



# **Dog and Cat Management Plan 2023–2027**

Endorsed by Council 13 December 2022

Approved by Dog and Cat

Management Board: 13 October 2022

Date Plan comes into

effect: 8 January 2023

Review date: May 2026

# Contents

Executive summary	1
Background	3
Management of dogs	9
Management of cats	15
Objectives and actions	17
Links to related documents	26
Appendices	27



## Executive summary

The Dog and Cat Management Plan 2023–2027 (the Plan) is the fifth issue of the plan. It enables Council to identify its responsibilities under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* (the Act) for the next five years by identifying relevant objectives and priorities and describing relevant action plans to achieve them.

The Act forms the legal framework for Council's decisions regarding the City's dogs and cats and the Plan presents a practical animal management framework. The Plan informs the community about the rights and responsibilities of owning companion animals and communicates an organisational commitment to providing an effective animal management service.

This Plan's objectives and Council's role in relation to them are aligned with Council's Strategic Plan 2025.

Animal management (including registration of dogs, recovery and management of stray dogs and cats, investigation and management of dog attacks) are services that clearly relate to Council's vision of creating a thriving community with a quality lifestyle that values people and protects the natural environment.

## Vision for the Plan

The objectives of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* are to:

- Encourage responsible dog and cat ownership
- Reduce public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats
- Support effective management of dogs and cats.

The vision for this Animal Management Plan is to create a community environment of responsible pet ownership, that is one where people and pets coexist safely and harmoniously. This aligns with the objectives of the Act.

We will achieve this vision by developing and implementing relevant policies and strategies, as detailed later in this plan.

## About Council

The City of Tea Tree Gully is situated in the Mount Lofty Ranges foothills, in north-eastern Adelaide, South Australia and is 9 to 25 km from the Adelaide CBD. The City has 100,000 residents and 40,000 households.

With a footprint of approximately 100km<sup>2</sup>, the City includes under its ownership or control, approximately 1305 hectares of publicly accessible open space. Natural open spaces, walking trails, dog parks and cycling paths offer residents positive lifestyle amenities.

## Animal statistics

As of 30 June 2022, there were:

- 22,123 registered animals (comprising 18,962 dogs and 3,161 cats)
- 98% of registered cats were microchipped
- 92% of registered dogs were microchipped
- 79% of registered dogs desexed<sup>1</sup>
- 82% of cats desexed
- 348 registered breeders.

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<sup>1</sup>Animals born after 1 July 2018 are required to be desexed. Exemptions are available to breeders.



## Background

Section 26A of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* requires councils to prepare a plan of management relating to dogs and cats.

In 2001 the Council adopted its first Animal Management Plan and our second plan was endorsed in 2007, addressing both the needs of owners and non-owners of pets within the City for the five year period 2007–2012.

The third plan (2013–2018), drew on the developing expertise in domestic animal management Australia-wide to integrate with Council's own investigations and experiences.

The fourth plan (2018–2022), covered issues associated with significant legislative changes, including mandatory microchip identification, mandatory desexing and breeder registration.

The 2023–2027 plan identifies how Council will:

- Help pets, pet owners and the general community to live together safely
- Protect the environment and local wildlife from the negative impacts of dogs and cats
- Balance the needs of those who own pets with those who do not
- Address animal management, welfare and legal issues
- Promote responsible pet ownership
- Improve the experience of animal ownership
- Deliver effective, efficient and innovative dog and cat management services.

## Guiding principles

- Pets contribute to our quality of life.
- The needs of pet owners must be balanced with the needs of others.
- Responsible pet ownership is highly valued.
- Animal management and education should be proactive.
- The environment and local wildlife must be protected from the negative impacts of dogs and cats.
- The best outcomes result from working in partnership.
- The City has a leadership role in animal management.

## Current statistics

From 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 the Council recorded the following figures in relation to animal management.

Barking dog complaints	215
Dog harassment involving people	18
Dog harassment involving animals	9
Dog attacks on people	13
Dog attacks on animals	55
Dogs wandering reports	198
Dogs impounded	101
Dogs collected and returned to their owner	73
Expiation notices issued	108
Cat complaints	95
Dogs registered	18,962
Cats registered	3,161

## Relevant legislation

- *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*
- Council By-law 4 – Dogs
- *Local Government Act 1999*
- *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*
- *Animal Welfare Act 1985*
- *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*



## Council responsibilities

Council has certain responsibilities under the Act that are outlined below.

- Prepare a plan of management relating to dogs and cats
- Appoint a suitable person to act as Registrar
- Appoint at least one full-time authorised person, or make other satisfactory arrangements for someone to exercise the functions and powers of an authorised person
- Maintain a register of dogs via Dogs and Cats Online (DACO)
- Make satisfactory arrangements for issuing and replacing certificates of registration and registration discs
- Set registration fees for dogs and cats (if applicable)
- Expend all monies relating to dogs and cats in the administration or enforcement of the provisions of the Act
- Pay an agreed percentage of the dog registration fees received by Council into the fund
- Make satisfactory arrangements for the detention of dogs seized under the provisions of the Act (and possibly make similar arrangement for cats seized under the Act)
- Share dog pound facilities with the City of Salisbury and relocate dogs to an approved shelter facility after the mandatory holding period
- Council has passed By-law 4 which addresses the control and management of dogs within the City area. The by-law covers:
  - Dog free areas
  - Dog on leash areas
  - Dog exercise areas
  - The limit on the number of dogs kept at any one premises
  - Management of dog faeces in public spaces.

- Council works with the community to educate, encourage and enforce the Act's provisions relating to:
  - Dog registration
  - Dogs wandering at large
  - Dog attacks
  - Unrestrained dogs in vehicles
  - Dog noise
  - Dog causing injury to a person or the property of a person unlawfully entering premises
  - Dogs in the grounds of a school, kindergarten, childcare centre or preschool without the permission of the person in charge
  - Dogs in a shop without the permission of the shopkeeper
  - Dogs rushing towards or chasing a vehicle
  - Removal and disposal of dog faeces
  - Dogs of a prescribed breed
  - Greyhounds
  - Guard dogs
  - Destruction and control orders
  - Unidentified cat seizure and disposal
  - Microchipping and desexing
  - Other obligations under this Act that may arise.





## Management of dogs

The responsibilities for dog 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*.

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

As well as registration and identification of dogs, our primary functions are to:

- Promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats
- Make sure owners manage their pets in accordance with the law
- Minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals
- Encourage microchipping and desexing of dogs as well as registration and identification
- Minimise the potential for dogs to create a nuisance
- Effectively identify all dangerous, menacing and nuisance dogs and make sure they are kept appropriately
- Operate and maintain a professional, welcoming and safe facility used for the detention of dogs
- Ensure suitable qualified and trained staff are appointed to exercise the functions and powers of authorised persons
- Appoint a suitable person to be Registrar of Dogs<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> The role of Registrar of Dogs has been delegated to the Manager Community Safety.

## Council's approach to owners' legal requirements, community education and information

### Microchipping and desexing compliance

It is a requirement of the Act that 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 owner taking possession of the dog.

Review the DACO database regularly to identify un-desexed and un-microchipped dogs and cats and follow up non-compliance with mandatory desexing and microchipping.

### Dog registration fees

All councils are required to offer two mandatory registration fee categories and

reduced fees for eligible concession card holders.

- Standard – applies to a dog that is both desexed and microchipped. A mandatory 50 percent rebate off the 'non-standard' fee.
- Non-standard (full fee) – applies to all other dogs, even if they are exempt from the requirement to be desexed and microchipped.
- Council also offers discretionary registration fee rebates for microchipped only, desexed only or for dogs undergoing nominated or accredited training.

### Leashing requirements

Where dogs are required to be on leash, the leash must be fit for purpose and held by a person able to keep the dog under effective control.

### Wandering at large, barking, harassment, attack incidents and reporting

Respond to and investigate incidents reported through Council's communication channels in accordance with the requirements of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* and standard operating procedures. Educate the community by posting information on Council's website and interaction with authorised officers.

### Arrangements for the detention of seized dogs

The City of Tea Tree Gully and the City of Salisbury have agreed to jointly fund and use a facility (pound) to enable each council to carry out their responsibilities as laid out in the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.

The facility will be operated to ensure compliance with the Dog and Cat Management Board guidelines for facilities used for the detention of dogs and cats.

The facility will ensure the welfare of the animals, complying with the provisions of the *Animal Welfare Act 1985*.

### Resourcing

Community Safety Officers of the Council are also Authorised Persons who are responsible for responding to customer requests about dog issues during council business hours.

### Community education and information

Currently, Council runs a dog obedience program and a dog walking program to connect and educate the community on responsible animal ownership.

Council plans to develop relevant website content and have a section dedicated to this topic.

### By-laws concerning dog management

Council first endorsed Dog By-law 4 in 2008. This By-law gives Council the ability to manage and control dogs and their

access to open space under its ownership or control.

### Limit on dog numbers

The limit on the number of dogs kept on properties is two as specified in the By-law. Permission is required to keep any dog on any premises if the number of dogs on the property exceeds the limit.

### Exercise and enrichment of dogs

The Council has a range of off-leash dog parks and designated on-leash areas for the use of dog owners.

### Off-leash areas

Council has some designated dog parks and some sections of Dry Creek and Linear Park have been allocated for exercising dogs off-leash.



### On-leash areas

In all specified reserves with playgrounds, in all flora and fauna reserves, in wetland areas, in Dry Creek and in Linear Park (except in certain areas), dogs must be exercised on-leash.

### Dog prohibited areas

Dogs are prohibited from being exercised on specified sports playing surfaces.

They may be exercised on-leash in areas immediately surrounding playing fields.

See Appendix A for a list of on-leash park, off-leash parks and dog prohibited areas.





## Management of cats

Effective management of cat related issues involves positively identifying the nuisance cat and clarifying the nature of the issue(s), followed by determining the ownership of the cat. Cat owners must ensure that their cat(s) can be identified, and reduce the impact that nuisance cats have on the community.

### Council's approach to owners' legal requirements, community education and information

Council will:

- Assess all complaints received about cats (except anonymous complaints) and respond accordingly
- Ensure its 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 in accordance with our Cat Management Policy during council business hours only.

Prior to Council undertaking any authorised program of trapping nuisance cats (including where the process is managed by residents through the hiring of cages), Council will, as a minimum, provide written advice to adjoining properties detailing the timing and nature of the program.

A range of options exist for the management of nuisance cats, which are set out in various acts. These options will be considered by Authorised Persons, in accordance with the Cat Management Policy (see Appendix B), when considering cat management requests.

### **Microchipping and desexing of cats**

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

### **Cat registration**

Cats should be registered in Dogs and Cats Online using the mandatory microchip number. This service is free as Council does not have a by-law that allows a registration fee to be charged. Cat owners who have recorded their cat's microchip number in Dogs and Cats Online will receive a notice each July to remind them to log in and check their details are up to date.

### **Support for residents in managing nuisance cats**

The council may provide cat cages for loan and may charge a fee for this. Prior to any trapping activities, residents are required to notify adjacent neighbours that they have obtained a cage with the intention of catching stray cats in the neighbourhood.

For ongoing animal complaints, residents may be asked to complete a council animal or bird nuisance form detailing the behaviour that is causing the nuisance.

### **Resourcing**

All Community Safety Officers of the Council are also Authorised Persons, who are responsible for responding to customer requests about cats during Council business hours.

### **Community education and information**

The Council plans to develop further website content and have a dedicated section on animals to assist in educating the community on responsible animal ownership.

# Objectives and actions

## Objective 1 – Encourage responsible dog and cat ownership

### Community education

Community education, combined with legislation enforcement, can improve pet owners' understanding of responsible pet ownership. Online information, social media, council publications and community events are all tools that Council uses to educate the community. Strategies are outlined below.

- Develop a targeted advertising campaign using information on Council's website, publications, social media and links to the Dog and Cat Management Board (DCMB) website to promote Council's services, role and responsibilities in the area of dog and cat ownership and to educate the community.
- Partner with our Library to deliver a school holiday program related to responsible dog ownership.
- Promote the requirements for compulsory microchipping and desexing of dogs and cats as follows:
  - Mail out information about mandatory microchipping and desexing with dog/cat registration renewal notices
  - Use Council website and social media to post information about mandatory microchipping and desexing
  - Promote microchipping and desexing requirements and benefits with posters, flyers, digital signage, roadside signage, at dog obedience school, Council publications, vets and places likely to be visited by dog and cat owners
- Publicise availability of registration rebates for microchipped and desexed dogs
- Host discount microchipping events
- Include information about the National Desexing Network (NDN) on Council's website
- Promote the NDN's National Desexing Month in July.
- Publicise dog on-leash rules and use of public space (sporting fields):
  - Include with registration renewal notices, Council publications, social media.

- Publicise Council's dog obedience program and registration rebates:
  - Include with registration renewal notices, Council publications, social media.
- Promote responsible cat ownership:
  - Spread awareness of the benefits of keeping cats indoors via Council website.
- Include provision for pets in emergency management plans for pet owners, boarding facilities 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.
- Develop guidelines to help animal owners to plan for the care and management of their pets before an emergency occurs.

- Provide relevant advice, information and resources on Council's website.

#### **Key performance indicators (KPIs)**

- Campaign and promotions developed and delivered over the life of this Plan.
- Increase in the number of dogs registered and renewed annually.
- Increase the percentage of microchipped and desexed dogs and cats.
- Increase in number of dogs attending obedience school.
- Increase in the number of owners eligible for reduced registration fees for microchipping, desexing and training.
- Decrease in incidents involving dogs off-leash.



## Objective 2 – Increase public safety by reducing numbers of nuisance reports about dogs and cats

### Wandering dogs

- Reduce the number of dogs found wandering without their owner.
  - Encourage property owners to have adequate fencing and regularly check the property to ensure there are no areas where dogs can escape.
  - Warn the community about events that may cause dogs to wander (e.g. fireworks, severe weather).
  - Educate dog owners about incidents that can occur if their dog is wandering (dog attacks) and the penalties (fines).
  - Where possible, wandering dogs are returned to their owner instead of being taken to the pound.

### Dogs in public places and effective control

- Provide areas of open space where dogs can be exercised off-leash, on-leash and also areas where dogs are prohibited in the interests of public health and safety.
- Foster responsible dog exercise in public places.
  - Educate the community about safe practices when walking their dogs in public places.
  - Educate dog owners on what is effective control (in simple terms).
  - Promote leash provisions through website or media articles.

- Publish maps on Council’s website to show dog owners where they can exercise their dogs off-leash.
- Maintain and promote dog-friendly parks.
- Provide a link on Council’s website to DCMB video ‘Dog parks and off-leash areas’ on safety using a dog park.
- Consider requests for new on-leash or off-leash exercise areas.
- Undertake periodic review of off-leash exercise areas to assess sustainability and effectiveness of facilities.
- Undertake regular reviews of open space areas available for the exercise of dogs off-leash.

- Authorised officers to monitor parks for leash requirements and need to educate dog owners.
- Identify leashing requirements by signage:
  - Ensure all on-leash areas are appropriately signed
  - Display signage at dog parks about effective control, conditions of use and facilities available
  - Ensure the signage displayed is relevant to the requirements and can be clearly understood.

#### **Dog incidents (attack/harassment)**

- Minimise the risk of dog incidents.
  - Provide advice to dog owners on what to do when they are approached by a dog they are

unfamiliar with, or a dog presenting aggressive behaviour.

- Educate the community about the benefits of walking dogs on-leash to reduce the risk of a dog incident occurring.
- Encourage dog owners to socialise and train their dogs at recognised dog obedience schools.
- Analyse collected data, identify any trends or common factors and revise management strategies where appropriate.

#### **Nuisance barking**

- Reduce the impact of barking dogs in the community.
  - Educate the community about dealing with nuisance barking

dogs in their neighbourhood and Council's investigation process.

- Provide education to dog owners regarding nuisance barking, offering suggestions to address unwanted behaviours.
- Investigate nuisance barking complaints using Council's standard operating procedure.
- Publicise animal behaviour trainers as a resource for residents seeking help with dog barking problems.
- Investigate bark training technology designed to correct and safely prevent unwanted barking behaviour to offer to dog owners as a trial solution.

### After hours callout

- Provide a 24-hour, after hours emergency call out service for some dog related matters.
  - Authorised Officers attend to reports of wandering aggressive dogs, dog attack incidents and dogs detained for collection outside of Council business hours.

### Reduce public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats

- Maintain a hygienic outdoor environment for all members of the community.
- Dog faeces management
  - Educate the community about the responsibilities of dog owners to carry a plastic bag for removal of

animal faeces from public places and the correct way to dispose of the 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
- Prohibit dogs from being exercised on sports grounds.
- Manage stray/feral cats
  - Provide appropriate facilities for residents who capture wandering cats to access
  - Assist residents where practical in the management of nuisance cats
  - Encourage people to take full

responsibility for un-owned cats they are feeding, including desexing, microchipping and registration

- Encourage residents to take unwanted cats or cats they can no longer care for to a shelter
- Promote the use of cat confinement measures to prevent owned cats from wandering
- Encourage cat owners to register their cats on DACO
- Conduct regular reviews of Council's Cat Management Policy to address cats attacking wildlife, wandering into yards and causing a nuisance.

### Key performance indicators (KPIs)

- Reduction in the number of dogs wandering and impounded.
- Reduction in the number of attack/harassment incidents.
- Reduction in the number of nuisance barking complaints received.
- Dog management services are available for residents outside of Council's core business hours.
- Reduce the amount of dog faeces in public spaces.
- Decrease in numbers of stray/feral cats.
- Reduction in the number of dumped cats.

### Objective 3 – Ensure Council delivers effective, efficient dog and cat management services

#### Effective administration of *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*

- Investigation of dog incidents (attack/harassment)
  - Fully investigate dog incidents reported to Council within agreed timeframes and using control orders as a tool to prevent re-offending
  - Consider requiring owners to attend training with their dog when making a control order.
- Follow up non-compliance with mandatory desexing and microchipping using the DACO database to identify un-desexed and un-microchipped dogs and cats. Authorised Persons to then take the following actions:
  - Send correspondence to dog owners whose dogs are not microchipped and/or un-desexed to advise of requirements and options
  - Randomly monitor parks and other locations commonly used by dog owners, and conduct microchip scan checks to identify non-compliance. Provide advice to owners on the need to microchip, issue warnings or expiations to owners who are non-compliant.
  - Issue expiation notices to owners of dogs that are not microchipped or desexed when impounded
  - Issue expiation notices to owners whose dogs and cats are not microchipped
  - Enforce the standard dog registration rebate by requiring proof of desexing for the rebate
  - Follow up dogs as un-microchipped or un-desexed during dog incident investigations.

#### Breeder registration

- Educate existing and prospective breeders about the requirements of being a breeder and enforce compliance with legislation.
  - Provide support to existing breeders to enable them to comply with the legislative requirements of being a registered breeder.
  - Follow up non-compliance with breeder requirements.

## Registration and identification

- Increase/maintain the number of registered dogs in the City.
  - Provide support service for dog owners using Dogs and Cats Online.
  - Ensure all current and new registrations are kept up to date.
  - Follow up incomplete records in DACO.
  - Educate the community about the importance of registration and identification of dogs and cats.
  - Offer registration rebates for concession card holders and for desexing, microchipping and training.
  - Promote free registration during June for new dogs registered.
  - Provide information about dog

registration on Council's website.

- Actively promote dog registration using roadside signage, digital signage at Council facilities, social media, Council publications and signage on officers' vehicles.
- Educate dog owners about the Council By-law limiting dog numbers on properties.
- Follow up un-renewed and unregistered animals.
- Issue expiations to owners if dogs are unregistered when they are impounded.

## Authorised officers

- Maintain competencies of authorised officers by encouraging participation in training opportunities.

- Provide safe work procedures, safety equipment and safety data information as appropriate.
- Provide standard operating procedures and review regularly, implementing changes as part of a continuous improvement program.
- Provide safety monitoring solution SafeZone.
- Support professional development, education and training opportunities.
- Encourage authorised officers to join relevant professional organisations.
- Provide up to date equipment, tools and electronic solutions.

### Animal pound

- Operate and maintain a dog pound facility to a high standard of safety for animals and staff to facilitate the prompt return of animals to their owners.
  - Ensure best practice management is followed for the care and transport of seized animals.
  - Ensure the equipment is maintained to a high standard.
  - Provide the impounded dogs with the best facilities, including bedding, environment enrichment toys, food, water and exercise during their stay.
  - 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.
- Ensure that unclaimed dogs are held for a minimum of 72 hours and that unclaimed dogs are surrendered to an appropriate organisation.

### Key performance indicators (KPIs)

- Reduction in the number of dogs re-offending.
- Reduction in the number of breeders identified as non-compliant with breeder registration.
- Increase in the number of microchipped and desexed dogs.
- Increase in the number of registered dogs.

- Officers are provided with the tools, skills and safety measures to enable them to be effective in the role.
- The pound facility is welcoming, comfortable and provides an opportunity for all aspects of the operations to be conducted in a safe, efficient and effective manner.
- The welfare of the animals is a high priority and they are provided with food, water and comfortable living conditions.



## Related documents

### Links to related documents

[Council's Strategic Plan](#)

Animal Emergency Management Plan

By-laws (see Appendix A)

Policies (see Appendix B)

# Appendices

[Appendix A – On-leash and off-leash dog parks and dog prohibited areas](#)

[Appendix B – Cat Management Policy](#)

# Appendix A

## DOGS ON LEASHES (AREAS)

### Paragraph 5 – By-law No. 4 Dogs

The following “Dogs on Leashes” areas were adopted by Council on 11 November 2008:

### RESERVES WITH PLAYGROUNDS

Alicante Reserve	21 Alicante Ave	Wynn Vale
Atlantis Reserve	Atlantis Dr	Golden Grove
Balmoral Reserve	17-29 Balmoral Rd	Dernancourt
Barmera Reserve	17-21 Barmera Ave	Hope Valley
Barns Reserve	11A Barns Ave	Highbury
Barracks Reserve	88-96 Barracks Rd	Hope Valley
Baymor Reserve	Baymor Ct	Modbury
Beckman Reserve	54-64 Beckman Ave	Highbury
Bell Reserve	42-46 Mitchell Ave	Highbury
Bendigo Reserve	15-23 Bendigo Cr	Modbury
Bentley Reserve	32-40 Bentley Dr	Holden Hill
Bernacchi Reserve (Akaroa)	Akaroa St	Greenwith
Billabong Reserve	77-89 Billabong Rd	Para Hills
Brassington Reserve	2-4 Brassington Ave	Redwood Park
Brightlands Reserve	670-672 Milne Rd	Tea Tree Gully
Burragah Reserve	Burragah Ct	Modbury North
Callitris Reserve	North Boulevard	Tea Tree Gully
Canopus Reserve	1307-1309 Grand Junction Rd	Hope Valley
Chinner Reserve	6-8 Hawke St	Ridgehaven
Civic Park	571 Montague Rd	Modbury
Cobbler Creek East (Grenadine Junior)	The Golden Way	Golden Grove
Cobbler Creek East (Grenadine Senior)	Citronelle Pl	Golden Grove
Cobbler Creek West (Landcare)	The Golden Way	Greenwith
Cobbler Creek West (Samuel Court)	Samuel Ct	Greenwith
Cobbler Creek West (St Just Court)	St Just Ct	Greenwith
Coconut Reserve	Coconut Gr	Golden Grove

Cronulla Reserve  
Currawong Reserve  
Dalaston Reserve  
Deakin Reserve  
Declivity Reserve  
Dewer Reserve  
Doxiadis Reserve  
Dresden Reserve  
Edinburg Reserve  
Elysium Reserve  
Emma Reserve  
Eva Reserve  
Fairleigh Reserve  
Fairview Park Reserve  
Famechon Reserve  
Freshford Reserve  
Gilles Reserve  
Glenbrae (Courtyard)  
Greenwith Campus Oval  
Grenache Reserve  
Gunda Reserve  
Hargrave Reserve  
Hartog Reserve  
Hazel Reserve  
Hillside Reserve  
Hinkler Reserve  
Hope Valley Sports Area  
Huon Reserve  
Hutt (Mary Jane)  
Hyde Park Reserve  
Illyarrie Reserve  
Jubilee Reserve  
Jubilee Reserve (De Pledge)

28-48 Cronulla Dr  
23-33 Currawong Cr  
12 Dalaston St  
2-18 Deakin Ave  
30 Declivity St  
42-48 Dewer Ave  
16-20 Doxiadis St  
2-16 Dresden Rd  
15-23 Edinburgh Rd  
Elysium Dr  
13 John Renwick Pl  
28-32 Eva Ave  
23 Fairleigh Ave  
573-581 Yatala Vale Rd  
1-3 Famechon Cr  
Freshford Ave  
32-40 Tasman Ave  
Glenbrae Cl  
171-191 Greenwith Rd  
26 Grenache Ave  
521 Grenfell Rd  
1-19 Hargrave St  
10 Hartog St  
35 Hazel Gr  
55 Hillside Ave  
236-240 Milne Rd  
66 Valley Rd  
12A Huon St  
12 Mary Jane Ct  
Endeavour Dr  
5-31 Tilley Dr  
Jubilee Way  
1-3 De Pledge Ct

Redwood Park  
Modbury Heights  
Modbury  
Hope Valley  
Highbury  
Ridgehaven  
St Agnes  
Modbury Heights  
Modbury  
Golden Grove  
Modbury Heights  
Redwood Park  
Modbury North  
Fairview Park  
Modbury North  
Highbury  
Gilles Plains  
Wynn Vale  
Golden Grove  
Modbury  
Banksia Park  
Modbury Heights  
Fairview Park  
Ridgehaven  
Highbury  
Modbury Heights  
Hope Valley  
Banksia Park  
Modbury Heights  
Wynn Vale  
Surrey Downs  
Wynn Vale  
Wynn Vale

Kempson Reserve	1 Teakle Court	Wynn Vale
Kestral Reserve	40-44 Kestral Way	Modbury Heights
Kimberley Reserve	6-8 Kimberley Ave	Modbury North
Kincraig Reserve	Welloch St	Modbury
Kinnaird Reserve	7 Kinnaird Cr	Highbury
Kirk Reserve	10-16 Kirk St	Redwood Park
Korong Reserve	Off Korong Street	Hope Valley
Ladywood Reserve	85-87 Ladywood Rd	Modbury North
Lake Eyre (Lake Fortesque)	91-111 Reuben Richardson Rd	Greenwith
Lakeview Reserve	Valley View Dr	Highbury
Landrien Reserve	4-5 Landrien Dr	Golden Grove
Lumsden Reserve	12-14 Lumsden Ave	Ridgehaven
Lyons Reserve	213 Lyons Rd	Dernancourt
Malcolm Reserve	Malcolm Ave	Holden Hill
Marengo Reserve	10-12 Marengo Ct	Greenwith
Marsha Reserve	25A Marsha Dr	Banksia Park
Martindale (Laburnum)	6 Cherry Blossom Gr	Greenwith
Marwick Reserve	1-7 Halcyon Ave	Greenwith
McArdle Reserve	3-4 McArdle Pl	Greenwith
Meadow Vale Reserve	20-24 Apalie Drive	Modbury
Modbury Sports - Ashley	26-42 Ashley Ave	Ridgehaven
Morawa Reserve	26 Newcombe Dr	Gilles Plains
Nagle Reserve	2-18 Nagle Ave	Fairview Park
Namatjira Reserve	23-25 Namatjira Ave	Hope Valley
Neville Reserve	10-34 Neville Ave	Modbury North
Noya Reserve	4-18 Noya Ave	Modbury Heights
Observation Reserve	51-55 Reids Rd	Highbury
Old Hope Valley Primary School	1270-1288 Grand Junction Rd	Hope Valley
Olympiad Reserve	10-11 Olympiad Ct	Golden Grove
Pantowora Reserve	21-23 Pantowora Dr	Hope Valley
Para Hills Reserve	84 Murrell Rd	Para Hills
Pedare Village Reserve	1 Pedare Ct	Wynn Vale
Pinewood Reserve	24 Pinewood Ct	Golden Grove

Ridgehaven Reserve  
Roebeling Reserve  
Saturn Reserve  
Shannon Reserve  
Sir Frank Berryman Reserve  
Solandra Reserve  
Sunhaven Reserve  
Sutherland Reserve Junior  
Sutherland Reserve Senior  
Tea Tree Gully Sports Area

*(excluding Memorial Oval) amended 8 June 2021*

Tilley Park Recreation Area  
Tristania Reserve  
Ultra Reserve  
Valley View Reserve  
Verdant Reserve (Bent Court)  
Verdant Reserve (Morrow Court)  
Veronica Reserve  
Vine Reserve  
Vista Reserve  
Vostock Reserve  
Vulcan Reserve  
Whinnen Reserve  
Whiting Reserve

## **OTHER ON LEASHES AREAS**

Castle Eaton Reserve (added 10 February 2009)  
Wynn Vale Oval surrounding reserve area  
(8:00am to 5:00pm School Days)  
(added 11 August 2009)

Sunnyview Cr  
7 Roebeling St  
32 Aldrin Cr  
393-399 Grenfell Rd  
21-39 Berryman Dr  
33-37 Solandra Cr  
22 Carman St  
Sutherland Pl  
Sutherland Pl  
18-28 Memorial Dr

412-414 Hancock Rd  
7-9 Ash Ave  
1-3 Ultra Pl  
7-19 Conway Cr  
Bent Ct  
4-5 Morrow Ct  
2-16 Veronica Ave  
2-10 Vine St  
82-102 Perseverance Rd  
5 Von Braun Cr  
8-12 Arethusa St  
5-9 Benbowie St  
56-58 Greenwood Dr

Castle Eaton Street  
Friendship Crescent

Ridgehaven  
Modbury Heights  
Modbury North  
Banksia Park  
Modbury  
Modbury North  
Redwood Park  
Golden Grove  
Golden Grove  
Tea Tree Gully

Surrey Downs  
Dernancourt  
Golden Grove  
Valley View  
Wynn Vale  
Wynn Vale  
Modbury North  
Surrey Downs  
Vista  
Modbury North  
Modbury Heights  
St Agnes  
St Agnes

Golden Grove  
Wynn Vale

## DRY CREEK & LINEAR PARK

Dogs must be on lead in Dry Creek and Linear Park except in the following areas where they may be off lead:

### Dry Creek

- The reserve area on both sides of Dry Creek (proper), in the area from downstream of the Wynn Vale Dam spillway to opposite Galverston Place on the western side and Carignane Street on the eastern side (added 9 June 2009)

### Linear Park

- From Lower North East Road Bridge to Council's western boundary with the City of Port Adelaide Enfield
- Historic Drive - Conifer Place.
- Linear Park Drive - Walker Place
- Mahogany Drive - East of Rhus Road.
- Mahogany Drive - Lower North East Road.
- The Promenade - Nursery Way (Pecan Close)

## FLORA & FAUNA RESERVES & WETLANDS

### FLORA & FAUNA RESERVES

Abercrombie Reserve	St Agnes
Doxiadis Reserve	St Agnes
Kaplan Reserve	St Agnes
Mumford Reserve	St Agnes
Callitris Reserve	Surrey Downs



Gunda Reserve	Banksia Park
Player Reserve	Fairview Park
Taworri Reserve	Banksia Park

## **WETLANDS**

Solandra Reserve	Modbury Heights
Kingfisher Reserve	Modbury Heights
Edinburgh Reserve	Modbury
Drumminor Reserve	Modbury
Berri Reserve	Hope Valley
Gifford Reserve	St Agnes
Mahogany Reserve	Dernancourt
Wynn Vale Dam (Park Lake Drive)	Wynn Vale

## **DOGS EXERCISE AND OFF LEASH AREAS**

### **Paragraph 6 – By-law No. 4 Dogs**

Whilst off the leash the dog must be at all times under the effective control of a competent person.

Dogs may be exercised off lead in the following areas:



### **DESIGNATED DOG PARKS**

Bentley Reserve Dog Playground	Bentley Drive	Holden Hill
Pet Park - Chesnut Reserve	Bicentennial Drive	Golden Grove
Tails Trails - Ashley Avenue Reserve	Ashley Avenue	Ridgehaven

### **DRY CREEK**

The reserve area on both sides of Dry Creek (proper), in the area from downstream of the Wynn Vale Dam spillway to opposite Galverston Place on the western side and Carignane Street on the eastern side

### **MEMORIAL OVAL**

Located at Memorial Drive, Tea Tree Gully. Dogs are permitted off leash at all times with the requirement for dogs to be on a leash and to move immediately off the oval when Tea Tree Gully Primary School or Kathleen Mellor Preschool Kindergarten staff and students move onto or cross the oval and when are present between 8.00am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday, during school terms or when sporting clubs are accessing the oval under a formal hire agreement.

### **LINEAR PARK**

- From Lower North East Road Bridge to Council's western boundary with the City of Port Adelaide Enfield
- Historic Drive – Conifer Place
- Linear Park Drive – Walker Place
- Mahogany Avenue – East of Rhus Road
- Mahogany Avenue – Lower North East Road
- The Promenade – Nursery Way (Pecan Close)

# Cat Management Policy



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Record number	D20/77343
Responsible Manager	Manager Community Safety
Other key internal stakeholders	Director Community & Cultural Development
Last reviewed	30 November 2020
Adoption reference	Policy and Strategic Development Committee
Resolution number	96
Previous review dates	13/3/18, 28/4/15 (amended 1 July 2017, changes to Dog and Cat Management Act reference), 12/02/13, 21/11/12, 11/11/11
Legal requirement	NA
Due date next review	2023

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## 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to describe and assist Council and the community with the management of nuisance cats.

Implementation of this Policy will promote responsible cat ownership, contribute to the protection of natural wildlife and provide for fair and consistent management of cat related complaints within the City of Tea Tree Gully.

## 2. POLICY

Council remains of the view that Cat Management should be dealt with on a state wide basis because cats don't relate to council boundaries and most importantly to ensure consistency across the state which will limit confusion for cat owners. In the absence of a suitable state government approach to cat management Council has introduced this policy to guide our community and staff on how we propose to assist our residents in managing cats. To achieve this it is Council's view that this should be achieved through state legislation similar to how Dog management is legislated.

Effective management of cat related issues is dependent on positively identifying the nuisance cat, identifying the associated reasons causing the issue(s), followed by determining the ownership of the cat. It is the obligation of cat owners to ensure that their cat(s) are identified, in order to reduce the impact that nuisance cats have on the community.

Council will:

- a. Respond verbally or in writing (as applicable) to all complaints received about cats (except anonymous complaints)
- b. Ensure Council officers have the appropriate authority and delegations to exercise powers associated with the control and removal of cats on Council land
- c. Scan all trapped cats for microchip identification
- d. Work in association with other organisations where appropriate
- e. Provide educational and promotional material to promote responsible cat ownership throughout the community
- f. Follow the relevant principles established in Council's Enforcement Policy and Council's Order Making Policy and other relevant reference documents
- g. Provide cat management services in accordance with this Policy during Council business hours only.

In attempting to resolve issues of nuisance cats the following broad principles will be used by Council officers in providing advice to residents.

Owners should:

- a. Choose and plan for the right cat to suit the owner's lifestyle
- b. Know the needs of a cat and provide an enriched environment for the pet to live in
- c. Comply with any relevant legislation – State or local
- d. Provide appropriate training and socialisation
- e. Ensure the cat has minimal impact on local fauna

- f. Have the cat desexed unless in a recognised breeding program
- g. Provide preventative health care and adequate veterinary treatment during times of illness and/or injury
- h. Provide a balanced diet, adequate shelter and exercise for the cat
- i. Register the cat via the Dogs and Cats Online (DACO)
- j. As per South Australian law, cats are to be microchipped by 12 weeks of age, and for all cats born after 1 July 2018 are to be desexed by 6 months of age. Exemptions apply for registered breeders etc.
- k. As per the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995, cat microchip details are to be entered onto Dogs and Cats Online regardless of whether council have a cat by-law requiring cat registration or not.
- l. Change contact details for microchipped cat(s), if necessary e.g. changed phone number or address.

Prior to Council undertaking any identified program of trapping nuisance cats, Council will as a minimum provide written advice to immediately adjoining and adjacent properties detailing the commencement and completion of the program. Where the process is managed by residents through the hiring of cat cages, Council will provide to the resident flyers which can be provided to adjoining and adjacent properties, notifying of the intention to catch stray cats in the neighbourhood, before setting up the cage.

## 2.1 Support for Residents in Managing Nuisance Cats

Residents are able to catch cats on their own property, but they would require Council permission for Council land and the permission of other landowners for their land.

Council provide cat cages for hire (subject to availability) of which can be collected from a designated Council facility during business hours. The resident is to return the cat cage to Council in a clean and undamaged condition. A fee for cleaning or repair will be issued to the resident should the cat cage not be returned in the same condition it was hired. Stolen cat cages will also incur a fee to the resident.

Fees and charges will be set out in Councils Fees and Charges Register which can be found at [www.cttg.sa.gov.au](http://www.cttg.sa.gov.au).

Where the cat has an identification or microchip that has been read, the cat will be deemed as identified. It will be a condition of the hire of cat cages and a requirement of Council taking action, that complainants advise Council if they know the owner or origin of a trapped cat.

Where a person traps an identified cat, it should be released immediately and unharmed near the location it has been captured or returned to the owner.

Where a person traps (i.e. seizes) an unidentified cat, under section 64(2) of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 the person should within 12 hours, deliver the cat to an Authorised Person or a specified facility for the care of cats. For the purpose of this section a “specified facility for the care of cats” includes:

- a. Animal Welfare League of South Australia, Incorporated or
- b. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (South Australia) Incorporated
- c. Any other person or body declared by the regulations to be an animal welfare organisation

Should the resident choose to have an Authorised Person deliver the cat to a “specified facility for the care of cats”, then a fee will apply to cover the charge imposed by the specified facility. This fee will be set out in Council’s Fees and Charges Register.

If a cat is trapped, an Authorised Person from Council will be available during office hours to scan the cat for microchip identification, subject to availability. If the cat is identified, the resident should release the cat near the location it has been captured.

## 2.2 Unidentified cats – Council’s Role

In dealing with unidentified cats, Council will at all times act in accordance with the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995, which states that an Authorised Person may lawfully seize, detain and destroy or otherwise dispose of an unidentified cat.

Should a cat not be an identified cat (refer definition) , Council’s practice relating to unidentified cats will be to photograph and then deliver the cat to the Animal Welfare League or another suitable organisation.

If there are many cats or a repeat number of cats considered to be a nuisance in one location, the reasons or causes will need to be identified for future cat management considerations.

## 2.3 Cats Causing a Nuisance or Hazard

A range of options exist for the management of nuisance cats which are set out in various Acts. These options are to be considered by Authorised Persons in conjunction with this Policy when considering cat management requests. Generally these options are only available where the cat owner has been identified. These may include:

1. Council can make an order under the South Australian Public Health Act 2011, where it has sufficient evidence to show that the manner in which a cat(s) is kept on premises gives rise to a risk in relation to public health.
2. Council makes a nuisance abatement notice under the provisions of the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016. The Act states that -
  - a. For the purposes of this Act, local nuisance is—
    - (i) any adverse effect on an amenity value of an area that—
      - (i) is caused by—
        - a. noise, odour, smoke, fumes, aerosols or dust; or
        - b. animals, whether dead or alive; or
        - c. any other agent or class of agent declared by Schedule 1; and
      - (ii) unreasonably interferes with or is likely to interfere unreasonably with the enjoyment of the area by persons occupying a place within, or lawfully resorting to, the area; or
    - b. insanitary conditions on premises that unreasonably interfere with or are likely to interfere unreasonably with the enjoyment of premises occupied by persons in the vicinity; or
  3. Council officers will abide by Council’s Order Making Policy when it is considered this is an appropriate course of action.
    - a. Development Act – Unauthorised (Unapproved) Business Activity

- b. If Council determines that there is an unauthorised (unapproved) business activity relating to cats being conducted on land, the owner may be asked to submit a development application for approval and other necessary actions deemed appropriate at the time, depending on the issue(s).

## 2.4 Resourcing

All General Inspectors of Council are Authorised Persons, who will be responsible for responding to customer complaints or requests about cats during Council business hours, subject to availability

## 3. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy the following definitions apply:

### Anonymous Complaints

Instances where the complainant refuses to provide as a minimum requirement, their name and address details

### Authorised Persons

Under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 the Dog and Cat Management Board or Council may appoint a suitable individual as an Authorised Person for the purposes of the Dog and Cat Management Act

### Complaints

Includes both written complaints (letters, e-mail etc.) sent directly to Council and verbal contacts which are subsequently able to be converted to an actionable Customer First Solution request (refer CFS definition)

### CFS

Customer First Solution (CFS) is Council's internal system for managing customer requests or concerns.

### Home based activities

Means the use of a site by a person on the site that does not require development approval as described in the Development Regulations.

### Identified cat(s)

South Australian law requires all cats to be microchipped by 12 weeks of age, and for all cats born after 1 July 2018 to be desexed by 6 months of age. Exemptions apply for registered breeders. A cat will be taken to be identified if -

- a) the cat has a collar around its neck and the collar, or a tag securely attached to the collar, is marked with the current address or telephone number of the owner or other person entitled to possession of the cat; or
- b) the cat has a microchip implanted in its body containing information that may be used to obtain the current address or telephone number of the owner or other person entitled to possession of the cat and has the letter M tattooed on the inside of either of its ears."

### Nuisance

May include faeces in gardens, spraying, wandering onto property (other than that of the owner) and other behaviours which impact negatively on other residents or their property. This type of behaviour could for example include the noise associated with cats fighting.

### Unidentified cat(s)

Cat(s) where an owner cannot be located or identified.

## 4. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK AND OTHER REFERENCES

There is no legislative requirement for Council to have a policy relating to this area.

The following legislation applies to this Policy:

### [Development Act 1993](#)

Section 33 of this Act states that a development will not occur unless it is an approved development. Development may include intensive animal keeping and the operation of businesses (other than for Home Based Activities). As such catteries may require approval in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

### [Development Regulations 2008](#)

The requirements for home activity are defined in Schedule 1 of the Regulations.

### [Dog and Cat Management Act 1995](#)

### [Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2017](#)

### [Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016](#)

This act contains provisions which allow councils to deal with nuisance animals

### [South Australian Public Health Act 2011](#)

This Act will have application in circumstances where it is likely that these circumstances may give rise to a risk in relation to public health.

### 4.1 Other references

Council's documents including:

- a. Animal Management Plan
- b. Cats in the City of Tea Tree Gully
- c. General Complaints Policy
- d. Enforcement Policy
- e. Order Making Policy
- f. Fees and Charges Register



## 5. STRATEGIC PLAN/POLICY

### 5.1 Organisation Plan

The following strategic objectives in Council's Strategic Plan 2025 are the most relevant to this report:

Objective	Comments
Community	
<i>People feel a sense of belonging, inclusion and connection with the City and the community</i>	This Policy supports responsible cat ownership, and aims to reduce the incidence of public and environmental nuisance caused by unidentified cats.
Environment	
<i>A community that is protected from public and environmental health risks</i>	Responsible cat ownership and the control of nuisance cats protects the comfort and safety of the public.
Economy	
Places	
Leadership	
<i>Decision making is informed, based on evidence and is consistent</i>	This Policy specifies the actions residents can undertake, and those that require Council's permission, with regards to cat management.

## 6. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

This Policy will be implemented by the Chief Executive Officer or relevant portfolio director and managed in accordance with Council's scheme of delegations.



C I T Y O F  
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*Naturally Better*

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