



# Government of South Australia

## Dog and Cat Management Board

# BULLETIN

Issue 28, November 2007

Information from the 21 November 2007 meeting of the Dog and Cat Management Board (DCMB)

[www.dogsncats.asn.au](http://www.dogsncats.asn.au)

[www.gooddogsa.com](http://www.gooddogsa.com)

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### 1. The Bulletin - Introduction

The Dog and Cat Management Board (DCMB) is keen to ensure that all interested parties are aware of DCMB activities and have the opportunity to contribute, provide suggestions and comment on DCMB proposals. To this end, DCMB 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.

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### 2. District Council of Kimba Animal Management Plan

The Board endorsed the Animal Management Plan submitted by the District Council of Kimba. The Board noted with interest how council is promoting responsible dog ownership within its area. This includes the

registration of 223 dogs and no complaints for noise, attacks, harassments or dogs wandering at large. The plan aims to increase public safety through the reduction of public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats.

### 3. Annual Report

The Board is continuing to work towards its five key strategic objectives to reach the following targets by 2009:

- Reduce dog attacks
- Assist councils in the development of Animal Management Plans
- Provide training and support for Animal Management Officers
- Improve public awareness of dog legislation
- Develop a cat management strategy.

Unfortunately the amount of people who were admitted to hospital as a result of a dog attack increased last financial year. Majority of these admissions were in the 0-4 age group. This highlights the significance of supervising all children around dogs and teaching children how to act safely around dogs.

As a result, the Board will develop a brochure aimed at the 0-4 age group particularly

teaching parents the different stages of a child and dogs life. For example bringing your new baby home, the active years etc.

These are current initiatives of the Board to reduce dog attacks.

- The Good Dog SA Campaign was launched in June 2007 and aims to increase public awareness of responsible dog ownership. [www.gooddogsa.com](http://www.gooddogsa.com). There are many factors of responsible dog ownership including, selecting the right pet for your lifestyle, training and socialisation, identification and registration. To assist in selecting an appropriate dog or cat, go to [www.gooddogsa.com/goodowner/selectapet.html](http://www.gooddogsa.com/goodowner/selectapet.html).
- By June 2008 approximately 60,000 junior primary students between 5 & 8 will have been exposed to the Delta Dog Safe SA program which teaches children how to behave safely around dogs.
- The Pet PEP program teaches reception to year 7 students and community groups about responsible pet ownership.
- The data collection project which will enable better collection of dog attack data from councils which in turn will allow the Board to understand the circumstances of dog attacks, and develop strategic actions to prevent or reduce these incidences.
- The DCMB 2006/2007 Annual report can be viewed at the following website.

<http://www.dogsncats.asn.au/site/page.cfm?u=872>

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#### **4. Next Round of Advertising for Good Dog SA**

In June 2007 the key element of the Communications Strategy, the "Good Dog SA" campaign was launched through newspaper articles, advertising on bus shelters and print media and the development of a new website.

The Board will include two new Christmas advertisements as part of the communications campaign titled, 'A Dog is for Life not just for Christmas' and 'Look after the whole family during the holidays'. The ads will appear again on 9 December.

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#### **5. District Council of Loxton Waikerie Animal Management Plan**

The Board endorsed the Animal Management Plan submitted by the District Council of Loxton Waikerie. The Board noted with interest that Council are thinking of introducing a reward programme for first registration and registration information with rates notices. This could be seen as the key factor to successful dog management.

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