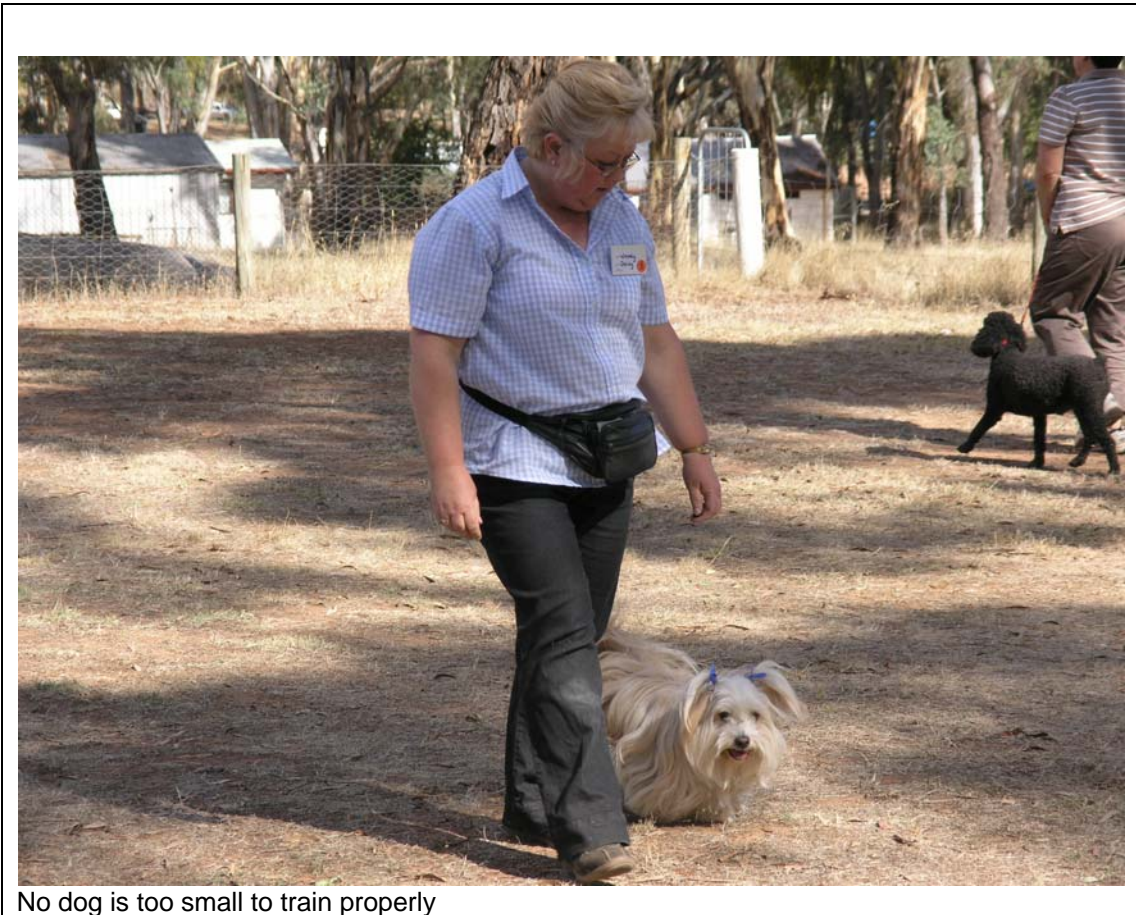


Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council

Animal Management Plan



October 2006

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Regional Description

The Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council extends from south of Stockport, to the north of Hilltown, east of Marrabel and is bounded on the west by the Wakefield Regional Council.

It incorporates nearly 4,000 rateable properties spread over larger commercial centres and numerous small villages and settlements.

The main industries are viticulture in the north with agriculture and pastoral activities in the south and east. Tourism is an industry across the whole region.

The main Council office is situated at Clare approximately 135 km from the Adelaide CBD, regional offices are located in Riverton and Saddleworth.

The region has a population base of close to 8,500 permanent residents with a high number of tourists and itinerant workers. The diverse ethnic mix and the natural beauty of the region provides a vibrant combination of fine foods and wines, spectacular scenery, set against a background of cultural and historical sites.

During the 2005/06 financial year, the Council registered in excess of 2,000 dogs and impounded over 40 dogs.

In addition the Council investigated 8 dog attacks/harassments and in excess of 100 noise complaints.

Preparation

This Animal Management Plan has been prepared by the Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council in response to the Council adopting a planned approach to undertake its responsibilities under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995, and will guide domestic animal management by the Council over the next five (5) years.

The Plan identifies strategies and actions to implement the mission, aims and objectives for domestic animals management, and relates these back to the wider policy context.

The Strategy has been prepared by the Compliance Officer on behalf of Council, drawing information from a broad range of stakeholders, with the community asked to comment on the draft prior to its adoption by the Council.

This Plan contains recommendations for a wide range of actions to be undertaken by the Council. These actions will enable Council to maintain a balance between competing interests and to reposition domestic animals management to accommodate new requirements.

The Plan's Mission is to promote and facilitate responsible ownership of dogs and cats, animal welfare and the benefits of animal companionship focusing on the legitimate needs of pets and their owners while respecting the rights of other members of the community and protecting the environment.

The Plan aims to:

- comply with current legislation and enable response to legislative change;
- promote responsible dog ownership;
- provide for the welfare and safety of dogs;
- ensure the public's safety;
- enhance public amenity and environment;
- harness the benefits of dog ownership; and
- ensure that the expenditure of dog registration fees addresses dog management issues.

Council's Vision of *"Working Together to Create a Prosperous Future"* is contained within its Strategic Plan.

The Aims of this Plan will support that Strategic plan by improving the quality of life of our residents and visitors, protecting our environment, building a cohesive community and a prosperous regional centre while being guided by democratic governance.

The Dog and Cat Management Act ('the Act') was proclaimed in 1995 and brought in a new legal framework to South Australia covering both dogs and cats.

The objectives of the Act are to:

- Encourage responsible dog and cat ownership
- Reduce public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats, and
- To promote the effective management of dogs and cats (including through the encouragement of de-sexing of dogs and cats)

Animal control has widened into a greater array of contexts following the introduction of the Act. Knowledge of both animal and human behaviour is now a requirement of working in the field.

There is growing recognition that enforcement of laws will not, on its own, result in lasting, voluntary changes in behaviour. It needs to be supplemented by a range of non-regulatory approaches such as public education and improved signage.

There is now considerable evidence to support our understanding of the benefits of owning pets. This implies a potentially new role for Council in harnessing the benefits of pet ownership or at least maintaining the ability of the community to continue to own pets. In this new environment, it is essential that Council take a strategic approach to managing domestic pets.

This strategy will provide Council with a sound basis and direction from which it can plan, co-ordinate and make future decisions to meet the needs of the community over the next five years.

The Law and Guidelines

The responsibilities for dog and cat management in South Australia are prescribed in the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.

Under the Act Council is required to administer and enforce the provisions relating to dogs within its area. The Act does not impose a duty on Council to administer the management of cats; it provides that a Council may appoint a cat management officer for its area of responsibility.

Prescribed responsibilities relating to dogs include;

- the appointment of a Registrar,
- maintenance of a Dog Register,
- the appointment of a dog management officer,
- making arrangements for dogs seized, and
- other obligations.

Council is also able to make By-Laws relating to the management of dogs and cats within its area.

Council does not have a cat management officer and has no immediate plans of becoming involved in the management of cats.

The Act also provides for the appointment of the Dog and Cat Management Board, which has responsibilities to:

- plan, promote, and advise on effective management of dogs and cats in the State,
- monitor Council's management of their responsibilities,
- issue Guidelines for all Councils,
- advise and assist all Councils to undertake their responsibilities.
- provide advice to Parliament via the responsible Minister,
- keep the Act under review,
- undertake research into companion animal management and
- provide education programs for dog management officers and community awareness information.

These provisions provide the legal framework for Council's responsibilities and the penalties that can be imposed for non compliance.

This Plan seeks to implement a balanced approach that caters to the needs of all stakeholders. That balance will not only benefit dogs and their owners as a group, but also the wider community and those charged with the responsibility of animal management.

Mission Statement

- *"To create an environment which encourages responsible pet ownership, where people and pets integrate safely and harmoniously within the Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council community.*
- *To recognize that companion animals are part of the community, contributing to its quality of life, and to ensure that the needs of animals and their owners are accommodated while recognising the differing needs of all members of the community."*

Aims

- Provide effective management and a suitable environment for dogs within the community,
- Encourage responsible dog ownership,
- Increase & ensure public safety and amenity through the reduction of public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs,
- Provide for the welfare and safety of dogs,
- Acknowledge the importance of dogs in society,
- Encourage the enjoyment of and benefits from dogs by people,
- Protect native fauna and flora from the impact of dogs,
- Ensure the expenditure of dog registration fees addresses the needs of dog owners as well as dog management issues.

Objectives

1. Provide effective management and a suitable environment for dogs within the community.

- Ensure that Officers of Council operate within the provisions and predetermined guidelines of the legislation;
- Encourage education of dog owners;
- Maximise dog registration;
- Minimise dogs wandering at large;
- Enforce identification of dogs;
- Encourage the community to report all dog attacks and harassments to Council;
- Provide suitable on and off leash activity areas;
- Maximise the public's understanding of the Dog Management Officers and the Councils role in the community;
- Introduce data collection to better understand dog management issues.

2. Encourage responsible dog ownership.

- Provide educational material to residents & visitors to the area;
- Provide registration rebates for desexed dogs;
- Provide registration rebates for microchipped dogs;
- Enforce the provisions of the Act;
- Monitor the registration of 'working dogs' to prevent abuse of the registration rebate provided for this class of dog.

3. Increase public safety through the reduction of public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats.

- Respond to and reduce the following detrimental impacts of dogs;
 - Barking dogs;
 - Wandering at large;
 - Dog attacks and harassment;
 - Dog faeces in public places.

4. Provide for the welfare and safety of dogs.

- Where appropriate ensure that impounded dogs are returned to owners as soon as practical,
- Ensure that all impounded dogs have clean safe facilities while impounded,
- Ensure that off leash areas are established and are suitable for dogs to be exercised.

5. Acknowledge the importance of dogs in society.

- Provide up to date information regarding the benefits of responsible dog ownership.

6. Encourage the enjoyment of and benefits from dogs by people.

- Provide and display information regarding dog obedience clubs, dogs shows, trials etc
- Provide registration rebates for recognised training achievements.

7. Ensure public safety and amenity in relation to dogs.

- Conduct regular patrols of the Council area to ensure compliance with legislative requirements;
- Invite regular input regarding dog management issues from interest groups throughout the community.

8. Protect native fauna and flora from the impact of dogs.

- Clearly define areas unsuitable for dog recreation and exercise.

9. Ensure the expenditure of registration fees addresses the needs of dog owners as well as non dog owners

- Conduct regular reviews of income and expenditure to ensure that Council is using best practice with available funds.

Strategies

Provide effective management and a suitable environment for dogs within the community.

Ensure that Officers of Council operate within the provisions and predetermined guidelines of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.

The strategies are to:

- Create and adopt a set of guidelines for use by Staff.
- Ensure that regular legislative and other training and development of skills are provided on an ongoing basis.
- Provide consistent advice to those seeking it.

Recommendations

That Council Staff review training and development to ensure that all relevant staff have a clear understanding of animal management issues.

That all Staff involved in animal management actively participate in regular performance reviews with a view to achieving and maintaining best practice in that role.

Encourage education of dog owners.

Generally speaking most dog owners want to do the right thing. Registration of dogs and general compliance with the Act is relatively high throughout the community.

Council must do everything in its power to ensure that residents and visitors understand their obligations to act responsibly with their pets.

Recommendation

That Council participate in pet education programs sponsored by the Dog and Cat Management Board, or other acknowledged bodies, including displaying information in its Offices.

Maximise dog registration.

Legislation in SA requires that all dogs of or over 3 months of age must be registered.

Council cannot expect to obtain an acceptable level of dog management capacity without obtaining maximum dog registrations. This can therefore be seen to be one of the most important issue at hand and is the key factor controlling all other effective and successful dog management strategies.

Dog registration ensures that:

- Owners are registered as well as their dogs;
- Maximum funding is available for Councils to carry out responsibilities under the Act;
- Responsible dog owners and the rest of the community do not have to financially support irresponsible and unthinking dog owners;
- Responsible dog owners receive rewards for desexing, training and microchipping their dogs.

Recommendations

That Council conducts door to door surveys for unregistered dogs as resources are available.

That Council provides dog registration information with rates notices.

That Council continues to provide registration rebates for desexing, microchipping and training of dogs.

Minimise dogs wandering at large.



Adequate fencing is a necessity for responsible dog ownership.

A dog wandering at large can be a threat to live stock and members of the public, particularly children, older people and other dog owners exercising their dogs.

Council is aware that serious attacks can arise in these circumstances and will therefore implement strategies to minimize its occurrence in the community.

Under the provisions of the Act it is an offence to allow a dog to 'wander at large'. The legislation provides that: -

"A dog will be taken to be wandering at large if it is in a public place, (other than a park), or a private place without the consent of the occupier and no person is exercising effective control by way of a physical restraint; or:-

the dog is in a park and no person is exercising control of the dog either:

by physical restraint; or

by command, the dog being in close proximity to the person, and the person being able to see the dog at all times."

Exemptions are provided for:

- the droving of stock,
- training for, or participating in, an event or sporting activity or
- where the dog is in a vehicle.

The strategies are in two parts; the first to encourage owners to have adequate fencing and control over their dog(s) and the second is the actions of the Council to dogs 'wandering at large'.



All dogs must be restrained while on street, roads and public places.

Recommendations

That owners be made aware of their responsibilities to;

- Register their dog,
- Adequately fence their property to control their dog,
- Train their dog so as to not leave their premises,
- To keep their dog under effective control when in a public place.

That a Dog Management Officer conduct random patrols of all public areas and detain dogs found wandering at large.

That wherever practical, Council Staff respond to calls from the general public of a dog(s) wandering at large.

That the priority be given to returning the dog(s) to the owner as soon as possible after the payment of all relevant fees and charges.

That un-identified dogs will be impounded in accordance with the Act.

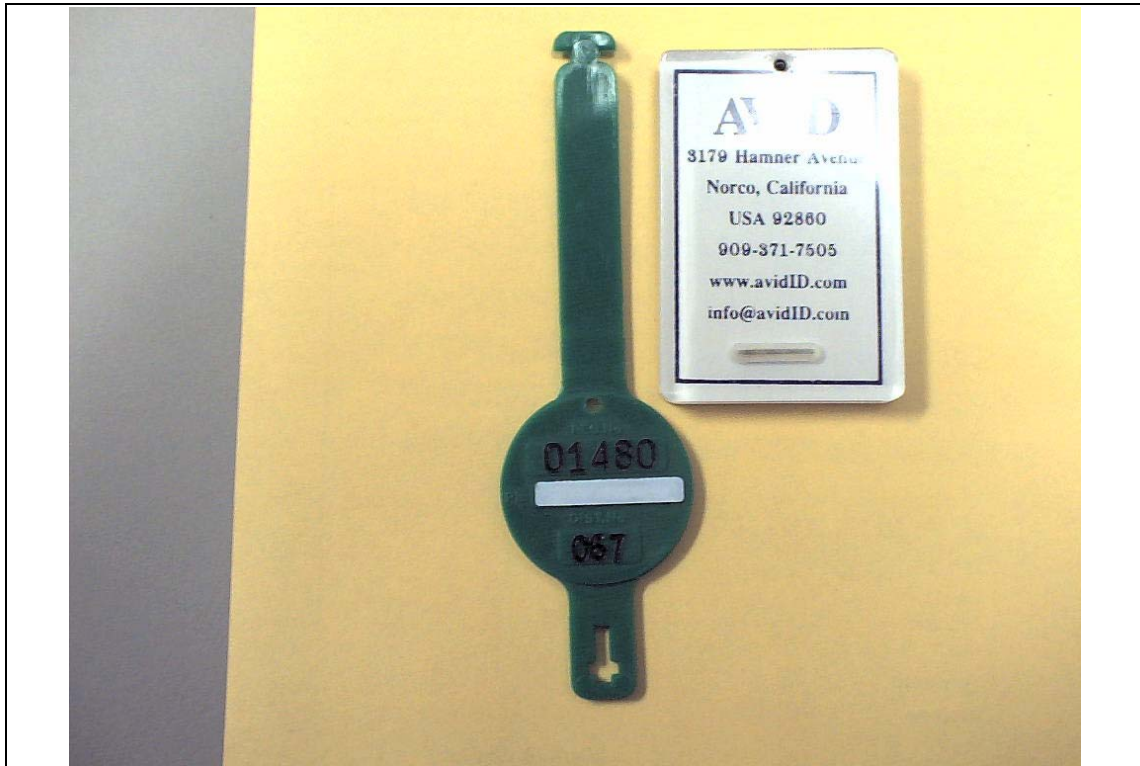
That unclaimed impounded dogs will be transported to the Animal Welfare League for assessment in accordance with their policies and procedures.

That the authorised Dog Management Officer has sole authority regarding the issuing of expiation notices for breaches of this section of the legislation.

That notwithstanding the above, and in order to encourage compliance, Dog Management Officers are instructed to reinforce complying behaviour, particularly in children, to issue warnings for offences that are of a minor nature where no harm to a person or property has occurred.

Penalties prescribed by the Act will be applied to re-offenders.

Enforce identification of dogs.



Dog Registration tag & microchip sealed in plastic

Identification of dogs is imperative to provide sound animal management practices. Residents and visitors to the area must identify their dogs at all times.

The legislation provides penalties for dogs not displaying a current registration disc when in a public place. This applies even if the dog is under the effective control of a person.

Generally speaking pet owners do not allow their pets to wander at large. Accidental escape accounts for approximately 90% of dogs wandering at large. Often these dogs are not identified and therefore cannot be returned to the owner.

The costs associated with impounding unidentified dogs and the stresses placed on the animal and their owners can easily be avoided.

Recommendations

That Council Staff enforce identification of dogs.

That Council educate the public regarding the correct identification of dogs.

That where feasible, Council participates in Microchipping days as organised by the Dog and Cat Management Board.

Encourage the community to report all dog attacks and harassments to Council.

Knowledge is the Council's best tool to reduce the number of dog attacks that occur in the community.

Due to the high number of visitors to the area it is difficult for Council to implement a strategy to reduce dog attacks and harassment. The collection of data will enable Council to understand the situations that lead to such attacks and therefore the community must be encouraged to provide information regarding all attacks regardless of their severity.

Recommendation

That Council encourages the reporting of all dog attacks / harassments throughout the community.

Provide suitable on and off leash activity areas.

Providing suitable on and off leash activity areas is vital to the success of animal management in the area. Dog owners must have suitable areas to safely exercise their dogs.

Equally, other members of the community must have the ability to use amenities without fear of harassment by uncontrolled dogs.

In areas including roads, places the public congregate, playgrounds, sporting arenas, shopping areas, etc dogs must be restrained effectively at all times.

Council's Dog Management Officer will monitor parks and reserves to ensure dogs are under effective control, the definition of which is by physical restraint or command – the dog is close proximity to the person and the person being able to see the dog at all times.

Recommendation

Under the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act dogs may be exercised off-lead in a park or reserve, provided it is not sign posted otherwise and the dog is under effective control.

Maximise the public's understanding of Dog Management Officers and the Council role in the community.

Many people have little or no understanding of the role performed by Dog Management Officers and Council in the Community. This can lead to mistrust and in the worst cases a total lack of respect for the Officers and the Council.

Officers must strive to provide and communicate information regarding the very important role they perform in the Community on behalf of Council.

Recommendation

That on the request of stake-holders, Council Staff undertake public information sessions to inform the public of their role and current animal management issues.

Introduce data collection to better understand dog management issues.

Council must have accurate information in order to fully understand animal management issues. Currently there is a reliance on the Officers' knowledge of issues and complaints received.

Works instructions are generated for complaints, with the outcomes recorded. However this information is only used for reference in the event that further complaints are received. This information should now be analysed to better understand animal management issues.

Recommendation

That on an annual basis, Council Staff analyse all works instructions relating to dog management to better understand any trends regarding animal management issues.

Encourage responsible dog ownership.

Provide Education material to residents and visitors to the Council area.

Three key factors contribute to successful pet ownership. They are:

The Owner

- needs to be aware of the responsibilities of pet ownership,
- ensures that the dog is registered, immunized, and desexed;
- ensure that the dog is trained;
- is aware of the dog's behaviour at all times, including when the owner is away from the home;
- is responsible for ensuring that the dog has adequate:-
 - food
 - water
 - shelter and
 - regular exercise.

The Breed determines:-

- the size,
- the temperament of the dog and
- its susceptibility to genetic defects.

When selecting a pet it is important to seek appropriate advice on the soundness of animals being considered and their suitability to the home / yard that the dog will be kept in and the family that the dog will be joining (particularly if small children are involved).

The home environment :-

- made up of the part of the home that the dog will have access to;
- an enclosed yard and possibly part of the house;
- important factors are
 - the adequacy of fencing,
 - whether the dog can see out of the yard through a gate,
 - adequacy of shelter, food / water,
 - whether there are children in the home,
 - closeness of neighbours and other dogs,
 - access to exercise areas.

Successful pet ownership has both financial and time commitments and it is therefore important that people contemplating pet ownership endeavour to match their choice of pet for their particular home and family circumstances.

Recommendations

That people contemplating obtaining a dog be encouraged to consider the factors affecting the suitability of successful pet ownership in their particular circumstances.

That sources of this information include:

- Advice from the Council Dog Management Officer
- Online information regarding breeds and assistance in pet selection
- Petcare Information and Advisory Service www.petnet.com.au
- The Dog and Cat Management Board of SA www.dogsncats.asn.au

That people contemplating obtaining a dog be encouraged to

- obtain it from a registered breeder,
- ensure that it has been immunized,
- become familiar with the responsibilities of dog,
- ensure that it is trained, desexed and microchipped,
- ensure that it is registered once it reaches 3 months of age.

Enforce the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act.

Consistent enforcement of the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act is an important factor in educating the public to act responsibly with their pets. Responsible pet owners expect irresponsible pet owners to be dealt with through the provisions of the Act.

Effectively there cannot be an incentive to act responsibly with pets unless there is a disincentive for those who are not actively responsible.

Increase public safety through the reduction of public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs.

Reduce the following detrimental impacts of dogs;

Barking dogs

Barking dog complaints are one of the most difficult and time consuming areas of Council responsibility. Barking dog complaints are subjective depending on an individual's tolerance for dog noise.

Council must investigate and resolve this type of complaint. In order for Council to resolve the complaint they require full and honest cooperation from the complainant to collect meaningful evidence suitable to a Court of law. In order to do this Council has adopted and follows a standard operating procedure for all dog noise nuisance complaints.

The complainant must follow the standard operating procedure, as failure to do so will result in the matter being set aside by Council.

Recommendation

That Council continues to follow its standard operating procedure for the investigation of noise nuisance complaints.

Dog attacks/harassment

All dog attacks/harassment are recorded and investigated. In order to reduce the incidence of dog attacks Council will work to educate the public to act responsibly.

The issue of dog attacks and harassment is of great concern to the general community, particularly in relation to children and the elderly.

Also of great concern is the number of unreported attacks and the fact that the majority of attacks (up to 85%) occur on private property.

While a minority of dogs are involved in attacks and harassment, all dogs have the potential to bite, regardless of size, age, breed or temperament, particularly in situations where they are frightened, dominant, protective or possessive. How to avoid being bitten or how to read a dog's body language are important issues on which to educate the public.

Recommendations

That action be undertaken (including legal action where appropriate) whenever a dog attack occurs particularly where an incident results in injury to a human or animal.

That records of dog attacks be maintained.

Dog faeces in public places

Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council
ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN October 2006

The management of dog faeces is an important environmental and health issue. Anecdotally, large amounts of dog faeces pollute our waterways and public places each year and it is an issue on which some members of the community have strong feelings.

The Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council relies heavily on tourism and it is evident that dog faeces littering our public places has a detrimental effect on visitors.

The responsibility to clean up after their dogs lies with dog owners. Penalties apply where the responsible person fails to meet that responsibility.

Recommendation

That the Dog Management Officer monitors the frequency of dog faeces in public places and takes legal action where possible.

Provide for the welfare and safety of dogs and cats.

Ensure that (where appropriate) impounded dogs are returned to owners as soon as practical.

Ensure that all impounded dogs and cats have clean safe facilities while impounded.

Council's dog holding facilities are situated at the Clare and Saddleworth Works Depots.

It is accepted that the structures at the two sites may not fully comply with the current 'Code of Conduct for Pounds and Shelters'.

Council operates and maintains its dog holding facilities in accordance with that Code wherever possible.

Plans are in hand to decommission the existing sites when a new fully compliant facility is built at the Works Depot at Benny's Hill Road Clare. This work is anticipated to be complete by December 2007.

Impounded dogs are transferred to the Animal Welfare League facility at Elizabeth where it is evident that the health or well being of the animal is likely to be adversely affected by the continued retention in the Council facility.

Council meets the costs of this temporary rehousing.

Recommendation

That Council Officers continue to adhere to the “Code of Conduct for Pounds and Shelters”.

That Council regularly reviews and upgrades the standards of its holding facilities as necessary.

That Council staff continue to deliver impounded dogs to the Animal Welfare League facility at Elizabeth where the health or well being of the animal would be adversely affected by the continued retention in the Council facility.

Acknowledge the importance of dogs in society.

Provide residents and visitors with up to date information regarding the benefits of responsible dog ownership.

There is a wealth of scientific evidence to support the benefits of owning pets and their use in therapy. Evidence of a link between pet ownership and better health has been demonstrated by a range of different and continuing medical studies.

Dogs can encourage people to enjoy the outdoors. They have been shown to stimulate conversation between strangers in public places and they improve people’s sense of security - both in the home and with their owner in public places.

Pets can also be wonderful companions, helping combat loneliness and social alienation. These benefits are as important for the elderly and single person households as they are for households with children.

Council has a role to play in harnessing these benefits which improve the quality of life of its residents and visitors, by encouraging responsible pet ownership.

Recommendation

That Council continue to promote the benefits to the community of responsible pet ownership by providing the Dog and Cat Management Boards publication “You and Your Dog” and “You and Your Cat” at its Offices and Libraries.

Ensure public safety and amenity in relation to dogs.

Conduct regular patrols of the Council area to ensure compliance with Legislative requirements.

Invite regular input regarding dog management issues from interest groups throughout the community.

Council has a full time Dog Management Officer and several Works and Administration support staff assist in that role as necessary.

These Staff are trained in the legal requirements and areas of animal management relevant to their role. They are the public face of animal management in the area. The officers educate, mediate and enforce the provisions of the Act and have a good understanding of the issues effecting public safety and amenities in relation to dogs.

Council is providing patrols for detecting non-compliance with the Act.

Recommendation

That Council continue regular patrols of the area to ensure compliance with the Act.

Protect native fauna and flora from the impact of dogs.

Clearly define areas unsuitable for dog recreation and exercise.

The Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council area includes several National Parks where dogs and cats are not permitted.

Wardens and Rangers of National Parks & Wildlife SA are responsible for the control of all animals in those Parks and Reserves.

Dog Management Officers support their activities by providing assistance as required. Clearly there is a good working relationship between the agencies and the strategy does not require changing.

Recommendation

That Council continue to maintain its current healthy working relationship with National Parks & Wildlife SA relating to domestic animal management within Reserve under the control of National Parks & Wildlife SA.

Ensure the expenditure of registration fees addresses the needs of dog owners as well as non dog owners

Conduct regular reviews of income and expenditure to ensure that Council is using best practice with available funds.

Under the provisions of the Act, Council must utilize money generated from dog registration fees and fines, in the area of dog management.

This includes providing 10% of the dog registration fees to the Board for the management of dogs across the State.

In addition Council's Finance Manager is responsible to ensure that an independent ledger of funds is kept and is available for scrutiny by the Board.

Council has a legislative duty to supply details of its activities, income and expenditure in an annual report to the Board and may be audited on those details.

The creation and implementation of this plan is a clear demonstration of Council's desire to fulfil its obligations.

Recommendation

That Council continue to disburse monies generated from dog registration fees and fines including expiation notices in accordance with the legislation and in particular in the area of dog management.

Detailed Methodology to prepare an Animal Management Plan

Phase One – Information and Data Collection prepare a draft Animal Management Plan

Stage	Description	Outcomes
1	Collect information and available data relevant to the Animal Management Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed
2	Prepare a Draft Animal Management Plan for consultation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed
3	Provide a copy of the draft Animal Management Plan for Council to approve in principal prior to public consultation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed

Phase Two – Public Consultation

4	Establish Council Project Reference Group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed
5	Establish the community consultation model to be applied for the consultation and approval process for the Council Animal Management Plan. Call for comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed
6	Council considers written submission regarding the plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 2006 Meeting
7	Amend draft Animal Management Plan (if required)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not required

Phase Three – Adoption of the Animal Management Plan By Council

8	Submit the draft Animal Management Plan to Council for approval.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 2006 Meeting
8a	Further community comment if required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Required
9	Present the Animal Management Plan to the Dog and Cat Management Board for approval.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 November 2006

Phase Four – Implementation of the Plan

10	Implementation of the Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 January 2007
11	Review of the plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 June 2011

Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council
ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN October 2006

Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)

Objective	Actions	KPI's
Provide effective management and a suitable environment for dogs within the community.	<p>Ensure that Officers of Council operate within the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.</p> <p>Ensure that Officers operate within predetermined guidelines in accordance with the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.</p> <p>Encourage Education of dog owners.</p> <p>Maximise dog registration.</p> <p>Minimise dogs wandering at large.</p> <p>Enforce identification of dogs.</p> <p>Encourage the community to report all dog attacks and harassments to Council.</p> <p>Provide suitable on and off leash activity areas.</p> <p>Maximise the public's understanding of the Dog Management Officers and the Councils role in the community.</p> <p>Limit the number of dogs per dwelling.</p> <p>Introduce data collection to better understand dog management issues.</p>	<p>Management Conduct Staff reviews.</p> <p>Regular audits of the Animal Management Plan.</p> <p>Compare registration compliance with previous years.</p> <p>Collect data regarding dogs impounded by Council without current registration.</p> <p>Compare dog attack/harassment reports with previous years.</p> <p>Review by-law compliance.</p> <p>Review data collect.</p>
Encourage responsible dog ownership.	<p>Provide education material to residents and visitors to the Council area.</p> <p>Enforce the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act pertaining to dogs.</p>	<p>Collate information regarding education material distributed to residents and visitors.</p> <p>Data collect of expiations issued compared with previous years.</p>
Increase public safety through the reduction of public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs.	<p>Reduce the following detrimental impacts of dogs;</p> <p>Barking dogs</p> <p>Dog attacks/harassment</p> <p>Dog faeces in public places</p>	<p>Data Collection and analysis.</p>
Provide for the welfare and safety of dogs.	<p>Ensure that impounded dogs are returned to owners as soon as practical.</p> <p>Ensure that all impounded dogs have clean safe facilities while impounded.</p> <p>Ensure that off leash areas are suitable for dogs to be exercised.</p>	<p>Data Collection and analysis of expiations issued compared with previous years.</p> <p>Review pound procedures.</p> <p>Conduct risk analysis of off leash areas.</p>

Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council
ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN October 2006

Acknowledge the importance of dogs in society.	Provide residents and visitors with up to date information regarding the benefits of responsible dog and cat ownership.	Review information provided to residents and visitors to the Council area.
Ensure public Safety and amenities in relation to dogs.	Conduct regular patrols of area to ensure compliance with Legislative requirements. Invite regular input regarding dog management issues from interest groups throughout the community.	Data Collection and analysis of warnings and expiations compared with previous years. Review input from interest groups.
Protect native fauna and flora from the impacts of dogs.	Clearly define areas unsuitable for dog recreation and exercise.	Conduct risk analysis of areas unsuitable for dog activities.
Ensure the expenditure of dog registration fees addresses the needs of dog owners as well as non dog owners.	Conduct regular reviews of income and expenditure to ensure that Council is using best practice with available funds.	Provide reports for the Audit conducted by the Dog and Cat Management Board annually.

Acknowledgements:

K9 Connections Dog Club Clare –

President Adrian Green Ph 8842 2074 (After Hours)
Photos on Cover & page 15 & ongoing advice

Clare Valley Obedience Dog Club

President Malcolm Rosenzweig Ph 8849 2372 (After Hours)
Ongoing advice

City of Salisbury

Photos on pages 12 & 13

Mick Cartwright

Concept Plan & advice dogsncats@chariot.net.au

Dog & Cat Management Board of SA

Ongoing advice & guidance dogsncats.asn.au

“Doris”

Photo page 9

“Muriel & handler”

Photo page 10