



Plan of management relating to dogs and cats

2019-2024

**DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 26A
OF THE
DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT ACT 1995**

Approved by Dog and Cat Management Board:

30/10/2019

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09/12/2019

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09/02/2024

**WATTLE RANGE COUNCIL PLAN OF MANAGEMENT RELATING TO
DOGS AND CATS**

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Wattle Range Council area comprises 13 townships, covering an area of 394,602 hectares and is home to 11,975 residents. The Council area is one of the most diverse and productive rural areas in South Australia.

This Animal Management Plan (AMP) has been prepared by the Wattle Range Council following consultation with the broader community and in partnership with the Dog and Cat Management Board. The development of the 2019 – 2024 AMP has been shaped by the changes to the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* during 2016. This plan will set the direction for the management of urban animals within Wattle Range Council over the next five years.

The plan identifies objectives, strategies and actions to implement the mission, aims and objectives for domestic animal management and to create an environment that encourages responsible pet ownership, where people and pets integrate safely and harmoniously within the Council area.

This plan contains recommendations for a wide range of actions to be undertaken by the Council in a programmed approach. These actions will enable Council to maintain a balance between competing interests and to reposition domestic animal management to accommodate new requirements.

The Wattle Range Council Strategic Plan 2019-2024 requires Council to provide services that enhance a healthy lifestyle and provide social, economic, and environmental benefits to the people of the Wattle Range Council area.

Our vision for this Plan is to:

Create a suitable environment for dog and cat ownership that enables the benefits of companion animals to be realised, while minimising nuisance behaviour and its negative impact on our community.

Objectives of the Plan include the promotion of desexing, microchipping, registration and the introduction of financial disincentives to deter nuisance dog and cat behaviour.

Objectives of the Plan are:

- Responsible dog exercise in public places
- To increase the percentage of registered dogs that are microchipped and desexed
- To encourage responsible dog and cat ownership
- Reduce public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats
- Effective administration of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* (as amended)

2. BACKGROUND

The earlier versions of the Wattle Range Council AMP have focused on increasing the proportion of dogs registered and to encourage the microchipping and desexing of dogs.

In 2004 the South Australian Parliament enacted a number of amendments to the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 (the Act). Among the changes was the requirement for all councils to prepare a Plan of Management relating to dogs and cats within their area.

In 2016 Parliament commenced a regime of legislative amendments to reduce the number of dogs that are euthanized, to incentivise desexing and microchipping, and to provide greater powers to Authorised Officers, employed by Council, to enforce the Act.

The main changes to the Act include:

- Microchipping – commencing 1 July 2018 all dogs and cats over 3 months of age must be microchipped
- Desexing – commencing 1 July 2018 all new generations of dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018 must be desexed by 6 months of age.
- Breeders – introducing a requirement for anyone who breeds dogs and cats for sale to register as a breeder.
- Sellers – introducing a requirement for certain information to be provided to the buyer.
- Council powers – councils have greater powers to administer and enforce the Act.
- Penalties and offences – additional expiable offences and fees and penalties increased.
- Assistance dogs – this new definition replaces guide, hearing and disability dogs and accreditation of assistance dogs has been amended.
- New registration fee structure – mandatory rebates for standard dogs (dogs that are both desexed and microchipped) as opposed to non-standard dogs.

Section 26A of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* creates a statutory obligation on Council to develop a plan relating to the management of dogs and cats in our area.

The plan must include provisions for parks where dogs may be exercised off-leash and for parks where dogs must be under effective control by means of physical restraint and may include provisions for parks where dogs are prohibited.

In addition to the mandatory provisions, this plan outlines Council's approach to dog and cat management, defines roles and responsibilities in this field, and sets performance targets, which staff can monitor and report on.

Current statistics and figures

Dog statistics	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Official barking dog complaints	25	17	23	27
Official wandering dog complaints	8	15	10	30
Dogs collected and returned before impounded	39	68	64	58
Total number of dogs impounded	110	116	92	97
Dogs impounded and returned to owner	67	74	78	84
Reported dog harassment on human	7	4	2	4
Reported dog attack on human	0	2	1	4
Reported dog attack on animal	3	6	9	6

3. THE LAW/GUIDELINES

The responsibilities for dog and cat management in South Australia are prescribed in the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* (the Act) as well as the *Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2017*. Section 26, "Council responsibility for the management of dogs and cats", outlines civic responsibilities that include the appointment of a Registrar of Dogs, maintenance of a dog register, the appointment of at least one authorised person to make arrangements for dogs and cats seized, and to fulfil other obligations under the Act. A council is also able to make by-laws relating to the management of dogs and cats within its area.

The Act also provides for the appointment of a Dog and Cat Management Board. The Board is responsible for planning, promoting and advising on the effective management of dogs and cats throughout South Australia, as well as overseeing the administrative provisions of the Act relating to dogs and cats.

Our aim is to cater for all stakeholder needs, and this will benefit not only dogs, cats and their owners as a group with legitimate needs, but also the wider community and those responsible for animal management and enforcing the Act.

The role of the Registrar of Dogs has been delegated to Council's Director of Development Services. The Wattle Range Council also employs two full time Animal Management officers and has a group of engineering staff who are Authorised Officers for the purpose of animal management.

4. REVENUE

The Wattle Range Council is currently required to contribute 12 per cent of revenue raised through dog registration fees to the Dog and Cat Management Board (DCMB).. The Dog and Cat management Board conducts an audit to confirm compliance with Council's obligations under the Act.

Dog Registrations

Council sets its dog registration fees each year. The fee structure is available within Council's fees and charges register and is available for viewing on Council's website and at Council's offices in Penola, Beachport and Millicent. The DCMB requires all councils to offer two mandatory registration fee categories. Standard (mandatory legislated rebate) applies only to a dog that is both desexed and microchipped. Councils are required to provide a mandatory 50 per cent rebate off the non-standard 'fee for a 'standard' dog registration.

Non-standard (full fee) applies to all other kinds of dogs, even if they are exempt from the requirement to desex or microchip (such as dogs belonging to registered breeders, working livestock dogs, etc). Council offers additional discretionary registration fee rebates that are non-mandated by the Act for example concession card holders, working livestock dogs.

Expiations fees apply for the keeping of unregistered dogs, so it is important that dog owners renew their registrations before 31 August each year. A state-wide database of registered dogs and cats is available through Dog and Cat Online system (DACO), the DACO register contains information relating to dogs and cats throughout the state. DACO can be used to register, transfer, record lost animals, search for owners and search for animals.

Other Revenue

Council also collects fees under section 26 of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*, including fees for the provision of extracts from registers kept under the Act, the registration of dogs or businesses, and for meeting any other requirement imposed on councils under the Act.

5. COUNCIL'S MANAGEMENT OF DOGS

Detention arrangements for seized dogs

Council's dog pound is located at the Works Depot at Millicent (with a short-term overflow facility located at Penola) and has provisions for the housing of dogs only that have been impounded or seized by authorised officers.

The pound:

- Can accommodate 10 dogs
- Has non-slip floor coating. Two of the pens have the ability to isolate unfriendly dogs.
- Provides dogs with beds, food and environment enrichment toys to keep them happy during their stay.
- An area to Exercise dogs

When a dog is found wandering at large and is seized, Council's authorised persons make every effort to identify owners by checking the dog for a microchip or any other visible identification. If the owner can be identified they will be contacted and reunited with their pet

as soon as possible. If the owner cannot be located immediately, a photo of the dog will be uploaded to the Council website and details added to the impounded dog register that is displayed at the main Council offices. If an owner cannot be found, the dog will be held at the pound for a period of 72 hours, after which time the dog will be considered to have been surrendered to Council.

Microchipping and desexing of dogs

It is a requirement of the Act that dog owners microchip their dog prior to 1 July 2018. All dogs being sold must be microchipped before they reach 12 weeks of age or within 28 days of the new owner taking possession of the dog.

The Act requires dogs to be desexed before they reach six months of age or within 28 days of the new owner taking possession of the dog, and that dogs must be desexed by a registered veterinary surgeon.

Owners will not be required to desex dogs born before 1 July 2018; however, Council will encourage this to be undertaken.

6. COUNCIL'S MANAGEMENT OF CATS

Effective management of cat-related issues is dependent on positively identifying the nuisance cat and the associated reasons for the behaviours, followed by determining the ownership of the cat. It is a requirement of the Act that all owned cats be microchipped by 1 July 2018 to ensure that their cats can be identified, in order to reduce the impact that nuisance cats have on the community.

Council will:

- Assess all complaints received about cats (except anonymous complaints) and respond accordingly
- Ensure their officers are delegated with the appropriate authority to exercise powers associated with the control and removal of cats
- Scan all trapped cats for microchip identification
- Provide cat management services during Council business hours only.

Prior to Council undertaking any authorised program of trapping nuisance cats Council will, as a minimum, provide written advice to adjoining properties detailing the commencement and completion of the program.

A range of options exist for the management of nuisance cats, which are set out in various acts and will be considered by authorised persons.

To support residents in managing nuisance cats Council provides cat cages for loan. This is subject to a deposit and subject to availability.

Identified cats

Wattle Range Council does not charge a fee for the registration of cats that live in the Council area, however Council does encourage all cat owners to register their animals on DACO. This will assist in the return of lost cats, due to the easier identification through any existing microchip.

If a person traps a cat that has identification (1) or a microchip that can be read, the cat will be deemed as identified. An authorised person will be available during office hours to scan cats for microchip identification. When a person traps an identified cat, they should release it immediately, unharmed, near the location where it was captured or return it to the owner.

(1) Under these circumstances, 'identification' refers to a collar around the cat's neck and/or a tag attached to the collar that is marked with the current address and telephone number of the owner or other person entitled to possession of the cat.

Unidentified cats

Where a person traps (i.e. seizes) an unidentified cat, under section 64(e2) of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* the person should within 12 hours deliver the cat to a Council officer or a specified facility for the care of cats.

It should be noted that Council does not have a pound for holding cats. After every reasonable effort to find the owner has been exhausted, Council staff will photograph the cat and then Council staff will take cats to the vet for assessment and appropriate action taken. Cats approved for re-homing will be delivered to an approved facility.

Resourcing

All General Inspectors of Council are also authorised persons, who are responsible for responding to customer requests about cats during Council business hours.

Microchipping and desexing of cats

It is a requirement of the Act that cat owners microchip their cat prior to 1 July 2018. All cats being sold must be microchipped before they reach 12 weeks of age or within 28 days of the new owner taking possession of the cat.

The Act requires cats to be desexed before they reach six months of age or within 28 days of the new owner taking possession of the cat, and that cats must be desexed by a registered veterinary surgeon.

Owners will not be required to desex cats born before 1 July 2018; however, Council will encourage this to be undertaken.

7. OBJECTIVES/STRATEGIES/MEASURES

The Wattle Range Council has developed a wide range of objectives and strategies to facilitate domestic animal management. These objectives and strategies will ensure that requirements of the Act are met and provide effective management services and promote responsible animal management practices.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Responsible pet ownership

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Educate and inform the community on responsible pet ownership and their rights and responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Promote Council services to ensure residents and the community are aware of Council's role and responsibilities and the services providedPublicise information and educational materials for residents, who may be owners or non-owners of dogs and/or cats	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Link to GoodDogSA and GoodCatSA websites and Facebook pages on Council's website

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use social media to improve information and communication for dog and cat management • Provide links to other relevant agencies and web pages to promote dog and cat information • Promote the benefits of owning pets • Ensure new and prospective dog and cat owners are aware of their responsibilities • Provide information to prospective pet owners to help them choose a dog breed appropriate to their current/future lifestyle • Promote the advantages of desexing, microchipping and training for dogs. 	
Reduce the number of stray or abandoned dogs and cats that are euthanised	Participate in the Getting to Zero Model (or similar) and developing principles, structures and strategies to reduce the number of animals euthanised.	Achieving zero killing of healthy and treatable cats and dogs (more than 90% of all incoming stray and surrendered cats and dogs) in whole communities.

Authorised persons

Objective	Strategies	Measures
To ensure relevant staff are provided with the safety equipment to ensure Council's work health and safety obligations are met	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorised Persons are provided with safe work procedures and equipment that allows them to work safely • Authorised Persons are provided with 'Lone worker Protection monitoring devices' when working alone • Authorised Persons are provided with material safety data sheets for all products used in their duties, including chemicals at pounds. 	Reduction in the number of accident and incident reports relating to the activities of Council's Authorised Persons

Provide Authorised Persons acting under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 with appropriate training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the role of Authorised Persons and ensure they actively promote responsible pet ownership and education of pet owners Provide Authorised Persons with professional development, education and training opportunities suited to their roles Promote and encourage Authorised Persons to join relevant professional organisations Review skills of Authorised Persons to identify areas where additional training would be of benefit to other staff and Council Review training options regularly to ensure they are relevant and up to date. 	<p>Type and number of training sessions attended by Authorised Person</p> <p>Maintain membership for Authorised Persons for industry peak bodies</p> <p>All Authorised Persons attend at least one training session annually</p> <p>All Authorised Persons to attend an accredited Dangerous Dog Training course</p> <p>All authorised persons undertake dog behavioural training as required</p>
Encourage and support the continuous professional development of Authorised Persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilise effective IT solutions to improve processes and customer service. 	Conduct regular performance reviews

Access to procedures

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Ensure that Authorised Persons enforce and operate within the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that standard operating procedures are developed for dealing with dog and cat matters Review standard operating procedures regularly and implement changes as part of a continuous improvement program Develop a procedure manual for use by Authorised Persons. 	<p>Standard operating procedures are developed and made accessible for all Authorised Persons by August 2019</p> <p>Standard operating procedures are reviewed and updated every two years</p> <p>Procedure manual is provided and accessible</p>

Emergency animal management

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Provide a 24-hour, after hours emergency call out service for dog-related matters	Authorised Persons attend to reports of aggressive dogs, dog attacks and dogs detained for collection outside of Council business hours.	Dog management services are available to residents outside of Council's core business hours
Minimise the impact of an emergency or disaster on the animal population of the Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlight the importance of emergency management plans for pet owners and boarding kennels and catteries in rural and bushfire-prone areas Encourage animal owners in high-risk areas to consider their pets as part of their Bushfire Survival Plan Provide relevant advice, information and resources through Council's website. 	<p>Council provides rural residents and businesses with annual reminder to update emergency management plans</p> <p>Information is available on Council's website</p>

Dog training/obedience

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Increase participation in dog obedience programs and encourage dog owners to socialise and train their dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote dog training schools, which operate within the Council area. Advertise contact details and meeting times for local dog obedience and socialisation clubs, on Council's website. 	Increased number of dogs attending dog obedience school

DOG MANAGEMENT

Registration and identification

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Increase/maintain the number of registered dogs in the Council area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an effective and efficient service for people renewing their dog registration Ensure all current and new dog registrations are kept up to date Educate the community about the importance and requirement for registration and identification of dogs 	<p>Council dog registrations do not vary by more than 5% on a year to year basis</p> <p>Decrease in the number of un-registered expiations issued.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertise the convenience of the DACO online registration system • Offer registration rebates for concession card holders • Provide information about dog registration on Council's website • Promote dog registration using roadside signage, social media, and local newspaper notices • Educate dog owners about the Council by-law limiting dog numbers on properties. 	
Enforce the legal requirements of identification and registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue expiation notices to owners if dogs are unregistered when they are impounded. • Conduct annual door knocks to identify dog registrations that have not been renewed or identify homes where there are unregistered dogs • Encourage residents to register prior to the door knock by placing an advance notice in the local newspaper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council conducts an annual door knock program to check for dogs that have not been registered from the previous year • Council conducts a minimum of 1 whole of town door knock per annum

Mandatory microchip identification

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Educate residents about the mandatory microchipping requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Council website and social media to post information about mandatory microchipping • Place notices in local newspaper about the microchipping requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of times educational information is distributed • Increase in the number of different formats used to distribute information
Increase in the proportion of microchipped dogs and cats in the local Council area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host discount microchipping days • Promote microchipping requirements with posters, flyers, digital signage, roadside signage at dog 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of dogs/cats microchipped at a Council-facilitated microchipping day or other promotion.

	<p>obedience school, local newspaper, vets and places likely to be visited by dog and cat owners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote registration rebates for standard dogs Send emails to dog owners whose dogs are not microchipped to advise of requirements and options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the number of microchipped dogs registered in the Council area
Enforce compliance with the mandatory microchipping requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If an un-microchipped dog is impounded, the owner is advised that they are required to microchip their dog. All costs associated with microchipping will be borne by the owner of the dog expiation notices will be issued to owners whose dogs and cats are not microchipped. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease in the number of non- microchipped dogs and cats arriving at Council's pound

Mandatory desexing

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Educate residents about mandatory desexing requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Council website and social media to post information about mandatory desexing Promote desexing requirements with posters, flyers, digital signage, roadside signage at dog obedience school, local newspaper, vets and places likely to be visited by dog and cat owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the number of times educational information is distributed Increase in the number of different formats used to distribute information
Increase the proportion of desexed dogs and cats in the Council area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include information about the National desexing network (NDN) on Council's website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High proportion of all dogs (born after 1 July 2018) are desexed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the NDNs National desexing month in July. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in the number of dogs registered in the 'nonstandard' registration category
Monitor compliance with the mandatory desexing requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforce the 'standard dog' registration rebate by requiring proof of desexing for the rebate Follow up new dog registrations where the dog is registered and is not desexed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in the number of breeders identified as noncompliant with breeder registration Increase in the number of desexed dogs.

Breeder registration

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Educate residents about breeder registration requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate with registered 'kennel establishments' and breeding businesses advising they need to be registered as a breeder with the DCMB after 1 July 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in the number of breeders identified as non-compliant with breeder registration
Enforce compliance with the breeder registration requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor adverts in local newspapers and local websites to check if dog and cat advertisements include a valid breeder registration number. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in the number of breeders identified as non-compliant with breeder registration

Wandering at large

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Reduce the number of dogs found wandering at large	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform the community (social media and other methods) about events that may cause dogs to wander (e.g. fireworks, severe weather, etc.) Educate property owners on the requirement to have adequate fencing to contain dogs Educate the community on safe practices when 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of events/warnings posted to social media Reduction in the number of dogs found wandering at large Reduction in the number of dogs impounded Reduction in the number of complaints about wandering dogs

	<p>walking dogs in public places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all dogs are registered and identified to enable safe return to their owners • Ensure 'on-leash' areas are adequately signed • Display rules at dog parks regarding effective control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in the number of complaints about dogs not 'on-leash' or under effective control • SMS option is available for use to inform the community/dog owners about events
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Nuisance barking

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Reduce the impact of barking dogs in the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate the community about dealing with a nuisance barking dog in the neighbourhood (e.g. Council's investigation process) • Provide education to dog owners regarding nuisance barking offering suggestions to reduce or redirect unwanted behaviour in their dogs • Investigate nuisance barking complaints using Council's standard operating procedure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in the number of complaints received • Increase the number of methods used to distribute information, e.g. website, social media, local paper, at Civic Centre, and local vets.

Dog incidents (attack/harassment)

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Minimise the risk of dog attack/harassment incidents in the Council area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice to dog owners on dog behaviour, what to do when they are approached by a dog, they are unfamiliar with, or a dog presenting aggressive behaviour • Advise dog owners that no matter what the size or breed of the dog, all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in the number of dog attack/harassment incidents that occur over time • Reduction in the number of repeat offenders through the use of control orders • Link to GoodDogSA and GoodCatSA websites

	<p>dogs have the ability to bite</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage dog owners to socialise and train their dogs at recognised dog obedience schools • Fully investigate dog incidents reported to Council within agreed time frames • Use control orders as a tool to prevent re-offending • Require owners to attend training with their dog(s) if a control order is issued • Analyse collected dog attack data; identify any trends or common factors and revise management strategies where appropriate. 	<p>and Facebook pages on Council's website</p>
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Public safety/dogs in public places

Objective	Strategies	Measures
<p>Provide areas of open space within the Council where dogs can be exercised 'off-leash', 'on-leash', as well as areas where dogs are prohibited in the interests of the health and safety of the public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider requests for new 'on-leash' or 'off-leash' dog exercise areas • Regularly inform owners of leash provisions through website or media articles • Erection of signage in all 'off-leash', leash required and 'dogs-prohibited' areas • Undertake regular reviews of open space in the townships available for the exercise of dogs 'off-leash'. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate the community on safe practices when walking their dogs in public places • Reduction in the number of dog incidents that occur in public open space • Increase the total number of signs erected and number of different locations where the signs have been installed • Conduct a review of existing 'off-leash', 'on-leash' and dogs-prohibited areas and identify and implement any recommended changes

Exercise and socialisation

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Educate the community on the availability of suitable areas provided for exercising their dogs and the importance of socialising their pets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and promote Wattle Range Council dog-friendly parks • Promote the benefits of training and socialising dogs • Erect signage in all dog exercise areas advertising conditions of use, facilities available, etc. • Undertake periodic reviews of 'off-leash' dog exercise areas, regarding suitability and effectiveness of facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct twice-yearly education through multiple media sources • Increase number of visits to dog parks by General Inspectors • Conduct a quarterly review of dog park facilities

Impounding and pound facilities

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Operate and maintain Council's dog pound to a high standard of safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure best practice management is followed for the care and transport of seized animals • Ensure the equipment in the pound is maintained to a high standard • Provide the impounded dogs with beds and environment enrichment toys, food and exercise during their stay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All impounded dogs are kept in a safe environment • Workplace safety review conducted quarterly
Facilitate the prompt return of animals to their owners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate dog owners about what happens when their dog is impounded and the associated costs • Maintain a daily register of impounded dogs and ensure photographs of the dogs can be viewed on Council's website and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75 percent of impounded dogs are reunited with their owners as soon as possible • Reduction in the number of animals that need to be impounded

	<p>on Councils Facebook page</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that unclaimed dogs are held for at least 72 hours and that unclaimed dogs are assessed and rehomed to an approved facility. 	
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Dog faeces management

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Maintain a hygienic outdoor environment for all members of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate the community about the responsibilities of dog owners to remove animal faeces from public places • Educate dog owners about the correct way to dispose of dog faeces collected on their properties • Determine sites where dog faeces is a problem and erect appropriate signage • Install dog tidy bag dispensers and waste bins in locations that have been identified as high-use areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in numbers of complaints received about dog faeces • Increase the total number of signs erected and number of different locations where the signs are installed

CAT MANAGEMENT

Cat management

Objective	Strategies	Measures
<p>Detention of seized / impounded cats</p> <p>Nominate a facility where seized or impounded cats may be delivered</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire out cat traps to the community so that residents may capture wandering cats and deliver them to an appropriate facility • Inform the community where they can deliver unidentified cats when 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All cat cage hirers are provided with information on expected cat management standards, prior to cage hire • Ensure Council's website provides information on nominated facilities

	they are caught as part of the hire process.	
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Nuisance cats

Objective	Strategies	Measures
Provide animal management services that meet the needs of the community and encourage responsible cat ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist residents where practical in the management of nuisance cats 	An increased number of customer requests is dealt with in relation to cat management issues

8. APPENDIX: TABLE OF ON-LEASH AND OFF-LEASH PARKS

ON-LEASH PARKS	
Location/Address	Comments

OFF-LEASH PARKS	
Location/Address	Comments
6 Plunkett Terrace, Millicent (corner of Williams Road and Plunkett Terrace)	Budget approved – due for construction 2019/20

DOG PROHIBITED AREAS	
Location/Address	Comments
Penola playground & skate park and Pool areas (excluding the grass area of Memorial Park)	Dogs prohibited at all times.
Nangwarry Swimming pool	Dogs prohibited at all times.
Tantanoola Playground	Dogs prohibited at all times.
Southend Playground	Dogs prohibited at all times.
Millicent Swimming Lake	Dogs prohibited at all times.
Playground in the Domain, Millicent	Dogs prohibited at all times.
Susan Wilson Playground, Beachport	Dogs prohibited at all times.
Beachport Beaches 5 & 7 (between Sandbag Reef Beach and the Beachport Jetty)	dog free beaches between the hours of 9am and 5pm daily from 1 November to 30 April annually
Lake McIntyre, Millicent	Dogs prohibited at all times.

APPENDICES

Wattle Range Council - Dogs By-Law No: 5.