



Government of South Australia

Dog and Cat Management Board

MAY 2005 BULLETIN 4

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Information from April 2005 Board meeting

4.1 Introduction

4.2 Dog and Cat Diary

Nil to report

4.3 Mr Marco Wenzel's Survey of Councils

The survey has been distributed to councils.

4.4 AS05 Position

Ms Adele Steel was awarded the position.

4.5 RSPCA Dangerous Dog and Dingo Facility

A special facility for the holding of dangerous dogs and dingos has been opened at the RSPCA

4.6 Animal Welfare League Northern Annex

The Northern Annex was formally opened by Minister Hill on Sunday 17 April.

4.7 Provision of Pooch Pouches

The Board has ordered 100,000 Pooch Pouches and production is underway. The pouches will be distributed to Councils and Dog Clubs upon delivery from the manufacturer.

4.8 Menacing Dog Signs

The Board endorsed signs to be made for menacing dogs. : "WARNING! MENACING DOG KEPT ON THESE PREMISES" DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT ACT 1995.

4.9 Secondment

Mr Wenzel's secondment to the LGA as Dog and Cat Management Advisory Officer concluded on 6th May 2005.

4.10 Seminars

The Dog and Cat Management Board organised a seminar with Dr Kersti Seksel on 18th April.

4.11 Roadshows

Dr Kelly and Ms Steel delivered a training session on the Dog and Cat Management Act and dog behaviour and calming signals to the Southern Mallee Council on 19th April.

4.12 RSPCA Dog Behaviour and Management Training

The RSPCA have organised and implemented training sessions in dog behaviour and management for Animal Management Officers on behalf of the Dog and Cat Management Board.

4.13 Dog and Cat Management Board Administration.

Sylvia Nowecki left the position of administrator to the Dog and Cat Management Board on 6th May 2005. This position has been advertised on a temporary basis while the position is called on a permanent basis.

4.14 Information from May 2005 Board Meeting.

4.15 Dog and Cat Management Board Website

The website is being updated and improved. Whilst this is being done, the existing website has been modified to reflect the changes made in July last year.

4.16 Australian Veterinary Association Conference

DCMB Staff Member Ms Adele Steel attended the Behavior stream of the Australian Veterinary Association Conference on 16-18th May 2005

4.17 Council Financial Audits

Five Councils will be audited during the remainder of the 2004-2005 financial year. They are Charles Sturt, Campbelltown, Tatiara, Playford and Yorke Peninsula.

4.18 South Australian Canine Association Obedience Advisory Meeting

4.19 Animal Management Officer Training

Certificate 4 in Animal Management is being implemented in the southern and north eastern suburbs.

4.20 Animal Management Plans

A draft animal management plan template has been created.

4.21 Your Dog Your Cat Booklets

The mail-out of the Your Dog Your Cat book has been completed.

4.22 Select-A-Pet Program

The DCMB will be placing a weekly advertisement in the Pets column of the Saturday Advertiser promoting the Select-A-Pet service to assist people in choosing an appropriate breed of dog.

4.23 Dog Registration Advertising Campaign

The Board are in the process of producing a short advertisement campaign for radio and newspapers promoting Dog Registration.

4.24 Stakeholder Meetings

A further meeting of senior council officers has been arranged for Thursday 16th June.

4.1 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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4.2 Dog and Cat Diary

Councils and community groups and other organisations sometimes hold events that are of broad interest. Such events will be published in the Dog and Cat Management Board Bulletins.

4.3 Mr Marco Wenzel's Survey of Councils

Feed back from Mr Wenzel's survey has been supplied to all councils.

4.4 AS05 Position

Ms Adele Steel won the position. Ms Steel is a qualified dog trainer and behaviourist. She began teaching dog training to members of the public 15 years ago. She has completed a Higher National Certificate in dog training and behaviour at a leading agricultural college in the UK. Prior to emigrating to Australia, Ms Steel was employed by the college to teach dog obedience training and agility to adult education classes and also taught Higher National Certificate students practical dog training and behaviour. She is a member of the British Institute of Professional Dog Trainers and an Associate Member of the British Police and Services Canine Association.

4.5 RSPCA Dangerous Dog and Dingo Facility

This has been designed such that dogs can be managed without direct human contact. The facility is located in a secure area of the Lonsdale shelter which is not accessible to the general public. It is under surveillance and has been designed to ensure that occupational health and safety, security and dog welfare considerations are met.

4.6 Animal Welfare League Northern Annex

The Northern Annex was formally opened by Minister Hill on Sunday 17 April. This facility is designed so that kennels can be easily modified for holding dangerous dogs such that they can be managed without the need for direct human contact.

4.7 Provision of Poo holder bags for people registering their dogs

The Board have ordered 100,000 Pooch Pouches, which hold poo bags. The former Board provided calendars for councils to give out to members of the public when registering their dogs. Mr Wenzel's survey of councils revealed that the calendars were not always well received. The Pooch Pouches promote responsible dog ownership by encouraging dog owners to do the right thing and pick up after their dog. The Board were initially sending these out to metropolitan councils only however following the meeting of senior council officers on 22nd April 2005 it was noted that country councils would like to receive the Pooch Pouches for members of their communities. The Board will now distribute an amount to each council. Some councils have indicated that they will distribute these when members of the public register their dogs and others will give them out to people as a reward for doing the right thing. In addition, a quantity will be provided to



4.8 Menacing Dog Signs

The Board has endorsed the wording and format of Menacing Dog signs, these have been ordered and should be received by the Board by end May 2005. Councils wishing to have signs for dogs on which menacing dog orders have been imposed are asked to contact the Board. The signs will read: "WARNING! MENACING DOG KEPT ON THESE PREMISES" DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT ACT 1995.

4.9 Secondment

Mr Wenzel's secondment to the Dog and Cat Management Board finished on 6th May 2005. Mr Wenzel will take up the position of Team Leader Regulatory Services with Norwood Payneham and St Peters Council on 23rd May. The Board thanks Mr Wenzel for his work on their behalf and wishes him well in his future role.

4.10 Seminars

The Dog and Cat Management Board organised a seminar with Dr Kersti Seksel on 18th April on dog aggression and behaviour. This was attended by Council officers, RSPCA, members of dog training clubs. The Dog and Cat Management Board will be arranging more seminars in the future with other behaviourists, trainers, solicitors etc. Suggestions of speakers or topics of interest would be appreciated.

4.11 Road-shows

Dr Kelly, Ms Steel and Board Member Mrs Starr attended the Southern Mallee Council on 19th April to facilitate a workshop on the Dog and Cat Management Act, dog behaviour and calming signals. The Board places a high priority on officer training. To this end if other councils would like staff to present a similar workshop in their area, please contact the Board.

4.12 RSPCA Dog Behaviour and Management Training

The RSPCA have begun holding training days for Animal Management Officers in dog behaviour and management. The day involves identifying dog behaviour, pre-cursors to aggression, calming signals and safe capture and restraint of animals with the opportunity to use dogs housed at the animal shelter. The feedback received from those who have attended was that the course was excellent and has given Animal Management Officers useful information and hands on experience in a safe environment. Please contact the Dog and Cat Management Board to register your interest for future courses.

4.13 Dog and Cat Management Board Administration.

Sylvia Nowecki left the position of administrator to the Dog and Cat Management Board on 6th May 2005. The position has been called on a temporary basis, and will be advertised on a full time basis. The Board thanks Miss Nowecki for her services and wishes her well in her future career.

4.14 May 2005 Bulletin

In order for interested parties to receive the Bulletins in a more timely fashion rather than with a one month delay Bulletin 4 and 5 have been amalgamated.

4.15 Dog and Cat Management Board Website

The DCMB new Website is still under development but is nearing completion. The Web Site is operational though and gives useful information on common questions pertaining to dogs and cats as well as presenting information on the role of the Board and the legislation.

4.16 Australian Veterinary Association Conference

DCMB Staff Member Ms Adele Steel attended the Australian Veterinary Association Conference on 16-18th May 2005. This involved 3 full days of presentations by International Behaviorists on Animal Behavior. Proceedings have been published. Further details can be provided by Ms Steel.

4.17 Council Financial Audits

Five Councils will be audited during the remainder of the 2004-2005 financial year. From the 2005-2006 financial year, the DCMB intend to audit approximately 15 councils per year. The selection

will be done on a random basis, and all councils will be informed early in the financial year regarding which councils have been selected for audit during that financial year.

The five councils selected for audit during the remainder of the 2004-2005 year are Campbelltown City Council, City of Salisbury, Tatiara District Council, District Council of Yorke Peninsula and the City of Charles Sturt.

The audits will focus on:

- The councils systems and procedures for capturing and reporting dog registrations
- The revenue data held in the financial systems relating to dog registration
- The expenditure data held in the councils financial systems relating to administration and enforcement of the provisions of the Act
- A comparison between the data held in the councils financial systems and the data provided on the returns sent to the DCMB

4.18 South Australian Canine Association Dog Club Representatives Meeting

Board member RI attended a meeting of SACA's Obedience Advisory Committee on 2 May at which the subject of instructor training was discussed.

4.19 Animal Management Officer Training

Onkaparinga Council and the Noarlunga TAFE are implementing the Animal Management Certificate 4 in the new financial year. Tea Tree Gully Council have met with Torrens Valley TAFE to implement the course in the northern areas. Cr Amber has written to TAFE indicating Board support for the course.

4.20 Animal Management Plans

A draft animal management plan document has been created. This can be emailed to councils at their request. City of Charles Sturt, Port Lincoln and Tea Tree Gully have had their plans endorsed by the former board and are available on their websites.

4.21 Your Dog Your Cat Booklet

The mail-out of the Your Dog Your Cat book has been completed. Approximately 80,000 books have been distributed to Council, Vets, Pet Stores, Dog Clubs and other organizations. Organisations can request extra copies from the Board.

4.22 Select-A-Pet Program

The DCMB will be placing a weekly advertisement in the Pets column of the Saturday Advertiser promoting the Select-A-Pet service. This is an on-line questionnaire in which the operator is asked questions on how much time, money and effort they are prepared to spend on a pet. On completion of the questionnaire the operator will then be given a list of dogs which may be suitable for their lifestyle.

4.23 Dog Registration Advertising Campaign

The Board are in the process of producing a short advertisement campaign promoting Dog Registration. Advertisements will be run on the radio and newspapers.

4.24 Stakeholder Meetings

A further meeting of senior council officers has been arranged for Thursday 16th June 10am until 1pm at Adelaide Hills Council.