

PRIORITY 1: PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME / PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

| Aim | Action | Performance Indicator |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Achieve a high level of responsible pet ownership through education, consultation and cohesive management within the community. ○ To ensure that owners of dogs, particularly in rural areas, are well informed about their responsibilities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working with the media, schools and other Agencies promoting responsible companion animals management by increasing the Communities understanding of the negative impacts companion animals may have on the environment and in rural areas the impact on livestock from dog attacks; and ○ The adoption of a school education program to teach children how to behave around aggressive dogs. Letters to be issued to schools for Law Enforcement Officers to attend and give talks for children 10 to 12 years old. ○ Work with animal welfare organisations to investigate the implementation of a school education program to teach children responsible ownership of dogs including an awareness of a dog's natural hunting instincts. ○ Encourage rural dog owners to ensure that their animals cannot venture onto adjoining properties and attack livestock. ○ Target the Urban/Rural interface with one information campaign in 2017/18. ○ Letterbox drop in neighbourhood where unidentified dog attacks have been reported. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least four companion animal story/editorial/advertisement relating to responsible companion animals ownership published in the Guardian / Radio annually. ○ The number of schools attended annually. |

PRIORITY 2: PUBLIC SAFETY / DANGEROUS DOGS AND RESTRICTED BREEDS

| Aim | Action | Performance Indicator |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduce the potential threat to public safety by management of aggressive animals. ○ Reduced incidence of dog attacks. ○ Effectively monitor, manage and control the keeping of identified restricted breeds and declared dangerous dogs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensure an efficient and effective response to reported dog attacks. ○ Investigate all reports of animal aggression. ○ Update OLG Companion Animals data monthly. ○ Investigate the implementation of a school education campaign to teach children how to behave around animals. ○ Effectively monitor, manage and control the keeping of identified restricted breeds of dogs. ○ Declare dogs as dangerous or nuisance where necessary under the provisions of the Companion Animals Act. ○ Conduct annual inspections of the premises where restricted breeds of dogs are kept to ensure compliance with the legislation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ OLG dog attacks data demonstrates a reduction over time. ○ Number of satisfactory compliance inspections of dangerous dog controls in place at that time. ○ Commence investigation into all reported dog attacks within 2 hours of the report being communicated with Law Enforcement Officers. ○ Vocational training courses attended by Law Enforcement Officers in the 2017/18 year. ○ Office of Local Government dog attacks data reviewed and published in annual reports. |

PRIORITY 3: REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION

| Aim | Action | Performance Indicator |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase in the number of companion animals being lifetime registered and microchipped. ○ Increased community awareness of the benefits of microchipping and registration of their animal. ○ Lost or stray companion animals are returned to their owners promptly avoiding impounding. ○ Increase the number of desexed companion animals. ○ Encourage owners to be actively responsible for their animals' welfare. ○ Reduced numbers of companion animals' euthanised or going to Council's pound. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Implement education programs to advise residents of the process (and benefit) of microchipping and lifetime registering their animal. ○ Education programs to remind companion animal owners to notify of changes of ownership, address or other details. ○ Liaise with local veterinary clinics in raising community awareness about registration and identification. ○ Implement education programs that promote the benefits of desexing companion animals. ○ Encourage and educate companion animal owners to appropriately house and care for their animals. ○ Encourage companion animal owners to provide appropriate mental and physical challenges for their animal to improve animal welfare and reduce adverse impact on the general community. ○ Ensure that Council staff regard animal welfare as a high priority in all dealings with the community and their companion animals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase in number of microchipped and lifetime registered animals in the community. ○ Decrease in the number of animals impounded. ○ Prompt return of identified animals to their owners. ○ OLG Companion Animals annual report lodged by due date – 31 August. ○ Increased number of desexed companion animals in the community. ○ Decrease the number of companion animals euthanised or taken to Councils Pound. |

PRIORITY 4: NUISANCE ANIMALS AND EXCESSIVE BARKING DOGS

| Aim | Action | Performance Indicator |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To minimise the adverse effects of animal noise in the community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review procedures for dealing with animal noise and nuisance complaints. ○ Provide advice to owners about ways they can stop dogs from excessive barking. ○ Encourage companion animal owners to provide appropriate mental and physical challenges for their animal to improve animal welfare and reduce adverse impact on the general community. ○ Remind owners that it is their responsibility to adequately confine their animal to their property. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduced number of complaints received due to barking dogs and nuisance animals. |

PRIORITY 5: IMPOUNDING ANIMALS

| Aim | Action | Performance Indicator |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduce the number of animals impounded. ○ Ensure the prompt return of identified animals to their owners. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Encourage the community to lifetime register and microchip their animals. ○ Encourage companion animal owners to notify of changes of address and details that help facilitate the prompt return of animals. ○ Provide appropriate opportunities for the surrender of animals. ○ Maintain a patrol and collection service for stray animals. ○ Utilise Councils web page and social media promoting the rehoming and/or return to owner of impounded animals. ○ Ensure the safe and responsible adoption of animals. ○ To deal with the euthanasia of animals in a sensitive ethical manner in strict compliance of welfare standards and codes of practice. ○ Mandatory microchipping of all animals leaving pound. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased number of animals returned to their owners or re-homed. ○ Increased number of microchipped and registered animals. |

PRIORITY 6: ANIMAL WELFARE

| Aim | Action | Performance Indicator |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Companion animal welfare standards are strictly applied. <i>(Australian Companion Animals Welfare Guideline)</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Impounded animals are cared for without compromise in accordance with national and state standards ○ Councils actively engages with the RSPCA ○ Law Enforcement Officers undertake vocational training to ensure a high level of understanding of national and state companion animal welfare standards. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RSPCA activity reports will be used to monitor welfare breaches aiming for a reduction of breaches over time. |

PRIORITY 7: MANAGEMENT OF FERAL AND INFANT ANIMALS

| Aim | Action | Performance Indicator |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To minimise or eliminate the amount of infant companion animals being euthanised. ○ Manage the number of feral animals within the community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Frequent communication with registered rescue organisations and the RSPCA. ○ Close consultation with local veterinarians. ○ Education programs to promote the benefits of desexing companion animals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintaining a low number of euthanised companion animals. ○ Increase in the amount of animals rehomed. |

PRIORITY 8: CAT MANAGEMENT

| Aim | Action | Performance Indicator |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To increase the number of identified, registered and desexed cats within the Councils region. ○ To educate the community about responsible cat ownership aiming to reduce the numbers of stray/feral/non-registered cats in the community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working with the media, schools and other agencies promoting responsible companion animals' management by increasing the Communities understanding of the negative impacts companion animals may have on the environment. ○ Implement education programs to advise residents of the process (and benefit) of microchipping and lifetime registering their animal. ○ Education programs to remind the companion animal owners to notify of changes of ownership, address or other details. ○ Implement education programs that promote the benefits of desexing companion animals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least four companion animals' story/editorial/advertisement relating to responsible companion animals ownership published in the Guardian/Radio annually. ○ Increase in number of microchipped and lifetime registered animals in the community. ○ Increased number of desexed companion animals in the community. |

PRIORITY 9: OFF LEASH DOG AREAS

| Aim | Action | Performance Indicator |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monitor the operation of off leash areas. ○ Encourage dog owners use the off leash facility appropriately. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Investigate alternative sites for additional off leash areas. ○ Educate the community about the benefits of using off leash areas. ○ Educate the community about the correct use and their responsibilities whilst using off leash areas. ○ Patrol of off leash areas. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduction in the number of dog owners observed/reported using public parks and recreation areas as off leash areas. ○ Number of dog owners using the off leash areas compared with prior years is increasing. |