



AUGUST 2006 BULLETIN 19

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Information from the August 2006 Board meeting

1. Introduction

To ensure that all interested parties are aware of the Board's activities, the Board will distribute a Bulletin after each monthly meeting.

2. Board membership

There is one existing and four impending vacancies on the Board.

3. Business Plan

The Board has endorsed its business plan for 2006 - 2007.

4. Golden Rules for Dog Owners Brochure

The mail out for the brochure is continuing.

5. Return of contributions to councils

The Board returned 15% of council contributions for the 2005 – 2006 financial year to councils.

6. Schutzhund training

The Board has determined that schutzhund training is not attack training for the purposes of section 45D of the Dog and Cat Management Act.

1. Introduction

The Dog and Cat Management Board is keen to ensure that all interested parties are aware of the Board's activities and have the opportunity to contribute, provide suggestions and comment on Board proposals. To this end, the Board distributes a bulletin to interested individuals and groups on a monthly basis after each meeting. Your comments and feedback on any issues in the bulletin are welcome. The Board can be contacted through the Executive Officer:

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2. Board Membership

Cr Ian Ridgway, a Local Government Association nominee has resigned from the Board, and four members, two Local Government and two Ministerial nominees, terms of office expire on 1 October 2006. The Local Government Association has been asked to nominate three members to fill the vacancies. On receipt of their nominees, the Minister will consider suitable persons to fill the two Ministerial positions.

3. Board Business Plan

The Board has endorsed the Business Plan for 2006 – 2007. This will be presented to the Minister with the Budget for approval in consultation with the LGA.

4. Golden Rules for Dog Owners Brochure

300 000 copies of the Golden Rules for Dog Owners brochure have been distributed to day care centres, kindergartens, councils, libraries and half of the primary schools. The mail out is continuing with another 300 000 to be distributed. If stakeholders require copies, please contact the Board staff.

5. Return of contributions from councils

The restructured Dog and Cat Management Board has now completed its first full financial year in operation. It has been a year highlighted by strategic planning and policy setting to ensure that the Board focuses on key areas of importance to the community and adds value to the "on the ground" operations of councils. Partly because of this, a budget surplus of approximately \$140 000 was predicted.

As a result, the Board decided to return unexpended funds from 2005 – 2006 to councils. This sum was in the order of 15% of contributions councils made to the Dog and Cat Management Fund. The Board has requested that councils use this money to initiate developments that may not have been achievable if the refunds had not been returned.

6. Schutzhund Training

In consideration of legal advice received, the Board has determined that schutzhund training does not constitute attack training for the purposes of 45D of the Act. The Act defines an attack trained dog as one which will attack a person on command. Schutzhund dogs will "attack" a padded sleeve, not a person. This is consistent with the training method. The target person in schutzhund training only wears a padded sleeve. The target person in attack training wears a full protective body suit.