council Customer Request Management system; and
- other Council's draft Domestic Animal Management Plans.

The third stage was to develop the strategic framework to guide and facilitate Councils animal management services into the future. This involved the development of numerous objectives, activities and evaluation techniques to address each legislative requirement and workshops with the Safety and Amenity Unit to determine the activities.

The key priority areas identified were:

- training of authorised officers;
- registration and identification;
- nuisance complaints;
- dog attacks;
- dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs;
- overpopulation and high euthanasia;
- domestic animal businesses; and
- other matters including emergency management and pound maintenance.

The final stage involved community consultation and comment to ensure that the needs of the wider community are reflected throughout this plan.

Delegations

Local Government Act 1989

The Moira Shire Council 'municipal district' under the *Local Government Act 1989* covers an area where the Murray River forms the northern and western border of the Municipality, the Lower Goulburn River the south western border and the Ovens River the eastern border. Councils Authorised Officers enforce Victorian Legislation within these boundaries where Council is the land manager.

Domestic Animals Act 1994

The Domestic Animals Act 1994, Domestic Animals Regulations 2005 and any relevant Code of Practice are enforced within the municipal district by police officers and Council's Authorised Officers who are authorised under Section 72 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986

The *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986* and any associated Regulations and Codes of Practice is enforced within the municipal district by members of Victoria Police, RSPCA Inspectors, Department of Environment and Primary Industries Officers.

National Parks and State Parks

There are a number of National Parks and State Parks, located within Moira Shire Councils municipal district that are managed by Parks Victoria.

Parks Victoria Officers handle numerous animal issues within the parks including stray and feral cats and are able to address issues relating to dogs attacking wildlife under the *Wildlife Act 1975*.

Council's Authorised Officers will investigate serious dog attacks on persons within these parks if requested. Police officers are also authorised to investigate these types of matters

Wildlife Act 1975

Parks Victoria Rangers are authorised under the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* to enforce the *Wildlife Act 1975*. Victoria Police can also enforce this legislation. Council Safety and Amenity Officers are not authorised under this legislation.

Section 48 Offence for dogs or cats to attack etc. wildlife

- (1) If a dog or cat rushes at, attacks, bites, worries or chases wildlife while at large on public land, the owner is guilty of an offence and liable, upon conviction, to a penalty of not more than 25 penalty units.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to dogs pursuing game birds or sambar deer in accordance with regulations made under this Act.
- (3) An authorised officer may destroy any dog or cat found in circumstances in which the authorised officer reasonably believes that an offence under this section is being committed.

Section 48A Seizure of dogs or cats

- (1) An authorised officer may seize a dog or cat which is found at large on any public land which is—
 - (a) a Nature Reserve or a State Wildlife Reserve;
 - (b) a Wildlife Management Co-operative Area or a wildlife sanctuary established under Part V; or
 - (c) any other area prescribed for the purposes of this section.
- (2) If reasonable attempts have been made to seize a dog or cat found at large in circumstances in which subsection (1) applies, and the dog or cat has not been seized, an authorised officer may destroy the dog or cat.
- (3) An authorised officer who seizes a dog or cat must, as soon as is reasonably possible, deliver it to an authorised officer of the Council of the municipal district in which the animal is found.

Section 48B Owner to be notified

- (1) If the owner of a dog or cat which has been delivered to the authorised officer of a Council under section 48A is able to be identified from a marker attached to or implanted in the animal's body, the Council must notify the owner of the seizure of the animal.
- (2) A notice under this section must be in writing and must be delivered either personally or by post within 4 days after the animal is seized.

Section 48C Recovery or disposal of animal

- (1) The owner of a dog or cat which has been seized under section 48A may recover that animal if he or she pays the amount fixed by the Council within 8 days of the seizure of that animal.
- (2) If the dog or cat is not recovered by its owner within 8 days of seizure, the Council may sell or destroy it.

Local Laws and Orders

Council Local Laws and Orders that relate to pet owners are as follows:

Domestic Animals Act 1994 Section 26 Order

A Council may by resolution under Section 26 of the Act, make an order under this section which may do all or any of the following—

- prohibit the presence of dogs and cats in any public place of the municipal district of the Council;
- impose all or any of the following conditions on the presence of dogs or cats in any public place of the municipal district of the Council—

- conditions as to the means of restraint of dogs or cats;
- conditions as to the times at which the presence of dogs or cats is or is not permitted; and
- any other conditions that are specified in the order.

Dogs in Public Places

On the 9 August 2001, the Victoria Government Gazette G32, published an Order made under Section 26 of the *Domestic (Feral and Nuisance) Animals Act 1994*, regarding dogs in public places. A copy of the gazetted Order is outlined below:

“Notice is hereby given that Council at its ordinary meeting held on 23 July 2001 resolved to make the following order under the provisions of section 26 of the *Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animals Act 1994*:

1. That the presence of dogs shall be prohibited in the following areas:
 - School grounds throughout the municipality;
 - Municipal swimming pools and surrounds;
 - Yarrowonga foreshore between Hunt Street/Bank Street and the water’s edge, between Belmore Street and Woods Road; and
 - Thompson’s Beach, Cobram the area between the pine post boundary along the access track and car park to the water’s edge.
2. That dogs are permitted to be present in all other municipal places and public places only while fully constrained on a leash.
3. Clause 2 does not apply to the Showgrounds of the towns of Cobram, Nathalia, Numurkah and Yarrowonga, the football ground at Tungamah and other towns where dogs may be exercised off a leash in the presence of the owner during daylight hours only. This clause does not apply when an organised sporting event or similar activity is in progress, thereby allowing the presence of a dog on a leash only. ‘Owner’ has the same meaning as in the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.
4. That the Council order made on 16 December 1996 under the provisions of section 26 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* be revoked.

Any person contravening this order is liable to a penalty of \$200 for the first offence and a penalty of \$400 for a second or subsequent offence.

Note: This notice replaces the order that appears on page 1712 of the Victoria Government Gazette dated 26 July 2001 whereby clause 1 was dissimilar to the Council resolution.”

The *Monetary Units Act 2004* provisions introduced in 2004 overrides the penalties described above in the gazette.

Environmental Local Law 2003

Moirá Shire Councils Community Safety and Environment Local Law No. 1 of 2013 currently addresses:

- Keeping of animals;
- Vermin control;
- Cleanliness;
- Control of diseases; and
- Animal Excrement.

The relevant clauses of Community Safety and Environment Local Law No. 1 of 2013 are as follows:

6.1 Animals, birds (including pigeons), and poultry

- (a) No person may without a permit keep any livestock, birds (including pigeons), or poultry other than a domestic animal, fowl hen or song bird on any property in a residential area.
- (b) No person shall allow to remain on any property any noisy animal, bird (including pigeons), or poultry which in the opinion of an authorised officer cause a nuisance to any person residing in the neighbourhood.
- (c) For the purpose of this Part, noises emanating from such animals, birds (including pigeons), or poultry shall not be deemed to cause a nuisance to any person unless objections in writing have been lodged with Council from more than one resident of immediate neighbouring properties
- (d) Pigeons shall not be kept on any property unless in a pigeon loft constructed to Council's requirements.
- (e) Except on land in a rural area, an owner or occupier of land shall not keep:
- (i) a rooster
 - (ii) a goose or gander
 - (iii) a turkey or
 - (iv) a peacock or peahen

Penalty

First offence – 10 penalty units

Second or subsequent offence – 20 penalty units

6.2 Dogs

- (a) No person may without a permit keep more than two dogs on any property in a residential area or commercial area, or on any property in a rural area which comprises less than eight hectares.
- (b) No dog shall be housed or confined in an enclosure or tethered at a lesser distance than 5 metres from any dwelling on an adjoining property, and such enclosure shall comprise an area of not less than ten square metres in respect of each dog being confined.

Penalty

First offence – 10 penalty units

Second or subsequent offence – 20 penalty units

6.3 Cats

- (a) No person may without a permit keep more than two cats on any property in a residential area or commercial area, or on any property in a rural area which comprises less than eight hectares.
- (b) No person shall keep or allow to be kept a cat which in the opinion of an authorised officer causes a nuisance or damage to any person, property or the environment.

Penalty

First offence – 10 penalty units
Second or subsequent offence – 20 penalty units

6.5 Vermin control

- (a) The owner or occupier of any property shall keep the area of land within two metres of a poultry house, pigeon loft, bird cage or enclosure free from all dry grass, weeds, waste and other materials capable of harbouring vermin.
- (b) No person shall keep on any property where poultry or birds are kept, any food for their consumption unless such food is kept in vermin-proof receptacles or buildings.

Penalty

First offence – 10 penalty units
Second or subsequent offence – 20 penalty units

6.6 Cleanliness

- (a) The owner or occupier of any property shall cause every poultry house, pigeon loft, bird cage or enclosure, to be thoroughly cleansed as often as may be necessary and shall keep the same in a clean and sanitary condition at all times.
- (b) Droppings and waste from any animal, bird or poultry shall be removed from the property from time to time or as frequently as may be directed by an authorised officer so as not to cause a nuisance or offensive conditions.

Penalty

First offence – 10 penalty units
Second or subsequent offence – 20 penalty units

6.8 Control of disease

The owner or occupier of any property on which there is kept any animal, bird, or poultry which develops any contagious or infectious disease which is or is likely to be injurious to any human being or other animal, shall cause such animal, bird, or poultry as the case may be, to receive appropriate treatment from a qualified Veterinarian or be destroyed and properly disposed of to the satisfaction of an authorised officer.

Penalty

First offence – 10 penalty units
Second or subsequent offence – 20 penalty units

6.9 Animal Excrement

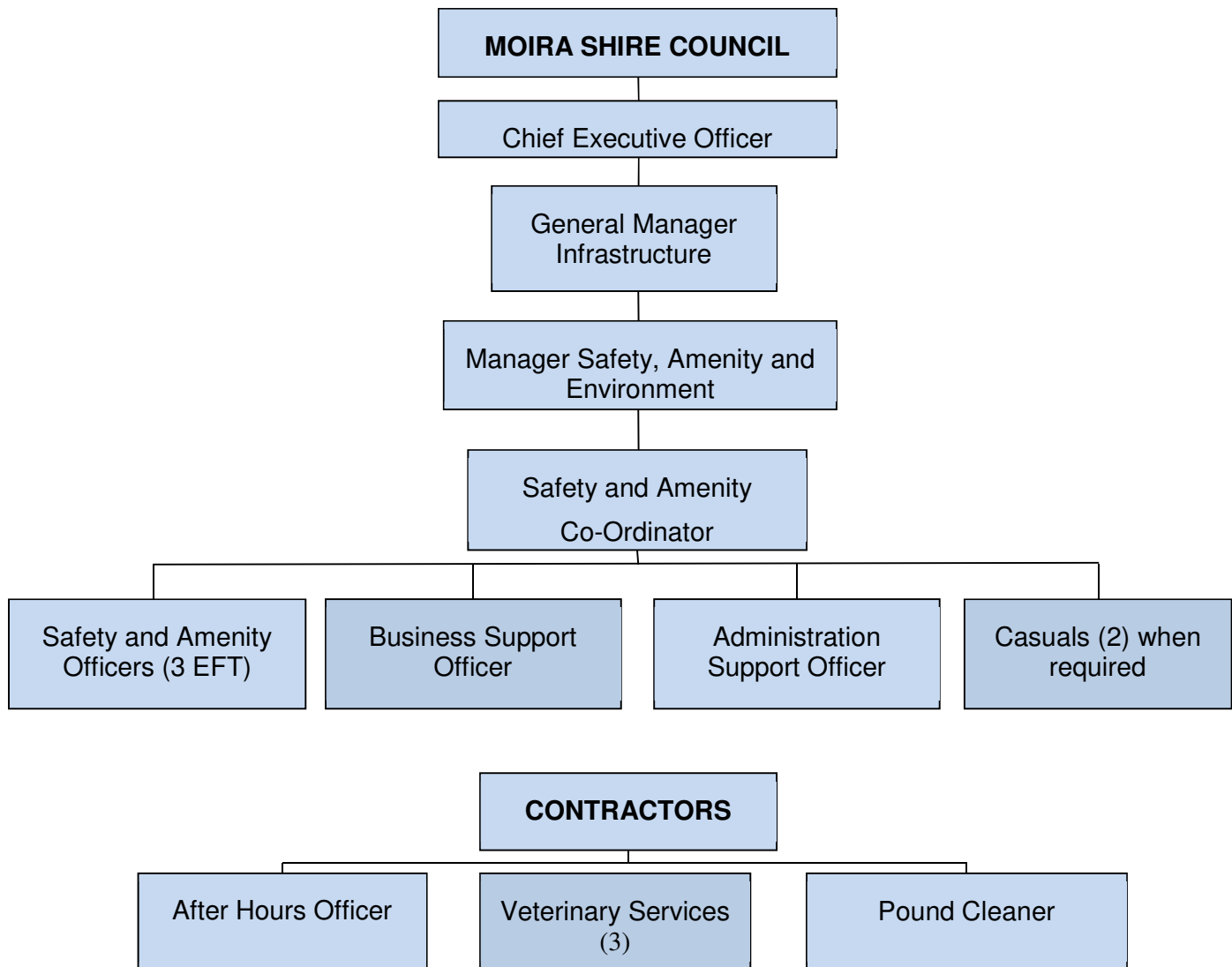
- (a) No person in charge of an animal shall allow any part of the animal's excrement to remain on a road or Council land.
- (b) A person in charge of a domestic animal must carry a suitable receptacle for the removal of that animal's excrement from a road or Council land.

Penalty

First offence – 10 penalty units.
Second or subsequent offence – 20 penalty units.

Operational Structure

The main department authorised under the Act is the Moira Shire Council Safety and Amenity Unit. The operational structure is outlined below.



The Moira Shire Council's Safety and Amenity Unit currently have three full time Safety and Amenity Officers, one Business Support Officer, one Local Laws Administration Officer, all of which are supervised by the Safety and Amenity Co-Ordinator.

Authorisation under the Act and other legislation is outlined in the S7 – Instrument of (Sub) Delegation by Chief Executive Officer.

The cleaning of the Pound is contracted out to a cleaning service and a contractor is engaged for the After Hours Emergency Service.

Current Service Levels

The Safety and Amenity Unit administers and provides a broad range of services in the management of domestic animals, which are outlined below.

Activities	Service Level
Domestic Animal Complaints	Dependent on the nature and urgency of the complaint. Response can range from immediate action or other time frames in line with Councils Customer Service Charter, business rules and protocols
Impounding of wandering, unwanted, surrendered or feral dogs and cats	Collected same day if restrained or as negotiated
Dog Attacks and Investigations	Immediate Response
Declared Dog complaints	Immediate Response
Pound Management	Pound is owned and operated by Moira Shire Council and is located in Pye Road Cobram and is open during office hours by appointment only
Cat Traps	Cat Trap hire scheme
Identification and Registration activities	Ongoing
Maintain Registration database	Ongoing Annual registration renewal notice are sent to pet owners prior to April Annual Overdue Registration reminder letters are sent in May as required
Registration door knocks	In response to complaints and non-renewed registrations
Provide advice on domestic animal matters	Ongoing
Media Releases	Council publishes and distributes press releases on various animal topics including notification of animal registration and micro-chipping requirements and targets other locally identified 'hot topics' as the need arises
Develop and maintain relationship with Veterinary clinic	Ongoing
Provide a 24-hour a day after-hours emergency service	Ongoing via Contractor
Domestic Animal Businesses	Maintain Domestic Animal Business registration database Inspections conducted as required

Domestic Animal Statistics

The following statistics have been obtained from the Moira Shire Council Human Resource data. Statistics have been collected from April to April to coincide with the annual animal registration year.

Domestic Animal Key Statistics	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Registered Dogs	2774	3190	3660	4829
Registered Cats	655	716	807	1193
Registered Declared Dogs	5	5	5	5
Complaints Received	1508	1361	1173	1501
Domestic Animal Businesses	8	7	2	5
Keeping of Surplus Animal Permits	8	38	37	41

Animal Registration Statistics

The following data has been obtained from the Council's Animal Registration database.

Registration Statistics	11 April 2013 10 April 2014				11 April 2014 10 April 2015				11 April 2015 10 April 2016				11 April 2016 10 April 2017			
	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%
Total Registered	2774		655		3190		716		3660		807		4829		1193	
Desexed	1763	64	623	95	2042	64	684	96	2361	65	770	95	3093	64	1140	96
Microchipped	2377	86	478	73	2791	87	538	75	3262	89	631	78	4472	93	1013	85
Dangerous Dogs	1				1				1				1			
Menacing Dogs	4				4				4				4			
Restricted Breed	0				0				0				0			
Guide Dog	0				0				0				0			

% Percentage of Total

Declared Dogs

The following data has been obtained from the Council's Declared Dog Register.

Declared Dog Statistics	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Total Declared Dogs Registered	5	5	5	5
Declared 'Dangerous' Dogs Registered	1	1	1	1
Declared 'Menacing' Dogs Registered	4	4	4	4
Declared 'Restricted Breed' Dogs Registered	0	0	0	0

Impounded Animals

The following data has been obtained from the Council's Pound Register.

Impounded Animals	11 April 2013 10 April 2014				11 April 2014 10 April 2015				11 April 2015 10 April 2016				11 April 2016 10 April 2017			
	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%
Total Impounded	245		269		220		253		174		331		224		365	
Feral / Wild / Uncontrolled	0	0	100	37	0	0	80	32	0	0	120	36	0	0	62	17
Owned Animals	245	100	169	63	220	100	173	68	174	100	211	64	224	100	303	83
Registered	23	9	0	0	23	10	1	3	18	10	0	0	29	13	1	1
Microchipped	119	49	8	3	124	56	8	3	90	52	9	3	129	58	27	7
Seized wandering	217	89	235	87	189	86	210	83	125	72	300	91	179	80	333	91
Seized dog attack	4	1	0	0	4	2	0	0	10	6	0	0	10	4	0	0
Abandoned	10	4	0	0	2	1	0	0	13	7	8	2	2	1	7	2
Surrendered	14	6	30	11	25	11	43	17	26	15	18	5	33	15	16	4
Born in pound	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	0	0	9	3
Reclaimed by owner	132	54	7	3	118	54	14	6	80	46	5	2	100	45	20	5
Escaped/ Stolen	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1
Total euthanased	35	14	218	81	29	13	194	77	26	15	229	69	37	17	206	56
Unsuitable for rehousing	9		0		10		0		13		0		28		0	
Rehoused	78	32	39	15	73	33	45	17	68	39	96	29	77	35	125	35

% The percentage from the total impounded for either dog or cat

Domestic Animal Complaints Received

The following data has been obtained from Councils Complaint recording system.

Domestic Animal Complaints Received	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Total Complaints	1508	1361	1173	1501
Cat (Lost)	88	68	79	104
Cat Issues	290	236	282	345
Cat (registration)	9	5	6	18
Cat (stray)	198	180	203	231
Cat (Surrender)	12	10	15	14
Cat (trap)	71	41	58	82
Dog (Lost)	291	287	206	234
Dog Issues	617	565	398	489
Dog Off lead	20	5	1	7

Dog (Greyhounds)	0	0	0	0
Dog (Nuisance)	22	24	18	10
Dog (Registration)	53	54	22	59
Dog (Stray)	504	449	321	356
Dog (Surrender)	14	28	21	36
Dog Attack / Rush	68	63	51	54
Dog Attack (Livestock)	11	13	12	7
Dog Attack (Other)	30	27	20	29
Dog Attack (Person)	20	16	13	14
Dog Rush	7	7	6	4
Other **	84	51	79	117
Animal business complaints	0	0	0	1
Cruelty / Welfare issues	67	41	49	74
Animal Control	4	5	13	18
Keeping of Animals	0	0	2	2
Noise (Animals)	13	5	15	22
Adoption Request	70	91	78	158

** Some complaints received in this section may be for any domestic animal

Infringements and Prosecutions

The following data has been obtained from Council records.

Infringement Offence	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Total Infringements	94	87	33	28
Cat at large in restricted district	0	0	0	0
Dog/Cat found in prohibited public place	0	0	0	0
Dog at large during daytime	14	6	6	1
Dog at large during night time	0	0	0	0
Failure to apply to register dog or cat	74	65	19	26
No dog/cat identification marker	0	0	0	0
Allow Dog To Rush Or Chase A Person	0	0	0	0
Non-Serious Injury Caused By Dog Attack	1	1	0	0
Not Renewing Dog or Cat Registration	5	15	8	1

Prosecutions	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Prosecutions Undertaken	0	0	0	1

Strategic Direction

The following table shows the mandatory requirements under Section 68A of the *Domestic Animal Act 1994* and the corresponding Sections of the Moira Shire Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-2017.

Section 68A	Description	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8	3	4
(2)(a)	Method of monitoring performance and evaluating the effectiveness of services		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
(2)(b)	Training of Authorised Officers	✓									
(2)(c)(i)	Promote and encourage responsible pet ownership		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
(2)(c)(ii)	Ensure compliance with Act and Regulations		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
(2)(c)(iii)	Minimise risk of dog attacks					✓					
(2)(c)(iv)	Over-population and high euthanasia rates						✓				
(2)(c)(v)	Encourage registration and identification for dogs and cats		✓								
(2)(c)(vi)	Minimise potential for nuisance			✓							
(2)(c)(vii)	Dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs				✓						
(2)(d)	Review of Orders and Local Laws		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
(2)(e)	Any other matters								✓		
(2)(f)	Periodic evaluation of programs, services and strategies		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
(3)(a)	Review of Domestic Animal Management Plan										✓

TRAINING OF AUTHORISED OFFICERS

68(A)(2)(b) Outline programs for the training of authorised officers to ensure that they can properly administer and enforce the requirements of this Act in the Council's municipal district

Council's purpose is to ensure that all staff involved in animal management have the knowledge and skills necessary to pro-actively, consistently and professionally administer and enforce the requirements of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

Context

	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Registered dogs	2774	3190	3660	4829
Registered cats	655	716	807	1193
Registered businesses	8	7	2	5

Currently, Council has three full time Safety and Amenity Officers, one Business Support Officer and one Administration Officer authorised under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*. Two of the authorised Officers have a minimum of ten (10) years experience in animal management.

Current and planned training

Authorised Officer Training	Current (2017)			Planned
	Officer 1	Officer 2	Officer 3	
Certificate IV in Animal Control and Regulation		✓		1 and 3 in 2018
Certificate IV in Statutory Compliance		✓		
Bureau Of Animal Welfare Information Seminars	✓	✓	✓	
Animal Rehousing Assessment	✓	✓	✓	
Restricted Breed and General Dog Identification	✓	✓		3 in 2018
First Aid	✓	✓	✓	
Dangerous dog handling		✓	✓	
Managing Conflict and Difficult Situations	✓	✓	✓	
Introduction to Emergency Management			✓	
Defensive Training eg, bite stick				1, 2 and 3 in 2018

Our Plans

Objective 1 Training Policy

Develop a training policy that clearly identifies minimum training requirements and any additional training opportunities that should be undertaken by authorised Officers.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Identify minimum training requirements by consultation with management and staff	By June 2018	Documentation finalised and incorporated into an approved council training policy within timeframe
Identify additional training opportunities by consultation with management and staff e.g. prosecutions training, conflict management, communication, education technique	By June 2018	Documentation finalised and incorporated into an approved council training policy within timeframe Annual review how many officers undertook training that was in addition to their minimum requirements

Objective 2 Training Conducted

Ensure each Officer undertakes training requirements in accordance with the training policy

Activity	When	Evaluation
Ensure all Officers undertake minimum training requirements in accordance with training policy and document training in Council Training Policy	Ongoing	Annual review of Training Register and Training Policy as part of employee evaluation process to ensure each Officer has completed their minimum training requirements

REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION

68A(2)(c)(v) *Outline programs, services and strategies to encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats*
 - also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)

Council's purpose is to endeavour to identify and register current unregistered dogs and cats each year throughout the municipality.

Current Situation

Our current data

Council maintains a register of all registered dogs and cats within the municipality. Annual registration fees due before 10 April are collected by Council. Each registration fee collected also includes a compulsory State Government Levy which provides funding for the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources Responsible Pet Ownership Program.

Animal Registration tags are being issued to every dog and cat as a lifetime tag.

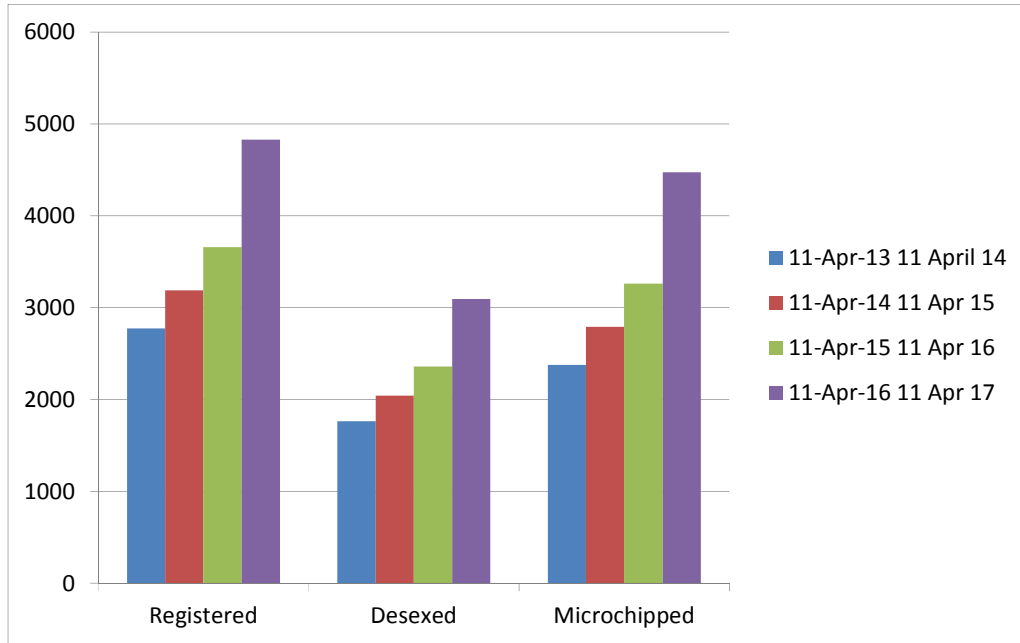
Registration Fee

Registration Fee*	Dogs	Cats
Maximum Fee	\$ 78.50	\$ 77.00
Max Fee Pensioner	\$ 41.00	\$ 39.50
Reduced Fee (desexed, or over 10 years old or working stock or animal kept for breeding by DAB or regulated obedience training or registered with an applicable organisation)	\$ 28.50	\$ 27.00
Reduced Fee Pensioner	\$ 16.00	\$ 14.50

* Registration Fee includes State Government Levy of \$3.50 for dog registration and \$2.00 for cat registration

The following is Councils animal registration statistics from 11 April 2013 to 10 April 2017.

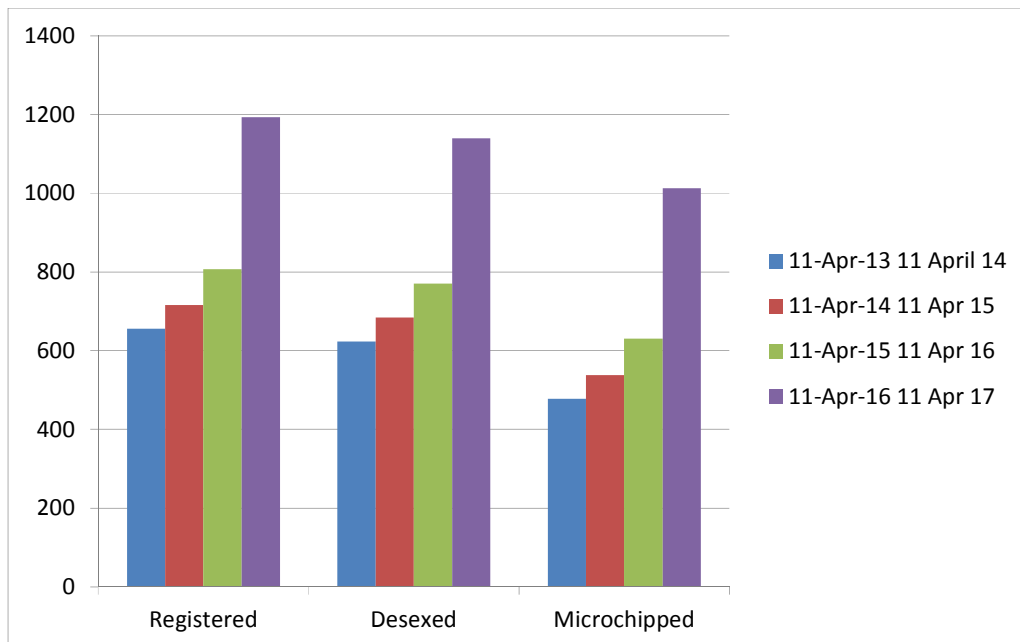
Dog Registration



The number of registered dogs has increased by 57% from 2774 in 2013/14 to 4829 in 2016/17.

In 2017, 64% of dogs registered are desexed and 93% are microchipped.

Cat Registration



The number of registered cats has increased by 55% from 655 in 2013/14 to 1193 in 2016/17.

In 2017, 96% of cats registered are desexed and 85% are microchipped.

Pound Statistics

Impounded Animals	11 April 2013 10 April 2014				11 April 2014 10 April 2015				11 April 2015 10 April 2016				11 April 2016 10 April 2017			
	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%
Total Impounded	245		269		220		253		174		331		224		365	
Feral / Wild / Uncontrolled	0	0	100	37	0	0	80	32	0	0	120	36	0	0	62	17
Owened Animals	245	100	169	63	220	100	173	68	174	100	211	64	224	100	303	83
Registered	23	9	0	0	23	10	1	3	18	10	0	0	29	13	1	1
Microchipped	119	49	8	3	124	56	8	3	90	52	9	3	129	58	27	7

Moira Shire Pound statistics for 2016-2017 indicate that:

- Approximately 13% of dogs impounded were registered and approximately 58% were microchipped
- Approximately 42 % of dogs impounded were not identifiable
- Approximately 17% of cats impounded were classified as feral, wild or uncontrollable
- Approximately 7% of cats that were owned were identifiable with a microchip
- No cats that may have been owned were registered
- Over 89% of the animals impounded that may have been owned were not registered or microchipped

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

- Application for registration and renewal of registration of dogs and cats form, approved by Council
- Registration fees are fixed by Council in the annual budget.

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

Activity	Schedule
Registration Renewal notice sent to all registered animals	Annually
Media release advising of requirement to register dogs and cats	Annually
The first week of April, an A frame sign is placed outside the main Council office in Cobram advising that Animal Registrations are due	Annually
Registration Overdue notice sent to all animals that are not registered by May	Annually
Participation in Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources Responsible Pet Ownership Program (statutory requirement)	Ongoing
State Government Levy collection for funding of Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources Responsible Pet Ownership program (statutory requirement)	Levy included with every registration

Our current Compliance Activities

Activity	Schedule
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Complaint Investigations	Ongoing
Warnings	As required
Infringements (Fail to register / renew)	As required

Summary

While the number of animals registered on Councils database continues to increase, the Moira Shire Pound statistics for 2016-2017 indicate that over 78% of animals impounded that may have been owned, were not registered or microchipped. With an increase focus on animal identification through permanent identification and registration, Moira Shire aims at increasing the number of identifiable animals within the shire.

Our Plans

Objective 1 Registration Numbers Increase dog and cat registration numbers

Activity	When	Evaluation
Ensure all seized and impounded animals are registered to their owner prior to release	Ongoing	Annual review of registration numbers and number of dogs and cats being seized and impounded who are not registered
Door knocking to check for unregistered and un-identified dogs and cats	Ongoing	Annual review of unregistered and un-identified animals picked up during door knocks

Objective 2 Seized Identifiable Show an increase in the number of seized dogs and cats (excluding feral, wild or uncontrollable) that are registered and/or identifiable at the point of seizure

Activity	When	Evaluation
Ensure the details of all seized and impounded animals are entered onto the pound register	Ongoing	Annual evaluation and review of Pound Register records and comparison of identifiable animal statistics

Objective 3 Media and Education Develop media and education strategy to promote registration and microchipping

Activity	When	Evaluation
'A' frame signs purchased and placed in strategic positions throughout municipality	Ongoing	Annual review of the number of signs purchased, the locations targeted and the time frame
Media releases	Ongoing	Annual review of the number of media articles published
Utilise Councils 'on hold' message facility as a promotional tool	Ongoing	Annual review the number of times the 'on hold' message mentions animal management services and programs and ensure information provided is up to date
Advertise 'Free first ride home' for stray registered animals where practicable	Dec 2017	Review of registration statistics to determine success

Objective 4 Incentives Identify and undertake incentives to encourage registration and microchipping

Activity	When	Evaluation
Review the registration fee structure options to encourage and reward responsible pet ownership	By December 2018	Review completed within timeframe
Implement registration scheme	Ongoing	Review annually registration statistics to determine success
Any animals registered for the first	June 2018	Investigation completed within timeframe.

time with Council in January will receive four months registration free (16 months registration instead of 12 months)		Review registration statistics annually to determine success
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Objective 5 Procedures Develop internal procedures and guidelines

Activity	When	Evaluation
Endeavour to scan all deceased dogs and cats where appropriate and contact owners if possible	Ongoing	Annual review of data from Council database

Objective 6 Information Develop information brochures and documents

Activity	When	Evaluation
Brochure and information developed and included in 'new residents' kit	Ongoing	Annual review of information to ensure correct information
Website Information	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Annual review of information to ensure correct information and data of number of visits to page per year
Brochures regarding responsible pet ownership available at service centres	Ongoing	Annual review to ensure correct information

NUISANCE

68A(2)(c)(vi) *Outline programs, services and strategies to minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance*

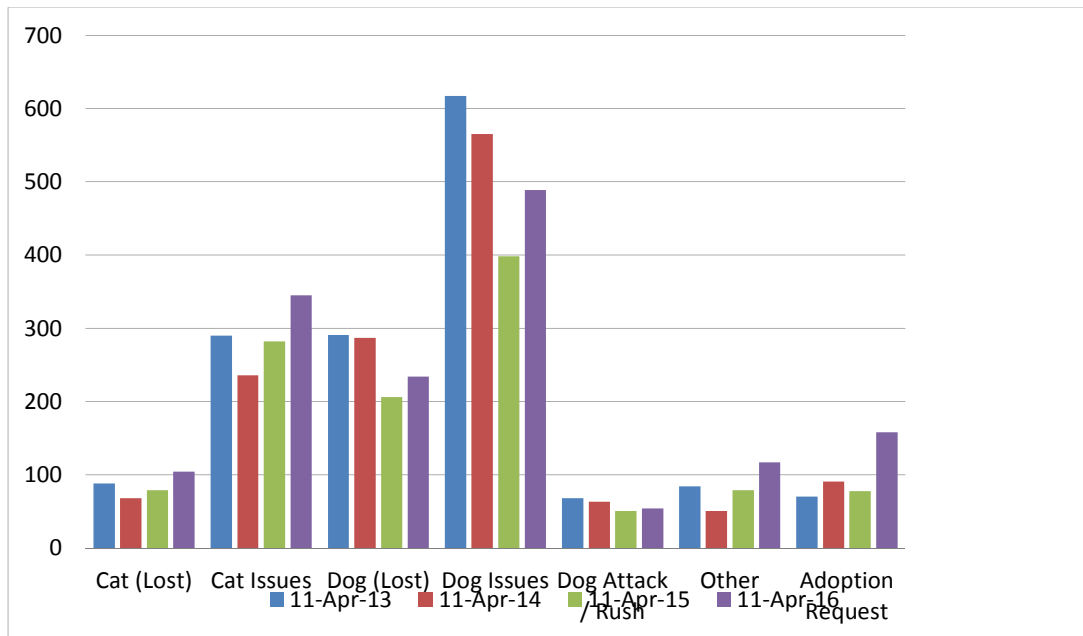
- also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)

Current Situation

Our current data

Council's purpose is to reduce the number of nuisance dogs and cats throughout the municipality.

The following graph shows the breakdown of complaints received by the Moira Shire Council regarding domestic animals. The graph shows that the largest number of complaints received were for issues relating to dogs wandering or causing a nuisance.



Domestic Animal Complaints Received

The following data has been obtained from Councils Complaint recording system.

Domestic Animal Complaints Received	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Total Complaints	1508	1361	1173	1501
Cat (Lost)	88	68	79	104
Cat Issues	290	236	282	345
Cat (registration)	9	5	6	18
Cat (stray)	198	180	203	231
Cat (Surrender)	12	10	15	14
Cat (trap)	71	41	58	82

Dog (Lost)	291	287	206	234
Dog Issues	617	565	398	489
Dog Off lead	20	5	1	7
Dog (Greyhounds)	0	0	0	0
Dog (Nuisance)	22	24	18	10
Dog (Registration)	53	54	22	59
Dog (Stray)	504	449	321	356
Dog (Surrender)	14	28	21	36
Dog Attack / Rush	68	63	51	54
Dog Attack (Livestock)	11	13	12	7
Dog Attack (Other)	30	27	20	29
Dog Attack (Person)	20	16	13	14
Dog Rush	7	7	6	4
Other **	84	51	79	117
Animal business complaints	0	0	0	1
Cruelty / Welfare issues	67	41	49	74
Animal Control	4	5	13	18
Keeping of Animals	0	0	2	2
Noise (Animals)	13	5	15	22
Adoption Request	70	91	78	158

** Some complaints received in this section may be for any domestic animal

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Council Local Laws and Orders that relate to nuisance pets are as follows:

Under Section 26 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, regulating dogs in public places, including prohibiting dogs in some public areas, requiring that dogs in public places be on a leash and allowing some off lead areas throughout the municipality at certain times (refer to Local Laws and Orders for copy of Order).

Moirá Shire Councils Community Safety and Environment Local Law No. 1 of 2013 currently addresses, the number and type of animals that can be kept at a property without a permit, requirements regarding animal shelters and requirements regarding animal excrement (refer to Local Laws and Orders for copy of sections of Local Law).

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

Activity	Schedule
Barking dog issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide verbal information one on one with both parties • Letter advising of options provided to both parties • Barking Dog Diary provided to complainant • Dispute Settlement Centre brochure provided 	When complaint received When complaint received When complaint received

Cat wandering issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cat trap brochure and application form provided to complainant • Information given to cat owners if their cat is wandering 	When requested by public When complaint received
Dog wandering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information given to dog owners if their dog is wandering • Patrol area if complaint received 	As required When complaint received
Council website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on the number of animals that can be kept at a property without a permit 	Updated as required

Our current Compliance Activities

Moirá Shire Council currently undertakes the following compliance activities:

Activity	Schedule
Attend property after complaint	When complaint received
Investigations - Review barking dog dairies and issue Notice to Comply if required	As required
Impound wandering cats and wandering dogs	As required
Issue warnings and infringement notices	As required
Patrols of area	As required

Summary

Moirá Shire receives approximately 1,500 calls per year regarding dogs and cats, with approximately 30% of calls regarding stray dogs. Issues regarding domestic pets include wandering dogs and cats, the keeping of excessive animals and animal noise.

Council wants to reduce the number of nuisance wandering dog complaints by media campaigns, community education and proactive patrols.

Council wants to reduce the number of unwanted and feral cats by maintaining its current cat trapping program.

Surrendered animal numbers have nearly doubled from 26 in 2013/14 to 50 in 2016/17. This may be due to socio economic factors.

Our Plans

Objective 1 Cat Nuisance Endeavour to reduce cat nuisance complaints

Activity	When	Evaluation
Maintain Cat Trap Program to assist residents to deal with cat trespassing and nuisance problems	Ongoing	Annual review of program data including the number of request for traps, the number of traps hired out and the number of cats impounded as a result of the program
Provide information relating to responsible cat ownership	Ongoing	Annual review of data. Monitor and review.

Objective 2 Dog Nuisance Endeavour to reduce dog nuisance complaints

Activity	When	Evaluation
Review of the current Section 26 Order Dogs in Public Places associated with restraint of dogs in public places and update if required	By June 2021 Annual	Date new Order introduced if required Annual review of Council parks listed in Order, enforcement data and compliance rates
Review Local Law regarding the collection and disposal of dog faeces and update if required	Ongoing	Review completed within timeframe Date new Local Law introduced if required Annual review of enforcement data and compliance rates
Provide adequate signs at Council parks (on lead / off lead, requirements, pick up after your dog)	Ongoing	Annual review of signage at Council parks data, enforcement data and compliance rates
Patrol Council parks for dogs in 'No dogs allowed' areas and owners not picking up after their dogs	Ongoing	Annual review of enforcement action and compliance rates

Objective 3 Agencies Cooperate with other agencies as required

Activity	When	Evaluation
Liaise with other agencies as required	Ongoing	Annual review of assistance provided by Councils Authorised Officers

Objective 4 Media and Education Development of a media and education strategy

Activity	When	Evaluation
Develop and implement an education and media strategy for residents, tourists and itinerants regarding nuisance animals and responsible pet ownership	Ongoing	Education program developed within timeframe Annual review of implementation of program, dates and location of program
Utilise Councils 'on hold' message facility as a promotional tool	Ongoing	Annual review the number of times the 'on hold' message mentions animal management services and programs and ensure information provided is up to date
Media releases regarding nuisance animal issues	Ongoing	Annual review of the number of media articles published

Objective 5 Incentives Investigate options for different incentives to encourage desexing and responsible pet ownership

Activity	When	Evaluation
Investigate options for rewards program for responsible pet ownership and implement program if required	By March 2019	Investigation completed within timeframe Date program implemented Annual review of program data

Objective 6 Information Develop information brochures and documents

Activity	When	Evaluation
Develop barking dog investigation brochures and provide to community	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Annual review of information to ensure correct information
Provide education material about cat enclosures and nuisance issues to cat owners in registration information packs each year	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Annual review of information to ensure correct information Number of booklets distributed and when
Website Information	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Annual review of information to ensure correct information and data of number of visits to page per year
Develop information kits for animals adopted from pound and provide with every adopted animal	Ongoing	Annual review of information to ensure correct information

DOG ATTACKS

68A(2)(c)(iii) Outline programs, services and strategies to minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals

- also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)

Council's purpose is to reduce the number of dog attacks and dog rushes occurring in the community through community education and enforcement.

Current Situation

Our current data

Impounded Animals

Impounded Animals	11 April 2013 10 April 2014				11 April 2014 10 April 2015				11 April 2015 10 April 2016				11 April 2016 10 April 2017			
	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%
Total Impounded	245		269		220		253		174		331		224		365	
Seized Wandering	217	89	235	87	189	86	210	83	125	72	300	91	179	80	333	91
Seized Dog Attack	4	1	0	0	4	2	0	0	10	6	0	0	10	4	0	0

% Percentage from total impounded

Domestic Animal Complaints Received

Domestic Animal Complaints Received	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Total Complaints	1508	1361	1173	1501
Dog (Stray)	504	449	321	356
Total Dog Attack and Dog Rush Complaints	68	63	51	54
Dog Attack (Livestock)	11	13	12	7
Dog Attack (Other)	30	27	20	29
Dog Attack (Person)	20	16	13	14
Dog Rush	7	7	6	4

The number of dog attacks being reported decreased from 61 in 2014 to 50 in 2017. The number of dog attacks reported on livestock also reduced.

Infringements and Prosecutions

The following data has been obtained from Council records.

Infringement Offence	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Total Infringements	94	87	33	28
Cat at large in restricted district	0	0	0	0
Dog/Cat found in prohibited public place	0	0	0	0
Dog at large during daytime	14	6	6	1
Dog at large during night time	0	0	0	0
Failure to apply to register dog or cat	74	65	19	26
No dog/cat identification marker	0	0	0	0
Allow Dog To Rush Or Chase A Person	0	0	0	0
Non-Serious Injury Caused By Dog Attack	1	1	0	0
Not Renewing Dog or Cat Registration	5	15	8	1
Warning notices issued	17	20	10	13

Prosecutions	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Prosecutions Undertaken	0	0	0	1

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Council Local Laws and Orders that relate are as follows:

Under Section 26 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, regulating dogs in public places, including prohibiting dogs in some public areas, requiring that dogs in public places be on a leash and allowing some off lead areas throughout the municipality at certain times (refer to Local Laws and Orders for copy of Order).

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

Moirá Shire Council currently undertakes the following education and promotion activities:

Activity	Schedule
Media Releases in local newspaper	Periodically
Provide information	When requested
Promote effective confinement and control dogs	Periodically

Our current Compliance Activities

Moirá Shire Council currently undertakes the following compliance activities:

Activity	Schedule
Patrol township areas for wandering dogs	Periodically
Respond to complaint about dog attack	As required
Seize dog after attack / rush	As required
Declare dogs that have attacked dangerous/menacing	When complaint received
Declare dogs as Restricted Breed dogs	As required
Issue Notice to Comply	As required
Issue infringements	As required
Prosecution	As required

Summary

Serious dog attacks remain a major risk within the community, with 50 incidents being reported to Council in 2016-2017. Most of these incidents involved dogs wandering at large with 356 stray dogs being reported in 2016-2017. It is difficult for Council to determine how many dog attack incidents occur in the home with the family pet as these are often unreported.

Council aims at reducing the number of dog attacks and dog rushes within the community by implementing various prevention activities. This includes educating the community on dog attack prevention, responsible pet ownership, acceptable dog behaviour and the serious consequences of a dog attack.

Our Plans

Objective 1 Reporting Endeavour to encourage the community to report dog attacks to Council

Activity	When	Evaluation
Maintain an education and media strategy to increase community awareness of dog attacks and encourage community to report dog attacks to Council	Ongoing	Media and education strategy developed within timeframe Annual review of complaint records (who complained, when where, response time, outcome of investigation), and the number of dog attacks reported to council pre and post campaign

Objective 2 Media and Education Develop an education and media strategy about responsible pet ownership and preventing dog attacks

Activity	When	Evaluation
Utilise Councils 'on hold' message facility as a promotional tool	Ongoing	Annual review the number of times the 'on hold' message mentions animal management services and programs and ensure information provided is up to date
Maintain education and media strategy and documentation to promote the 'Kidsafe' message (not leaving babies and children unattended with dogs) within the community e.g. mothers groups, schools, maternal and child health nurses	By January 2018	Strategy developed within timeframe Annual review of implementation of strategy
Promote Responsible pet Ownership program by ensuring booklets are available through Schools within the Municipality and via Councils website and service centres	By June 2019	Annual review of distribution location and number of booklets utilised
Provide adequate signs at Council parks (on lead / off lead, requirements, pick up after your dog, who to call if problem dog seen in area)	Ongoing	Annual review of signage at Council parks data, enforcement data, compliance rates

Objective 3 Data Collection Establish if Council has a problem with dog attacks and identify problem areas

Activity	When	Evaluation
Maintain Council records to see if Council has a problem with dog attacks and to identify problem areas if required	Ongoing	Annual review of data collected in database to determine if areas have issues with dog attacks

Objective 4 Enforcement Undertake preventative education and enforcement initiatives

Activity	When	Evaluation
Patrols of identified hot spot areas Record results on database	Ongoing	Annual review of results from the patrols including enforcement data
Where considered appropriate, take enforcement action including infringements and prosecutions	Ongoing	Annual review of number of infringements issued and prosecutions undertaken
Where considered appropriate, declare dogs menacing or dangerous after a dog attack or rush incident	Ongoing	Annual review of the number of dogs declared within the municipality

Objective 5 Incidents Endeavour to decrease the number of dog attacks incidents in the community

Activity	When	Evaluation
Record details of all dog attacks and dog rush incident reported, including serious nature, location and outcome	Ongoing	Annual comparison of data collected e.g.: number of reported dog attack incidents pre and post campaign

Objective 6 Livestock Endeavour to decrease dog attacks on livestock

Activity	When	Evaluation
Patrol areas of reported dog attacks on livestock	Ongoing	Annual comparison of data collected
Distribute Bureau of Animal Welfare booklet 'Responsible ownership of working dogs' to farming properties within the shire	Ongoing	Number of booklets distributed

Objective 7 Information Develop information brochures and documents

Activity	When	Evaluation
Website Information	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Annual review of information to ensure correct information and data of number of visits to page per year
Educational material distributed at customer service centres	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Information reviewed annually to ensure information is up to date

DANGEROUS, MENACING AND RESTRICTED BREED DOGS

68A(2)(c)(vii) *Outline programs, services and strategies to effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and to ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this Act and the regulations*
 - also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)

Council's purpose is to effectively identify and manage all declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs

Current Situation

Our current data

Declared Dog Statistics	11 April 2013 10 April 2014	11 April 2014 10 April 2015	11 April 2015 10 April 2016	11 April 2016 10 April 2017
Total Declared Dogs Registered	5	5	5	5
Declared 'Dangerous' Dogs Registered	1	1	1	1
Declared 'Menacing' Dogs Registered	4	4	4	4
Declared 'Restricted Breed' Dogs Registered	0	0	0	0
Restricted Breed Dog Declarations	0	0	0	0

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Impounded dogs that are destroyed in relation to Section 84TA, TB and TC are entered via the Victorian Declared Dog Registry (VDDR) website.

Details of Council declared dangerous and menacing dogs are entered on the VDDR website.

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

Moirá Shire Council currently undertakes the following education and promotion activities:

Activity	Schedule
Restricted Breed dog declaration on Animal Registration form	Ongoing

Our current Compliance Activities

Moirá Shire Council currently undertakes the following compliance activities:

Activity	Schedule
Respond to complaints regarding alleged dangerous or restricted breed dogs	When complaint received
Maintain a register of declared dogs within the shire	As required
Declare dogs as Restricted Breed, Dangerous or menacing	As required

Record details on the Victorian Declared Dog Registry	As required
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Summary

Moirā Shire is predominately an agricultural area with four (4) major towns, twenty two (22) smaller communities. Small industrial areas are located in the major towns. As a result of the demographics there is a small population of declared dogs and the remainder being declared as a result of either a dog rush or dog attack.

Our Plans

Objective 1 Identify Identify and register all Declared Dogs in the municipality and ensure dogs that are declared comply with the Act

Activity	When	Evaluation
Develop Registration form to include declaration regarding declared dog status	Ongoing	Registration form developed within timeframe Annual review of form to ensure compliance with legislation requirements

Objective 2 Inspections Effectively inspect and audit all declared dog premises randomly to ensure they are following the keeping requirements

Activity	When	Evaluation
Inspect all properties that harbour / keep a declared dog	Ongoing	Inspect database to ensure every property have been inspected
Ensure all declared dogs are on the database and the database is maintained	Ongoing	Inspect database annually to ensure database is maintained

Objective 3 Media and Education Development of a media and education strategy

Activity	When	Evaluation
Promote Animal Welfare Bureau regarding education programs to raise awareness of what is a declared dog i.e.: restricted breed, dangerous or menacing	By June 2020	Education program developed within timeframe Annual review of implementation of program, dates and location of program
Media releases regarding declared dogs	Ongoing	Annual review of media releases conducted
Website Information	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Annual review of information to ensure correct information and data of number of visits to page per year
Utilise Councils 'on hold' message facility as a promotional tool	Ongoing	Annual review the number of times the 'on hold' message mentions animal management services and programs and ensure information provided is up to date

Objective 4 Agencies Cooperate with other agencies as required

Activity	When	Evaluation
Cooperate with other agencies and local government bodies to monitor declared dogs	Ongoing	Annual review of Council records and via Declared Dog registry
Liaise with Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources in development and implementation of media and education strategies	Ongoing	Annual review of Council records

Objective 5 Information Promote information brochures and documents

Activity	When	Evaluation
Website Information	Ongoing	Annual review of information to ensure correct information and data of number of visits to page per year

OVERPOPULATION AND HIGH EUTHANASIA

68A(2)(c)(iv) *Outline programs, services and strategies to address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats*
 - also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)

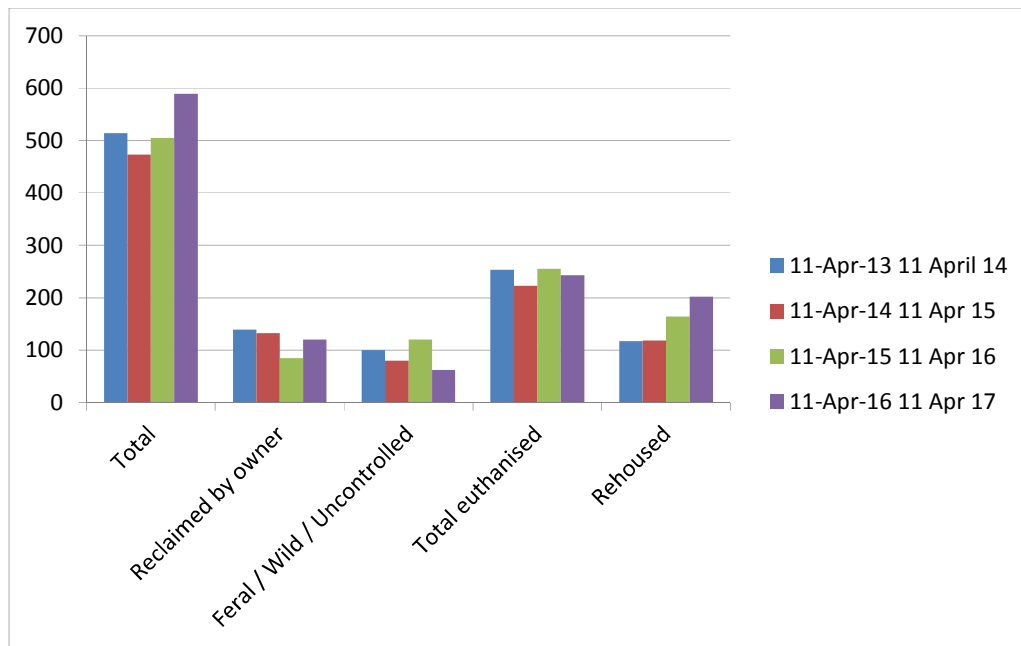
Council’s purpose is to reduce the number of unowned pets within the community and the number of animal’s (except feral, wild or uncontrollable animals) euthanased unnecessarily at the Council pound.

Current Situation

Our current data

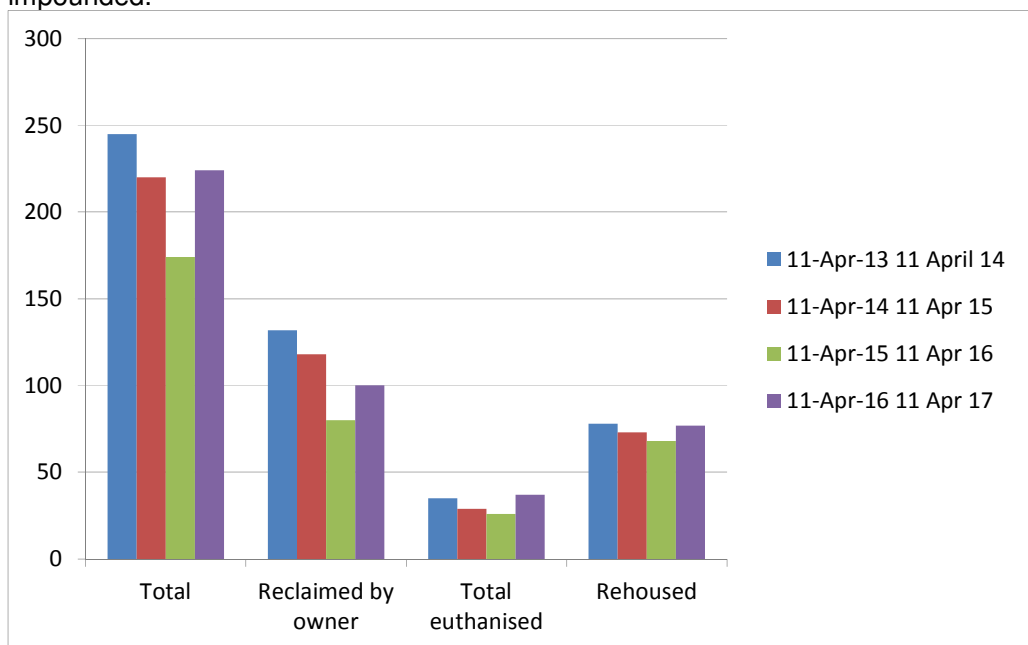
Cats impounded outcome

The following graph shows the breakdown of what happened to the cats that were impounded. The graph shows that a large percentage of cats are euthanased each year.



Dogs Impounded Outcome

The following graph shows the breakdown of what happened to the dogs that were impounded.



Impounded Animals

The following data has been obtained from the Council's Pound Register.

Impounded Animals	11 April 2013 10 April 2014				11 April 2014 10 April 2015				11 April 2015 10 April 2016				11 April 2016 10 April 2017			
	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%	Dogs	%	Cats	%
Total Impounded	245		269		220		253		174		331		224		365	
Feral / Wild / Uncontrolled	0	0	100	37	0	0	80	32	0	0	120	36	0	0	62	17
Owned Animals	245	100	169	63	220	100	173	68	174	100	211	64	224	100	303	83
Registered	23	9	0	0	23	10	1	3	18	10	0	0	29	13	1	1
Microchipped	119	49	8	3	124	56	8	3	90	52	9	3	129	58	27	7
Seized wandering	217	89	235	87	189	86	210	83	125	72	300	91	179	80	333	91
Seized dog attack	4	1	0	0	4	2	0	0	10	6	0	0	10	4	0	0
Abandoned	10	4	0	0	2	1	0	0	13	7	8	2	2	1	7	2
Surrendered	14	6	30	11	25	11	43	17	26	15	18	5	33	15	16	4
Born in pound	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	0	0	9	3
Reclaimed by owner	132	54	7	3	118	54	14	6	80	46	5	2	100	45	20	5
Escaped/ Stolen	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1
Total euthanased	35	14	218	81	29	13	194	77	26	15	229	69	37	17	206	56
Unsuitable for rehousing	9		0		10		0		13		0		28		0	
Rehoused	78	32	39	15	73	33	45	17	68	39	96	29	77	35	125	35

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Desexing

Council currently has no Orders under Section 26 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* in relation to the compulsory desexing of cats and dogs.

Registration fees are reduced if an animal is desexed. This new legislation aims at increasing the number of animals that are desexed within Victoria.

Impounded Animals

Animals are impounded in accordance with the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

Domestic Animal Pound Release Fee

The domestic animal Pound Release Fee is \$117.70 for a cat or dog plus, if applicable, a microchipping fee of \$49.50 and registration fee. A charge for daily sustenance of \$10 per day may also apply. Fees are subject to change as per Council's annual budget processes.

Animal Adoption Policy

Currently, animals may be adopted from the pound if they are available. The cost for adopting an animal is the cost of all veterinary requirements (microchipping, vaccination, worming, desexing) and registration.

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

Moirá Shire Council currently undertakes the following education and promotion activities:

Activity	Schedule
<p>The Moirá Shire Council Website currently consists of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information regarding impounded and lost animals including suggestions to pet owners on who to contact if their animal becomes lost and what information may be required The Pound Release Fees Publish 'Pound Pet of the Week' on Council's website and in 'The Courier' 	Ongoing

Our current Compliance Activities

Moirá Shire Council currently undertakes the following compliance activities:

Activity	Schedule
Attend to complaints in the community regarding cats and dogs trespassing on private property	As required
Collect and impound stray and wandering at large dogs and cats	As required
Accept any dog or cat that the owner wants to surrender to Council	As required

Provide a cat trap to the public through the cat trap hire scheme	Ongoing
Operate a Council Pound facility with 12 dog and 12 cat pens	Ongoing
Animal Adoption / Foster care	If requested
Euthanase:	
Any cat which is determined to be feral, wild or uncontrollable	As required
Any dog or cat not reclaimed within 8 days which is not rehoused	As required

Summary

The high euthanasia rate at the Council Pound facility is being addressed. The Animal Adoption program has been instrumental in lowering the euthanasia rate of impounded animals that are deemed suitable for rehoming.

At present, only 8% of dogs that were deemed suitable for rehoming were euthanised. Cats are proving more difficult to rehome, with 62% of cats deemed suitable for rehoming euthanised.

The second major issue regarding overpopulation is the number of feral and wild cats in the community. The percentage of cats impounded that were classified as feral or wild was 37% in 2014, 32% in 2015, 36% in 2016 and 17% in 2017. Over that period of time 362 cats were removed from the wild population. However, Council continues to receive numerous complaints regarding stray cats wandering and requests for cat traps.

Our Plans

Objective 1 Desexing Endeavour to reduce the number of registered dogs and cats that are currently entire and not part of a Domestic Animal Breeding Business

Activity	When	Evaluation
Investigate discount desexing days or ongoing subsidised desexing for pets of low income earners via agreements with organisations and implement if required	By June 2019	Investigation completed within timeframe Date program implemented Annual review of program data including: Number of animals desexed as part of the scheme Cost to run scheme Any changes in the longer term re proportion of desexed animals on pet registration database, proportion of impounded pets that are desexed etc.

Objective 2 Media and Education Develop media and education campaign

Activity	When	Evaluation
Media releases regarding domestic animals businesses	Ongoing	Annual review of number of media releases issued
Utilise Councils 'on hold' message facility as a promotional tool	Ongoing	Annual review the number of times the 'on hold' message mentions animal management services and programs and ensure information provided is up to date

Objective 3 Adoption Endeavour to increase rehoming rates

Activity	When	Evaluation
Enter into agreements with other bodies for rehoming	Ongoing	Annual review of agreements to ensure program is satisfactory and agreement complies with legislation and Code of Practice
Develop media and education strategy to promote the pound services provided by Council including animal adoption and agreements with external community organisations	Ongoing	Annual review of campaign data including number of media releases, type of publicity and pound statistics
Publish 'Pound Pet of the Week' on Council's website and in 'The Courier'	Ongoing	Procedure reviewed annually to ensure best practice

Objective 4 Procedures Develop internal procedures and guidelines

Activity	When	Evaluation
Implement a program of assessment for euthanasia or suitability for rehoming of dogs and cats	Ongoing	Procedure developed and implemented within timeframe Procedure reviewed annually to ensure best practice

Maintain foster carers, volunteer programs, agreements with other 84Y groups	Ongoing	Procedure reviewed annually to ensure best practice
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Objective 5 Information Develop information brochures and documents

Activity	When	Evaluation
Distribute brochures regarding pound services, animal adoption, desexing, identification, registration	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Information reviewed annually to ensure up to date
Educational material distributed at customer service centres	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Information reviewed annually to ensure information is up to date
Website Information	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Annual review of information to ensure correct information and data of number of visits to page per year

DOMESTIC ANIMAL BUSINESSES

68A(2)(c)(ii) *Outline programs, services and strategies which the Council intends to pursue in its municipal district to ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations and any related legislation*

- also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(d),(f)

Council's purpose is to identify and register all Domestic Animal Businesses (DAB's) and ensure that all registered businesses comply with the Codes of Practice.

Current Situation

Our current data

In 2017, Moira Shire Council has six (6) registered Domestic Animal Businesses in the municipality. Consisting of (3) boarding kennels, (2) breeding establishments and one (1) pet shop. In 2012, one Domestic Animal Business ceased operating as a result of compliance breaches.

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

The registration fee for a Domestic Animal Business is \$141.60 which includes the State Government levy of \$10.

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

Activity	Schedule
Send renewal notices to Domestic Animal Businesses for permits	Annually

Our current Compliance Activities

Moira Shire Council currently undertakes the following compliance activities:

Activity	Schedule
Inspect Domestic Animal Businesses as required	Ongoing
Respond and investigate complaint about Domestic Animal Business	Ongoing
Prosecute / Close down illegal Domestic Animal Business	Ongoing
Participation in Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources Responsible Pet Ownership Program (statutory requirement)	Ongoing
State Government Levy collection for funding of Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources Responsible Pet Ownership program (statutory requirement)	Ongoing Levy included with every registration

Summary

Council endeavours to identify any unregistered domestic animals business operating within the municipality.

Our Plans

Objective 1 Identify Identify and register all Domestic Animal Businesses (DAB's) in the municipality

Activity	When	Evaluation
Identify possible businesses that may require to be registered as Domestic Animal Businesses	Ongoing	Annual comparison of number of registered Domestic Animal Businesses before and after activity
Follow up on information obtained in relation to possible unregistered Domestic Animal Businesses	Ongoing	Annual review the number of businesses identified
Follow up registration after receiving forms required under Section 13 of the Act	Ongoing	Annual review of statistical data including number of Section 13 forms received and results of follow up action

Objective 2 Inspection Endeavour to visit and inspect all registered Domestic Animal Businesses

Activity	When	Evaluation
Ensure compliance with registration and Codes of Practice for all Domestic Animal Businesses	Ongoing	Review of Domestic Animal Business Register and results of inspections requested by proprietors

Objective 3 Illegal Operations Identify and investigate illegally operating Domestic Animal Businesses in the municipality

Activity	When	Evaluation
Maintain education campaign to promote awareness of Domestic Animal Businesses and Code of Practice requirements	Ongoing	Comparison of number of registered establishments before and after campaign

Objective 4 Procedures Develop internal procedures and guidelines

Activity	When	Evaluation
Process for registering new Domestic Animal Businesses and initial assessment of applications	Ongoing	Procedure reviewed annually to ensure best practice
Maintain database of all visits conducted including history, audit results and work plans for each business	Ongoing	Database reviewed each inspection to information is up to date

Objective 5 Information Develop information brochures and documents

Activity	When	Evaluation
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Distribute information packs for potential or new Domestic Animal Businesses	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Information reviewed annually to ensure up to date
Review of current Domestic Animal Business permit and development of specific conditions to be included in permits	Ongoing	Conditions developed within timeframe Permit document reviewed annually to ensure meets current legislation and Codes of Practice

OTHER MATTERS

68A(2)(e) *Provide for the review of any other matters related to the management of dogs and cats in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary*

Council's purpose is to ensure that all matters relating to its animal management service is addressed in the Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Emergency Management

Current Situation

Our current data

Moirá Shire Council has experienced various natural disasters, with a large scale flood throughout the municipality in 2012, a tornado in 2013 and a large scale fire in 2014.

The 2012 flood resulted in a number of domestic animals being relocated and some residents requiring emergency accommodation. This event highlighted the need to include domestic animals in Council's Emergency Management Planning.

Further information can be obtained from Council's Municipal Emergency Management Plan and Municipal Emergency Animal Welfare Plan.

Our Plans

Objective 1 Procedure Council Policies and Procedures

Activity	When	Evaluation
Develop and maintain an Emergency Management Animal Welfare Plan for domestic animals in the Municipal Emergency Management Plan	Ongoing	Plan includes emergency management planning for domestic animals within timeframe Plan reviewed annually to ensure meets current legislation and Codes of Practice

Objective 2 Media and Education Develop a media and education strategy

Activity	When	Evaluation
Maintain a media and education strategy regarding domestic pets and emergency management including advice, brochures and media releases on including pets in emergency planning e.g.: what equipment pets require, veterinary medication, identification (registration tags and microchipping) to help reunite pets with their owners after the emergency	Ongoing	Development of brochure and information within timeframe Annual review of media and education campaign data including number of media releases and promotion activities

Pound Development

Current Situation

Our current data

The Code of Practice for the Management of Dogs and Cats in Shelters and Pounds was first introduced in 1998. In 2011, the Department of Environment and Primary Industries reviewed the Code of Practice which included extensive community consultation. The current revised edition came into effect on 30 June 2011.

The new Code aligns management practice with community expectations and the welfare needs of dogs and cats held in pounds and shelters and must be complied with by all Animal Shelters and Council Pounds in Victoria.

Changes included:

- Introduction of Health Management plans;
- A new foster care section;
- Changes to admission procedures;
- More frequent inspection of puppies and kittens;
- A new enrichment, exercise and socialisation section; and
- Changes to the section on re-homing including the removal of the time limit.

Council must ensure that the pound facility is operated in accordance with the Code of Practice.

Our Plans

Council's purpose is to develop the pound infrastructure and processes to ensure compliance with the revised Code of Practice for the Management of Dogs and Cats in Shelters and Pounds.

Objective 1 Infrastructure Pound Facility

Activity	When	Evaluation
Review current facility in accordance with the Code of Practice	Ongoing	Review completed within timeframe
Investigate ways of improving welfare of impounded animals	Ongoing	Investigation completed within timeframe

Objective 2 Procedure Pound Process and Procedure

Activity	When	Evaluation
Review current processes, procedures and documents	By December 2018	Review completed within timeframe
Develop and implement processes and procedures during any review	Ongoing	Procedure developed within timeframe Procedure reviewed annually to ensure best practice and compliance with legislation and Code of Practice

ANNUAL REVIEW OF PLAN AND ANNUAL REPORTING

68A(3) Every Council must—

- (a) review its domestic animal management plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan
- (b) provide the Department of Primary Industries' Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan
- (c) publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.

Current Situation

The Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-17 was reviewed annually, with the following key performance indicators and target evaluated.

Item	KPI's	Target
1	Endeavour to Increase Animal Registration Compliance – from 1 st August to 10 th March annually	2%
2	Quarterly media releases re Community Education	100%
3	Review Domestic Animal Plan	Annual
4	Successful prosecutions	100%
5	Endeavour to increase rehousing figures of impounded animals deemed suitable	100%
6	Investigate ways to increase numbers of foster carers	100%

Our Plans

The implementation of the DAM Plan will be evaluated annually, amended if appropriate, with the results presented to Council and published in Council's Annual Report. The Secretary will be provided with a copy of the Plan and any amendments to the Plan. To ensure the audit accurately measures the DAM Plans success, the following must be undertaken:

Activity	When	Evaluation
Obtain statistics regarding various animal management services	By June 30	Statistics obtained within timeframe
Key Stakeholder and Community feedback and consultation	By June 30	Community consultation conducted within timeframe
Complete 'Summary' document	By July	Summary completed within timeframe
Review priorities and available resources	By July	Review completed within timeframe
Report submitted to Corporate management Team	By August	Report submitted within timeframe
Report submitted to Council	By September	Report submitted within timeframe
Report submitted to Secretary	By November	Report submitted within timeframe

Method of Evaluating Animal Control Services

The Safety and Amenity Unit utilises a number of computer programs and databases to assist in the evaluation of the animal control services provided.

Council utilises a complaint record and animal registration management system 'Authority'. Various Excel spread sheets are utilised to maintain databases of impounded animals, declared dogs and domestic animal businesses. Statistics are obtained from reports generated by these programs.

Summary

The following tables provide a summary of the objectives and activities to be implemented over the next four financial years as described throughout the DAM Plan.

Each table provides an overall evaluation of the development and implementation of the DAM plan priority areas and will be updated as part of Councils annual review, in accordance with section 68A(3) of the Act.

Objective / Activity		Year of Plan **				Due Date	Status Update*	Comment
		1	2	3	4			
2.1	Training of Authorised Officers							
1	Training Policy							
	Minimum training requirements identified	✓				June 2018		
	Additional training opportunities identified	✓				June 2018		
2	Training Conducted							
	Minimum training completed	✓	✓	✓	✓			

* Status Update (ongoing, complete, underway, no progress)

** Year of Plan = 1 - July 2017 – June 2018

2 - July 2018 – June 2019

3 - July 2019 – June 2020

4 - July 2020 – June 2021

Objective / Activity	Year of Plan **				Due Date	Status Update*	Comment
	1	2	3	4			
2.2 Registration and Identification							
1	Registration Numbers	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Pound animals registered prior to release	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Animal registration door knocks	✓	✓	✓	✓		
2	Seized Identifiable						
	Pound register data captured	✓	✓	✓	✓		
3	Media and Education						
	'A' frame signs	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Media releases	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Councils 'on hold' message	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	'First free ride home" for stray registered animals	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2017	
4	Incentives						
	Registration fee structure review		✓			Dec 2018	
	Implement registration scheme	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Any animals registered for the first time with Council in January will receive four months registration free (16 months registration instead of 12 months)		✓	✓	✓	June 2018	
5	Procedures						
	Scanning deceased animals where appropriate	✓	✓	✓	✓		
6	Information						
	Brochure and 'new residents' kit information	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Website information	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Brochures at service centres	✓	✓	✓	✓		

* Status Update (ongoing, complete, underway, no progress)

** Year of Plan = 1 - July 2017 – June 2018

2 - July 2018 – June 2019

3 - July 2019 – June 2020

4 - July 2020 – June 2021

Objective / Activity	Year of Plan **				Due Date	Status Update*	Comment
	1	2	3	4			
2.3 Nuisance							
1 Cat Nuisance							
Implement Cat Trap Program	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Provide information relating to responsible cat ownership	✓	✓	✓	✓			
2 Dog Nuisance							
Review of the current Dogs in Public Places Section 26 Order	✓	✓	✓	✓	June 2021		
Review Local Law regarding the collection and disposal of dog faeces	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Provide adequate signs at Council parks	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Patrol Council parks	✓	✓	✓	✓			
3 Agencies							
Liaise with other agencies as required	✓	✓	✓	✓			
4 Media and Education							
Education program that focusses on visitors and non-resident ratepayers	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Councils 'on hold' message	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Media releases	✓	✓	✓	✓			
5 Incentives							
Rewards program for responsible pet ownership option		✓			March 2019		
6 Information							
Barking dog investigation brochures	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Provide education material to cat owners in registration information packs	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Website Information	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Information kits for animals adopted from pound	✓	✓	✓	✓			

* Status Update (ongoing, complete, underway, no progress)

** Year of Plan = 1 - July 2017 – June 2018

2 - July 2018 – June 2019

3 - July 2019 – June 2020

4 - July 2020 – June 2021

Objective / Activity	Year of Plan **				Due Date	Status Update*	Comment
	1	2	3	4			
2.4 Dog Attacks							
1 Reporting							
Community awareness of need to report incidents	✓	✓	✓	✓			
2 Media and Education							
Councils 'on hold' message facility	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Strategy and documentation to promote the 'Kidsafe' message	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Promote Responsible pet ownership program	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Provide adequate signs at Council parks	✓	✓	✓	✓			
3 Data Collection							
Maintain Council records	✓	✓	✓	✓			
4 Enforcement							
Patrols of identified hot spot areas	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Enforcement action (where appropriate)	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Declare dogs after incident (where appropriate)	✓	✓	✓	✓			
5 Incidents							
Record details of all dog attacks and dog rush incidents	✓	✓	✓	✓			
6 Livestock							
Patrol areas of reported dog attacks on livestock	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Distribute Bureau of Animal Welfare booklet 'Responsible ownership of working dogs' by direct mail to all farming properties within the shire	✓	✓	✓	✓			
7 Information							
Educational material on website	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Display information at customer service centres	✓	✓	✓	✓			

* Status Update (ongoing, complete, underway, no progress)

** Year of Plan = 1 - July 2017 – June 2018

2 - July 2018 – June 2019

3 - July 2019 – June 2020

4 - July 2020 – June 2021

Objective / Activity	Year of Plan **				Due Date	Status Update*	Comment
	1	2	3	4			
2.5 Dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs							
1 Identify							
Registration form includes declaration regarding declared dog status	✓	✓	✓	✓			
2 Inspections							
Inspect all properties that harbour / keep a declared dog	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Ensure declared dog database is maintained	✓	✓	✓	✓			
3 Media and Education							
Education / Media strategy			✓	✓	June 2020		
Media releases	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Material on website	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Councils 'on hold' message	✓	✓	✓	✓			
4 Agencies							
Cooperate with other agencies and local government bodies to monitor declared dogs	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Liaise with DEDTJR in media and education strategies	✓	✓	✓	✓			
5 Information							
Council website	✓	✓	✓	✓			

* Status Update (ongoing, complete, underway, no progress)

** Year of Plan = 1 - July 2017 – June 2018

2 - July 2018 – June 2019

3 - July 2019 – June 2020

4 - July 2020 – June 2021

Objective / Activity	Year of Plan **				Due Date	Status Update*	Comment
	1	2	3	4			
2.6 Overpopulation / High Euthanasia							
1 Desexing							
Investigate discount desexing days or ongoing subsidised desexing for pets of low income earners via agreements with organisations		✓	✓	✓	June 2019		
2 Media and Education							
Media releases	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Councils 'on hold' message	✓	✓	✓	✓			
3 Rehoming							
Enter into rehoming agreements with other bodies	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Maintain media and education strategy to promote the pound services	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Maintain Pound Pet of the Week	✓	✓	✓	✓			
4 Procedures							
Implement euthanasia and rehoming assessment program	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Maintain foster carers, volunteer programs, agreements				✓			
5 Information							
Brochures regarding pound services, animal adoption, desexing, identification, registration	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Information at customer service centres	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Website Information	✓	✓	✓	✓			

* Status Update (ongoing, complete, underway, no progress)

** Year of Plan = 1 - July 2017 – June 2018

2 - July 2018 – June 2019

3 - July 2019 – June 2020

4 - July 2020 – June 2021

Objective / Activity		Year of Plan **				Due Date	Status Update*	Comment
		1	2	3	4			
2.7	Domestic Animal Businesses							
1	Identify							
	Identify possible DAB	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Follow up on information obtained regarding possible unregistered DAB's	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Follow up registration after receiving Section 13 forms	✓	✓	✓	✓			
2	Inspection							
	Ensure compliance with registration and codes of practice for all DAB's as required	✓	✓	✓	✓			
3	Illegal Operations							
	Education campaign to promote awareness of DAB's and Codes of Practice	✓	✓	✓	✓			
4	Procedures							
	Process for registering new domestic animal business and initial assessment of application	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Database of all visits conducted for every DAB	✓	✓	✓	✓			
5	Information							
	Information packs for potential or new Domestic Animal Businesses	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Permit conditions review		✓	✓	✓			

* Status Update (ongoing, complete, underway, no progress)

** Year of Plan = 1 - July 2017 – June 2018

2 - July 2018 – June 2019

3 - July 2019 – June 2020

4 - July 2020 – June 2021

Objective / Activity		Year of Plan **				Due Date	Status Update*	Comment
		1	2	3	4			
2.8	Other Matters							
2.8.1	Emergency Management Planning							
1	Procedures							
	Animals included in Municipal Emergency Management Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓			
2	Media and Education							
	Media / Education strategy regarding domestic pets and emergency management	✓	✓	✓	✓			
2.8.2	Pound Improvement							
1	Infrastructure							
	Review facility in accordance with Code of Practice	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Improve welfare of impounded animals	✓	✓	✓	✓			
2	Procedures							
	Review processes and procedures		✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018		
	Implement new processes and procedures	✓	✓	✓	✓			

* Status Update (ongoing, complete, underway, no progress)

** Year of Plan = 1 - July 2017 – June 2018

2 - July 2018 – June 2019

3 - July 2019 – June 2020

4 - July 2020 – June 2021

Adoption of Plan

This plan was adopted by Council on 25 October 2017.

Amendment Provisions

The following is a list of amendments made to the original Domestic Animal Management Plan 2018 – 2021.

Section	Amendment Date	Title	Amendment Adopted	Date to Secretary

Definitions

Term	Definition
Authorised Officer	A person employed by Council who is authorised under Section 224 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> to administer and enforce the Act and Section 72 of the <i>Domestic Animals Act 1994</i> to administer and enforce the Act.
DAB	A Domestic Animal Business
DEDTJR	The Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources. The department was DEPI in April 2013.
DAM Plan	The Domestic Animal Management Plan 2018-2021
The Act	The <i>Domestic Animals Act 1994</i>
The Regulations	The <i>Domestic Animals Regulations 2015</i>
COP	Code of Practice
Codes of Practice	Specific standards for the conduct of various activities relating to dogs and cats (refer to Codes of Practice section for information)
Permanent identification device	Means a microchip or other electronic device that is capable of being permanently implanted in an animal of a prescribed class of animal and that is designed to record information in a manner that can be electronically retrieved;
Desexing	In relation to a dog or cat means a surgical procedure to remove all or part of the reproductive organs of the dog or cat to prevent it breeding and to prevent or eliminate secondary sexual behaviours;
Domestic Animal Business	Means: An animal shelter, Council pound or pet shop; An enterprise that is run for profit which carries out the rearing, training or boarding of dogs or cats; or An enterprise which carries out the breeding of dogs or cats to sell, where: in the case of an enterprise whose proprietor is a member of an applicable organisation, the enterprise has 10 or more fertile female dogs or 10 or more fertile female cats; or in the case of an enterprise whose proprietor is not a member of an applicable organisation, the enterprise has 3 or more fertile female dogs or 3 or more fertile female cats.
Microchip	See Permanent Identification Device
Pound	Means any premises maintained for the purpose of impounding dogs or cats including a Council pound.