



DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
CLEVE



ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2025–2030

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CLEVE

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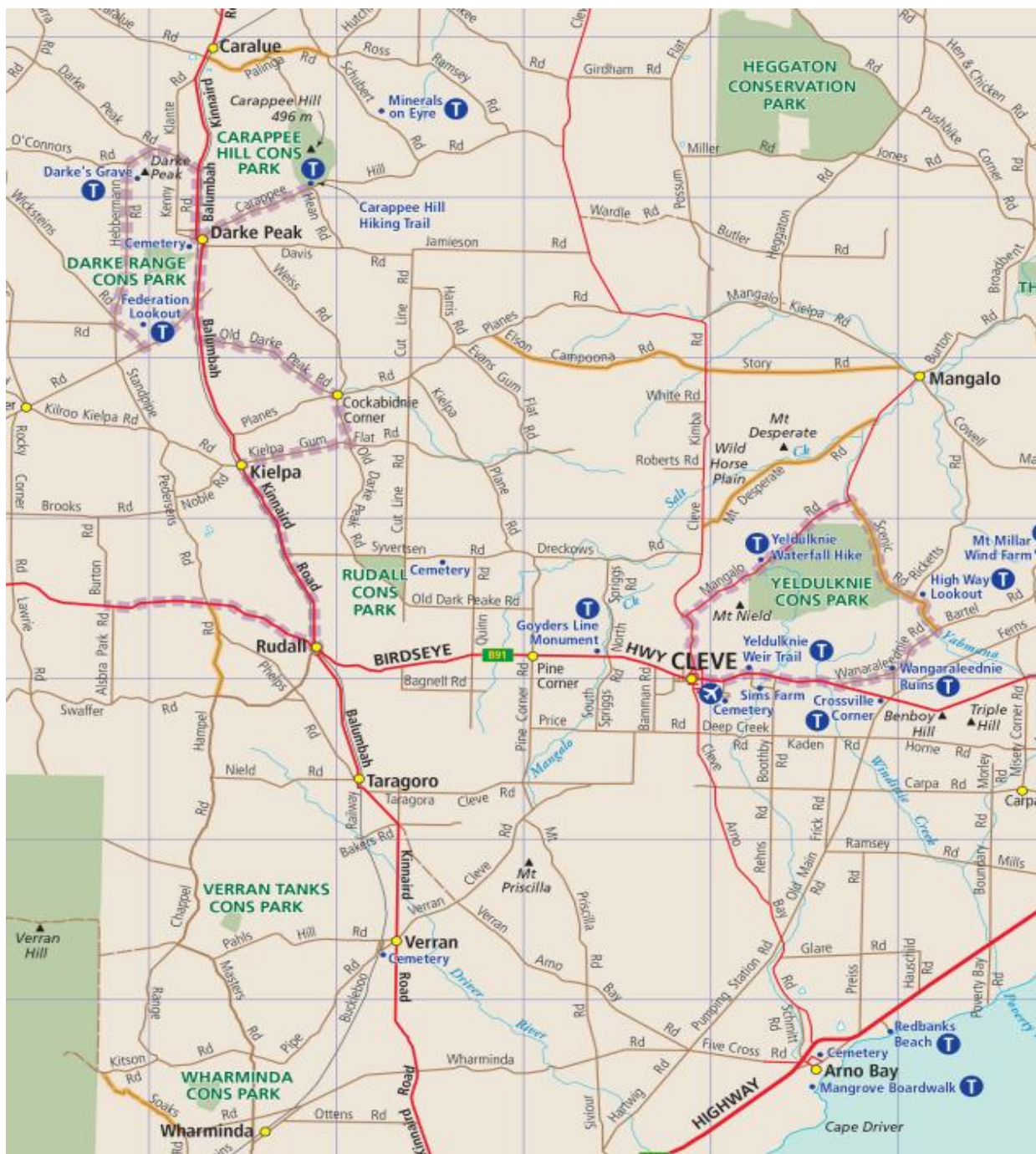
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1. INTRODUCTION

Background

In South Australia, the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* (the Act) provides for the management of dogs and cats. Section 26A of the Act requires each council to prepare a plan relating to the management of dogs and cats within its area.

The District Council of Cleve is located on the Eastern Eyre Peninsula and has a district population of approximately 1742. The Council area encompasses the townships of Cleve, Arno Bay, Darke Peak, Rudall and Mangalo.



Purpose

This Animal Management Plan will guide the direction of domestic animals (specifically dogs and cats) in the District Council of Cleve over the next five (5) years.

This Plan focuses on the management of dogs and cats; however, it also covers the management of a range of other animals that Council deals with such as poultry, birds, bees and domestic livestock.

This Plan aims to:

- Encourage responsible pet ownership and foster an environment where people and their pets can safely and harmoniously integrate within the District Council of Cleve;
- Recognise that companion animals are part of the community and positively contribute to people's quality of life;
- Ensure that the needs of animals and their owners are accommodated whilst recognising the wider community's needs, including those of non-pet-owners and visitors.
- Secure the safety and well-being of members of our community, including the animals.

2. BACKGROUND & COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Act provides the framework for the Council's domestic animal management. The following principles will guide Council's responsibilities and the Animal Management Plan 2025-2030:

- Dogs **must** be registered, and it is strongly encouraged to register cats.
- Dogs and cats must be microchipped before reaching twelve (12) weeks of age or within 28 days after the owner takes possession, and the microchip details entered into Dogs and Cats Online (DACO).
- All dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018 must be desexed by six (6) months of age and details entered into DACO. Exemptions apply for working dogs and registered breeders. Further exemptions may apply please check the Act and Regulations.
- Breeders of dogs and cats must be registered in DACO.
- People selling dogs and cats must give the new owner a written notice setting out the identity of the seller, the identity of the breeder, details of vaccinations and other treatments, information relating to the microchip, desexing and other relevant medical information and in the case of dogs subject to control orders, details of the order.
- Dogs are not allowed to wander at large, attack a person or animal, cause a nuisance, defecate in a public place unless the owner immediately removes the faeces and disposes of it in a lawful and suitable manner.
- Dogs are required to be leashed when on streets and roads and be under effective control.
- Councils have the power to make a range of orders in relation to the keeping of dogs.
- Councils have the power to seize and detain dogs.
- There are specific requirements in relation to the detention/removal of cats from remote or fragile areas and in relation to unidentified cats in other areas.
- Councils have the power to make a range of by-laws in relation to the keeping of dogs and cats.

The Animal Management Plan will provide the Council with a sound basis and direction from which it can plan, coordinate, and make future decisions to meet the needs of the community over the next five (5) years.

Dogs and Cats Online (DACO)

A state-wide system was introduced in July 2018, Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) and is facilitated by the Dog and Cat Management Board of South Australia. The system holds the details of all dogs and cats registered within South Australia and all registration renewals are issued via this system, not through local councils.

Owners of dogs and cats are required to access the system to:

- Renew current registrations.
- Register a new dog or cat, including recording microchip numbers.
- Transfer a dog or cat to a new owner.
- Update their details should they move, including changing contact numbers.
- Update the details of their dog or cat including microchip/desexing details.
- Notify if their dog or cat is lost or deceased.

Council has access through DACO to:

- Obtain the microchip, desexing and registration details of dogs and cats listed on the system.
- Identify properties in the area which have more than two (2) dogs and/or cats registered.
- View owner contact details to assist with reuniting lost pets.
- Record, view and review control orders allocated to an animal.
- Record, view and review general notes made on the system by authorised users.

Revenue

Pursuant to Section 26(5) of the Act, the District Council of Cleve is required to contribute a fixed proportion of its dog registration fee revenue to the Dog and Cat Management Board. This amount is currently set at 12%, as determined by the Board with the approval of the Minister. These funds support the operation of the Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) system and broader state-wide initiatives in animal management.

The Act requires a mandatory rebate for a "Standard Dog or Cat" which is one that is both microchipped and desexed.

Council sets fees and charges for the management of dogs and cats, including annual registration fees, which are resolved at a Council Meeting. Animal registration income received by Council is spent on the management of dogs and cats and complies with annual reporting and auditing requirements of the Act. Dog and cat management fees can be found within the Fees & Charges Schedule available on Council's Website: www.cleve.sa.gov.au

Expiations are issued to pet owners who breach the Act.

Expiations are mostly issued to owners for breaching dog registration requirements, dogs wandering at large, dog harassment and/or attack of a person or animal.

3. DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT ACT 1995 – THE LAW GUIDELINES

The Act and *Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2017* provide the legislative framework to be adhered to in relation to the management of dogs and cats within the community.

The Council delegates powers under the Act to the Chief Executive Officer who in turn, sub-delegates relevant powers to the authorised officers within the organisation. Enforcement Provisions include:

- Council must enforce the provisions of the Act and Regulations within the area of the Council. The approach in the first instance will be to encourage people to become responsible pet owners and comply with the provisions of the Act voluntarily.
- The community has an expectation that public places are monitored to ensure that the provisions of the Act are complied with, and that appropriately trained and authorised persons are available to respond to concerns of the community and serious breaches of the Act and Council By-laws.
- The Manager Infrastructure and Civil Works has been appointed as the Registrar and Council has delegated employees as authorised officers.
- Council will respond to calls/complaints from members of the public regarding possible non-compliance with the provisions of the Act and/or Council By-laws.

4. MANAGEMENT OF DOGS

Dog Registration

Under the Act, it is a mandatory requirement for dogs three (3) months old and over to be registered. With the introduction of DACO, dog registrations are now managed by the Dog and Cat Management Board, which sends out annual registration renewals and replacement discs/tags if required. Council's have access and individuals may register their dog or cat at the Council office if they wish.

Council is responsible for promoting and ensuring people register/renew their dogs.

The main benefit of animal registrations and microchipped dogs/cats is identification of lost or stray animals. Animals with a microchip can be identified and reunited with their owner at the earliest possible time, reducing stress for both the owner and the pet.

Desexing of Dogs

Dog owners are required to de-sex all new generation dogs born after 1 July 2018 by the age of six (6) months.

Owners are not required to de-sex dogs born before 1 July 2018; however de-sexing of all dogs is encouraged.

Dog owners will also be required to microchip all dogs from 1 July 2018 including new pups by the age of three (3) months.

Detention Arrangements for Seized Dogs

Council has a secure holding area (Pound) for all dogs that are seized, located at the Council Works Depot on the Corner of Brooks and Depot Street, Cleve SA.

When a dog owner cannot be identified due to lack of dog identification (no registration disc or microchip) a Notice is placed at the Council Office and on Council's Facebook page. This assists in reuniting the impounded pet with the owner as soon as possible.

When a dog is found wandering at large and is seized, the Authorised Officer will endeavour to identify the owner by checking for a registration disc, name tag, owner details and scan for a microchip.

In instances where the owner can be identified and contacted, the pet will be reunited with the owner as soon as practicable.

If an owner cannot be identified, the dog will be impounded at Council's Pound for a minimum of 72 hours as required by the Act. After this period dogs that are unable to be

rehomed may be transported to RSPCA at Whyalla for assessment, re-homing, or as a last resort use the services to humanely euthanise the dog.

Number of Dogs to be Kept at One Property

A maximum of two (2) dogs may be kept at a private premises as per Council Bylaw. Keeping more than two dogs requires prior written approval from Council.

Dog and Cat Breeders

Anyone who breeds a dog or cat for sale must be registered as a breeder in the Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) system. This registration attracts a fee.

All advertisements for the sale of dogs or cats must include the name, contact number, and DACO breeder registration number of each person involved in the sale.

All puppies and kittens must be microchipped, and their details must be recorded in DACO before sale.

Breeders must comply with the *South Australian Standards and Guidelines for Breeding and Trading Companion Animals*, which outline minimum requirements for housing, care, veterinary attention, and general welfare. Failure to comply may result in breaches of animal welfare legislation.

For further information, visit: <https://dogandcatboard.com.au/breeders/standards-for-breeding>

Responsible Dog Ownership

Picking up after your dog

Council promotes responsible dog ownership and reminds all dog owners of their obligation to clean up after their pets in public places. To support this, numerous dog waste bag dispensers have been installed across the District Council of Cleve area. Owners are expected to carry bags and dispose of waste in a hygienic and lawful manner.

Effective Control Methods

Under the Act, a dog is considered to be under effective control if it is:

- physically restrained (eg on a leash), or
- Under voice command, in close proximity to the handler and visible to the handler at all times

Other Dog Control Expectations

To help ensure public safety and enjoyment, particularly in coastal areas, dog owners are asked to ensure their pets do not:

- Jump on or harass other beach users, especially children and older people
- Behave aggressively toward other dogs or animals
- Run freely in a way that may cause injury or distress to others
- Enter off-leash or restricted areas, such as sand dunes or zones established to protect native wildlife, including nesting Hooded Plovers

If you are unsure whether your dog can be safely and reliably controlled off-leash, keep your dog on a lead and seek advice from a qualified animal trainer.

Dogs By-Law No. 5 of 2025

The District Council of Cleve 'By-Law No. 5 – Dogs' provides further legal provisions in relation to the management and control of dogs within the Council area.

By-Law No. 5 - Dogs includes:

- Limits on dog numbers on private premises;
- Responsible dog owner controls: dog exercise, on-leash, off-leash & prohibited areas and dog faeces control;
- Council Exemptions; and
- Council Orders and Enforcement.

A copy of the By-Law is available at the Council Office and on Council's website: www.cleve.sa.gov.au/documents/by-laws

Dog Resources – Dog and Cat Board

- www.dogandcatboard.com.au
- Dog Owners Handbook - [DogOwnerHandbook2020-B.pdf](#)
- Your Dog and the Law - [YourDogAndTheLaw21-L.pdf](#)

5. MANAGEMENT OF CATS

Cat Registration

The District Council of Cleve has chosen not to require compulsory cat registration at this time. However, cat owners are encouraged to register their cats in the Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) system. There is currently no annual registration fee for cats.

Council may review this position in the future and consider introducing mandatory registration and associated fees should it be deemed necessary or become a legislative requirement.

In accordance with the Act, all cats aged three (3) months or older must be microchipped from 1 July 2018 onwards.

Desexing of Cats

Council encourages the mandatory desexing and microchipping requirements for cats, recognising these as essential measures for effective population control and responsible pet ownership.

All cats born after 1 July 2018 must be desexed by the age of six (6) months, unless exempt under the Act. While cats born before this date are not legally required to be desexed, Council strongly recommends that all cat owners desex their pets as a best practice for animal welfare and to help reduce nuisance and stray cat issues.

Cat Traps and Detention Arrangements for Seized Cats

Council offers a cat trap hire service for residents experiencing issues with feral or nuisance cats. Traps can be collected from the Council office, or in some cases, delivery can be arranged. Conditions of use apply and must be agreed to before a trap is issued. Only unidentified cats can be detained.

Cats that are trapped or seized are taken to Council's secure holding facility (Pound), located at the Council Works Depot on the corner of Brooks and Depot Streets, Cleve SA. Cats impounded are held for as little time as possible.

All detained cats are assessed to determine whether they can be identified. This includes checking for a collar with identification details or scanning for a microchip. If identification is

found, Council's Authorised Officer will contact the owner and arrange for collection as soon as practicable. The Officer will also take the opportunity to discuss responsible cat ownership, including the importance of confining cats to their property and microchipping.

Where no identification is found, a notice is placed at the Council office and on Council's Facebook page in an effort to locate the owner.

If the owner cannot be located, Council may attempt to rehome the cat through suitable avenues. If rehoming is not possible, the cat may be referred to the RSPCA in Whyalla for assessment, potential rehoming, or as a last resort humane euthanasia.

Number of Cats to be Kept at One property

A maximum of two (2) cats may be kept at a private premises as per Council By-Law. Keeping more than two cats requires prior written approval from Council.

Cats By-Law No. 6 of 2025

The District Council of Cleve's Cats By-Law No. 6 of 2025 sets out additional local requirements for the management and control of cats within the Council area.

Key provisions of the by-law include:

- Limits on the number of cats that may be kept on private premises
- Requirements for responsible cat ownership, including preventing nuisance behaviour
- Provisions relating to the registration of cats (where applicable)
- Exemptions that may be granted by Council in specific circumstances
- Council's powers to issue orders and take enforcement action

A copy of By-Law No. 6 – Cats is available at the Council office or can be downloaded from Council's website: www.cleve.sa.gov.au

Cat Resources – Dog and Cat Board

- www.dogandcatboard.com.au
- Cat Owners Handbook - [CatOwnersHandbook2020-B.pdf](#)
- Good Cats Play at Home - [GoodCatsPlayAtHome2020-B.pdf](#)

6. MANAGEMENT OF OTHER ANIMALS

While the majority of animal-related complaints received by Council concern dogs and cats, Council also responds to issues involving:

- Poultry and birds
- Rabbits and Guinea Pigs
- Recreational beekeeping
- Domestic livestock

These animals are subject to various legislative and community standards to ensure they do not create a nuisance or pose a risk to public health, safety, or amenity.



Poultry (Including Roosters)

Residents may keep poultry such as chickens, fowls, ducks, geese, and turkeys for a variety of reasons — including as a hobby, for sustainable living, or to produce fresh eggs.

Council permits the keeping of poultry (excluding roosters) in residential backyards without the need for formal consent, provided the animals are housed and managed responsibly.

To ensure both animal welfare and neighbourhood amenity, Council recommends that poultry be kept in a location and structure that is clean, secure, and well-maintained. The keeping of poultry must not create health risks or unreasonable disturbance to neighbouring properties.

To minimise the risk of excessive noise and nuisance, roosters are not permitted in residential as within the Council district.



Birds

Residents may keep birds provided they comply with relevant State and Local Government guidelines, which set out requirements for aviary location, construction materials, hygiene standards, and appropriate storage of bird feed.

https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/environment/docs/cop_birdshusbandry.pdf

South Australian Code of Practice for The Husbandry of Captive Birds

Applicable Legislation: *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1985*



Rabbits

In South Australia, the keeping and sale of domestic breeds of rabbits are regulated under the Animal and Plant Control Act.

Residents may keep Rabbits but must follow specific guidelines to ensure rabbits are not a pest. The maintaining of vaccinations are recommended. Domestic rabbits may not be released into the wild.

The Department for Environment and Water provides information on legal obligations.



Guinea Pigs

When considering the keeping of guinea pigs as pets, it is essential to house appropriately.

Nuisance Management

The above animals become a nuisance if they are noisy, not properly contained, or kept in unsanitary conditions that lead to odour or vermin issues. If a complaint is received, Council may take appropriate action under relevant legislation.



Honeybees

Bees play a vital role in the natural environment by pollinating plants and supporting biodiversity. Recreational beekeeping is increasingly popular, including in residential areas. However, it is subject to specific legislative requirements in South Australia.

Under state regulations, anyone keeping honeybees must register as a beekeeper with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA). Registration is required annually, regardless of:

- The number of hives
- The location or purpose for keeping bees (e.g. backyard hobby use)
- The type of hives used

For detailed information, visit www.pir.sa.gov.au or contact PIRSA on (08) 8226 0995.

Tips for Beekeepers:

- Speak with PIRSA before establishing hives to ensure you are meeting legal and practical requirements
- Keep hives at least 20m from all boundaries (not suitable for residential blocks)
- Talk to your neighbours about your plans and hive placement to help prevent misunderstandings or nuisance complaints

Nuisance Management

Beehives may become a source of nuisance if not carefully managed, particularly in cases of swarming or where bee activity causes concern (e.g. stings, high traffic near boundaries). Where a complaint is made, Council will investigate.

Swarming Bees on Council Land

Council will respond to reports of swarming bees on public land or Council-managed infrastructure and organise for their removal.



Domestic Livestock

In South Australia, any person who keeps livestock, whether on a residential property, hobby farm, or commercial farming enterprise, must register their land and obtain a Property Identification Code (PIC) through the Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA).

This requirement applies even in cases of short-term agistment, temporary grazing, or where animals are kept for personal, recreational, or non-commercial purposes.

A PIC is required for properties where any of the following species are kept:

- Horses, donkeys or mules
- Cattle, buffalo or bison
- Sheep
- Pigs
- Deer
- Goats
- Alpacas, llamas or camels

The PIC system supports animal traceability and biosecurity.

For further information or to apply for a PIC, visit: www.landscape.sa.gov.au

7. OBJECTIVES

Alignment with Legislation

The following objectives have been developed in accordance with the Act. They outline the actions Council will take to promote responsible dog and cat ownership, encourage registration and identification, reduce nuisance impacts, and ensure the effective management of dogs and cats through education, enforcement, and ongoing service delivery. Where appropriate, these objectives also extend to the management of other animals within the district to reflect local circumstances and community expectations.

1. Provide effective management of dogs, cats & other animals within the community.

- 1.1 Ensure that Officers of Council effectively administer the provisions of the Act.
- 1.2 Encourage education of dog, cat & other animal owners.
- 1.3 Maximise dog registration.
- 1.4 Minimise the number of dogs wandering at large.
- 1.5 Enforce identification of dogs and encourage the identification of cats.
- 1.6 Encourage the community to report all dog attacks and incidents to Council.
- 1.7 Provide suitable on-leash activity areas.
- 1.8 Maximise the public's understanding of the roles of the Authorised Officer and Council in the community.
- 1.9 Maintain data collection to better understand dog and cat management issues.

2. Encourage responsible dog, cat & other animal ownership.

- 2.1 Provide education material to residents, schools and visitors to the Council area.
- 2.2 Enforce the provisions of the Act.

3. Ensure public safety and amenity in relation to the activities of dogs, cats & other animals.

- 3.1 Prevent, as far as possible, the following detrimental impacts of dogs, cats & other animals:
 - Barking dogs.
 - Wandering dogs.
 - Dog attacks/harassment.
 - Dog & other animal faeces in public places; and
 - Nuisance caused by cats & other animals.

4. Provide for the welfare and safety of impounded dogs, cats & other animals.

- 4.1 Ensure that impounded dogs, cats & other animals are returned to owners as soon as practical.
- 4.2 Ensure that all impounded dogs, cats & other animals have clean safe facilities while impounded.

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

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

8. STRATEGIES

Strategy 1

Provide effective management of dogs, cats & other animals within the community.

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

The strategies to ensure that officers of Council operate within the provisions of the Act are:

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

Recommendations

- 1.1.1 That Council's CEO continues to review staff training and development needs as an integral part of annual performance reviews.
- 1.1.2 That Council's CEO continues to include animal management training and development needs in his/her annual training plan.
- 1.1.3 That Council review its current policy and procedures, if and when it is found necessary.

1.2 Encourage Education of dog, cat & other animal owners.

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

Recommendations

- 1.2.1 That Council continues to provide information and educational literature through the community monthly newsletter, council offices, school and library and with mail-outs of registration renewal reminders.
- 1.2.2 That Council encourages dog obedience training.
- 1.2.3 That as a guide, a limit of the number of dogs and cats residing in townships be two (2) per residence.

1.3 Maximise dog registration.

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

- Owners are identified as well as their dogs.
- Maximum funding is available for Councils to carry out responsibilities under the Act; and

- Responsible dog owners and the rest of the community do not have to financially support irresponsible and unthinking dog owners.

Recommendations

- 1.3.1 That Council conducts surveys as deemed necessary by the Chief Executive Officer on dogs not re-registered.
- 1.3.2 That Council continues to provide registration renewal reminders via the mail and/or community newsletters and/or website.

1.4 Minimise number of dogs wandering at large.

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

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

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

Recommendations

- 1.4.1 That owners be made aware of their responsibilities to:
 - Adequately fence their property to contain their dog;
 - Train their dog to not leave their premises; and
 - Keep their dog under effective control when in a public place.
- 1.4.2 That an authorised officer conducts random patrols of public areas and detain dogs wandering at large.
- 1.4.3 That Council respond to calls from the public of a dog wandering at large. The priority of the Council will be to return the dog to the owner except where the dog is found to be repeatedly wandering.
 - Unidentified dogs and repeat offenders will be impounded in accordance with the Act.
 - Unclaimed dogs that are suitable as pets will be eligible for distribution to persons seeking a pet, (subject to Council approval). Dogs being rehomed under this program will be required to be registered.
 - Unclaimed dogs, which are unsuitable as pets, will be euthanised.
- 1.4.4 To encourage compliance, the principal authorised officer will give written warnings to first offences that are of a minor nature where no harm to a person or property has occurred. Penalties prescribed by the Act will be applied for re-offenders.

1.5 Enforce identification of dogs and encourage identification of cats.

Identification of dogs and cats is imperative to provide sound animal management practices. Residents and visitors to the area must always identify their dogs. Generally, pet owners do not allow their pets to wander at large.

Accidental escape accounts for approximately 90% of dogs wandering at large. Often these dogs are not identified and therefore cannot be returned to the owner. The costs associated with impounding unidentified dogs and cats and the stress this places on the animals and their owners can be avoided.

Recommendations

- 1.5.1 That Council staff enforce identification of dogs. That Council educate the public regarding the correct identification of dogs and cats.
- 1.5.2 That Council staff encourage cat owners through education of the need to identify their cats so that if it is trapped, it is not deemed to be a stray and consequently destroyed.

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

Knowledge is the Council's best tool to reduce the number of dog attacks that occur in the community. Due to the number of visitors to the area, it is difficult for Council to implement a strategy to reduce dog attacks and harassment.

The collection of data will enable Council to understand the situations that lead to such attacks and therefore the community must be encouraged to provide information regarding all attacks regardless of their severity.

Recommendations

- 1.6.1 That Council continues to promote the reporting of all dog attacks and harassment by dogs on humans and livestock throughout the community.
- 1.6.2 That Council provides for the formal reporting, in person or via telephone, and follow up of dog attacks and harassment by dogs, through use of its complaint forms.

1.7 Provide suitable on and off-leash activity areas.

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

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

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

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

Unfortunately, within Council's area there are very few parks, none of any size, and none of which are suitable for owners to exercise their dogs without restraint. Sporting reserves are under the control of incorporated community bodies and currently dogs are not permitted on the grounds on or off-leash.

Recommendations

- 1.7.1 That Council continues to allow on-leash exercise of dogs in its foreshore parks.
- 1.7.2 That no dogs be permitted on the Arno Bay Jetty
- 1.7.3 That all dogs on the Board Walk and foreshore (including Turnbull Park and Centenary Park) in Arno Bay from the Southern end of the Caravan Park to the Northern end of the Boat Harbour, be required to be on a lead.
- 1.7.4 Dogs maybe exercised off-leash 100 metres from the southern end of the caravan park south to the creek mouth and from the boat ramp north to Turnbull beach, on the beach and there onwards, but under voice control.
- 1.7.5 Dogs may be exercised off-leash in the parklands adjacent to Edwards Terrace in Cleve.
- 1.7.6 It is a requirement that all dogs in public areas eg: road and footpaths, are required to be on a lead. In any other Council reserve not mentioned above, dogs may be exercised off-leash but under control (voice).
- 1.7.7 That all dogs at the Redbanks Camping Ground area be on a leash.

1.8 Maximise the public's understanding of the Authorised Officer and the Councils role in the community.

The role performed by authorised officers and council is not always fully understood by the general community. Ongoing communication and education can assist in this regard, to avoid possible misunderstanding of animal management initiatives.

Recommendation

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

1.9 Maintain data collection to better understand dog, cat & other animal management issues.

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

Recommendation

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

Strategy 2

Encourage responsible dog, cat & other animal ownership.

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

There are three factors that contribute to successful pet ownership:

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

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

Recommendations

- 2.1.1 Provide advice that Online information regarding breeds and assistance in pet selection is available at Pet care Information and Advisory Service www.petnet.com.au or the Dog and Cat Management Board of SA www.dogandcatboard.com.au
- 2.1.2 That people contemplating obtaining a pet be encouraged to become familiar with the responsibilities of dog, cat or other animal ownership prior to obtaining a pet.
- 2.1.3 That people who acquire a new dog is encouraged to have it trained.

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

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

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

Recommendation

- 2.2.1 That the provisions of the Act be consistently enforced in accordance with Council policy.

Strategy 3

Ensure public safety and amenity in relation to the activities of dogs, cats & other animals.

3.1 Reduce the following detrimental impacts of dogs, cats & other animals;

- **Barking dogs**

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

For Council to resolve the complaint they require full cooperation from the complainant to collect meaningful evidence suitable to a Court of law, if the complaint cannot be readily resolved with the owner of the dog(s). On receipt of a complaint Council will provide information to the dog owner and, if the problem continues, diaries to the complainant. When the diaries are returned, and the complaint substantiated, Council will take the appropriate course of action.

Recommendations

- 3.1.1 That Council continues to follow the above procedure for the investigation of noise nuisance complaints.
- 3.1.2 That Council will provide educational material to dog owners to assist in changing barking behavior in the event of a complaint regarding dog noise nuisances.

- **Dog attacks/harassment**

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

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

Recommendations

- 3.1.3 That Council collates statistics related to dog attacks to determine any trends applicable.
- 3.1.4 That Council provides the opportunity to people who have been attacked/harassed, or whose stock has been attacked/harassed, to apply for an appropriate Order to be made.
- 3.1.5 That Council maintains a history of dogs that have attacked/harassed and makes appropriate Orders were considered necessary.

- **Dog faeces in public places**

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

Recommendation

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

- **Nuisance caused by cats**

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

Recommendation

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

Strategy 4

Provide for the welfare and safety of impounded dogs, cats & other animals.

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

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

Recommendation

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

4.2 Ensure that all impounded dogs, cats & other animals have clean safe facilities while impounded.

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

Recommendation

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

Strategy 5

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

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

The Act, Section 26(3) requires that all money received by Council under the Act must be expended in the administration or enforcement of the provisions of the Act relating to dogs and cats.

Further, Section 26(6) of the Act enables Council to annually review and determine its proposed dog registration fees. The Act requires a mandatory rebate for a 'standard dog' which is an animal that is both microchipped and desexed. Council may offer other discretionary rebates and exemptions.

The registration fee structure is available within Council's Fees and Charges Policy, which can be viewed at Council's Office and on Council's website: www.cleve.sa.gov.au.

The implementation of this plan is a clear demonstration of Council's desire to fulfil this obligation.

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

Recommendation

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



9. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Objective	Actions	KPI's	Target/12 Months
Provide effective management and a suitable environment for dogs, cats & other animals within the community	Ensure that Authorised Officers of Council operate within the provisions of the Act. Ensure that Officers operate within predetermined guidelines in accordance with the Act. Encourage Education of dog, cat & other animal owners. Maximise dog registration. Minimise dogs wandering at large. Enforce identification of dogs. Encourage the community to report all dog attacks and harassments to Council. Provide suitable on and off-leash activity areas. Maximise the public's understanding of the Authorised Officers and the Councils role in the community. Introduce data collection to better understand dog, cat & other animal management issues.	Management Conduct Staff reviews. Regular audits of the Animal Management Plan. Compare registration compliance with previous years. Collect data regarding dogs impounded by Council without current registration. Compare dog attack/harassment reports with previous years' review data collected.	Increase to registration figures Rise in the reporting of dog attacks
Encourage responsible dog, cat & other animal ownership.	Provide education material to residents and visitors to the Council area. Enforce the provisions of the Act.	Collate information regarding education material distributed to residents and visitors. Collect data of expiations issued compared with previous years.	Increase in advertisement and education
Increase public safety through the reduction of public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs, cats & other animals	Reduce the following detrimental impacts of dogs, cats & other animals: • Barking dogs • Dog attacks/harassment • Dog faeces in public places • Nuisance caused by cats & other animals	Data collection and analysis.	

Objective	Actions	KPI's	Target/12 Months
Provide for the welfare and safety of dogs, cats & other animals.	Ensure that impounded dogs are returned to owners as soon as practical. Ensure that all impounded dogs, cats & other animals have clean safe facilities while impounded. Ensure that off-leash areas are suitable for dogs to be exercised. Off-leash areas sign posted	Data Collection and analysis of expiations issued compare with previous years. Review pound procedures. Conduct risk analysis of off-leash areas.	98% dogs are returned to their owners
Acknowledge the importance of dogs, cats & other animals in society.	Provide residents and visitors with up-to-date information regarding the benefits of responsible dog, cat & other animal ownership.	Review information provided to residents and visitors to the Council area.	
Ensure public safety and amenities in relation to dogs, cats & other animals.	Conduct regular patrols to ensure compliance with Legislative requirements. Invite regular input regarding dog, cat & other animal management issues from interest groups throughout the community.	Conduct risk analysis of areas unsuitable for dog, cat & other animal activities.	
Protect native fauna and flora from the impacts of dogs, cats & other animals.	Clearly define areas unsuitable for dog, cat & other animal recreation and exercise.	Conduct risk analysis of areas unsuitable for dog, cat & other animal activities.	
Ensure the expenditure of registration fees addresses the needs of pet owners as well as domestic animal management.	Conduct regular reviews of income and expenditure to ensure that Council is using best practice with available funds.	Audit conducted by the Dog and Cat Management Board if needed.	

10. DOG OFF-LEASH AREAS

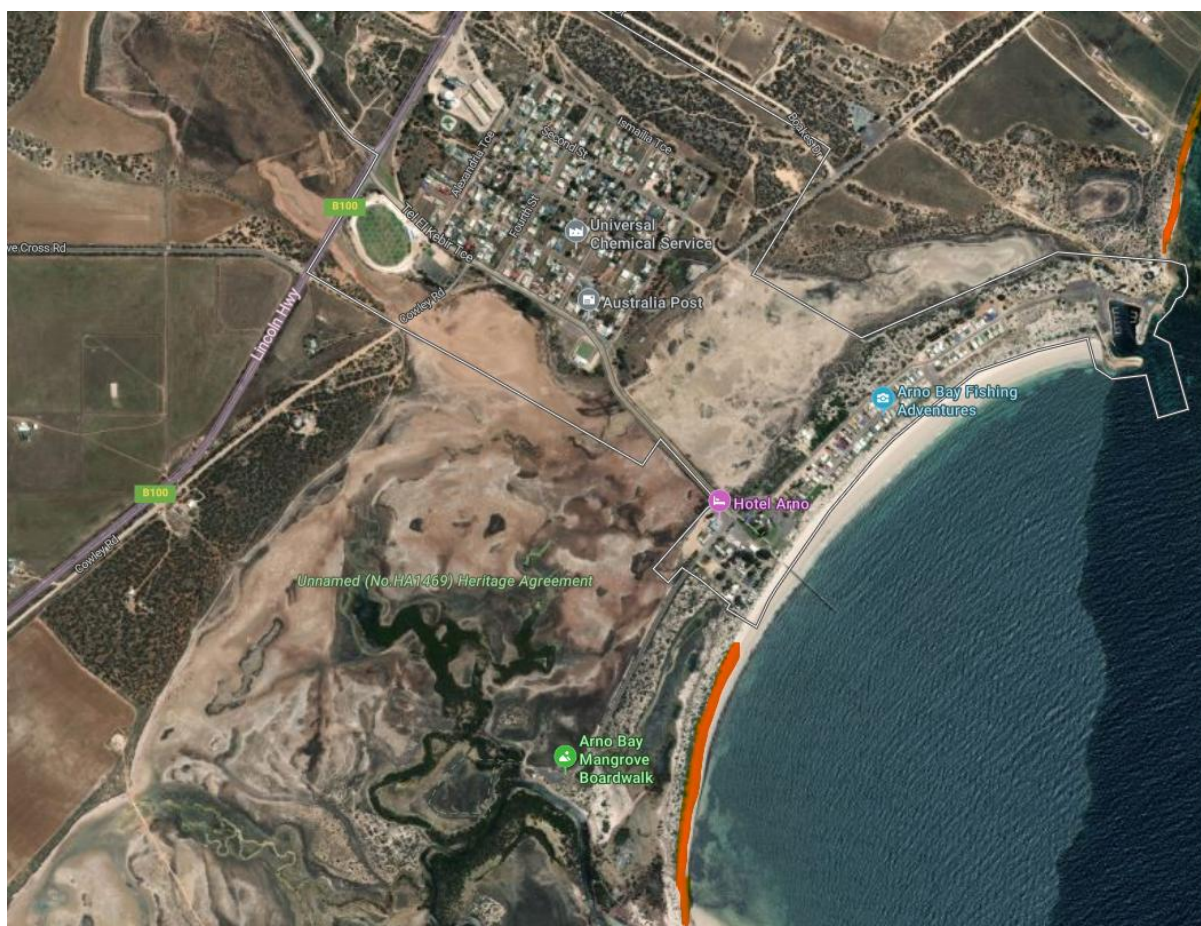
Cleve – Township Dog Park Map

Cleve - Dogs may be exercised off-leash in the parklands adjacent to Edwards Terrace Cleve, but under voice control. Updated information can be found on the Council website: cleve.sa.gov.au



Arno Bay – Foreshore / Beach Dog off-leash area

Arno Bay Foreshore - Dogs may be exercised off-leash 100 meters from the Southern End of the Caravan Park, South to the Creek Mouth and from the Boat Ramp, north to Turnbull Beach on the beach and there onwards, but under voice control. Updated information can be found on the Council website: cleve.sa.gov.au





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