

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERBOROUGH

DOG & CAT MANAGEMENT PLAN

PREPARED PURSUANT TO THE DOG & CAT MANAGEMENT ACT 1995

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1999 AND THE DEVELOPMENT ACT 1993

This has been prepared as a working document and as such is subject to amendment at any time by the District Council of Peterborough subject to the approval of the DCMB (Dog and Cat Management Board).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this plan is to improve the management and control of dogs and cats within the District Council of Peterborough.

DEMOGRAPHICS

The District Council area is approximately 3000 square km. It encompasses the Townships of Peterborough, Yongala and Oodla Wirra.

The District Council of Peterborough is situated in the Southern Flinders Ranges, which includes very hilly country with large areas of inaccessible scrub. Other areas are used for grazing and general farming.

There are no major industries and tourism is being actively pursued.

The population of the district is 2200 with 17% unemployment. Numbers fluctuate because some residents attain seasonal work in other areas of the state.

REGISTRATIONS

For 2004/2005	714
Full Reg	64 not desexed
Full Reg	75 desexed
Pensioner rebate	210 not desexed
Pensioner rebate	220 desexed
Working dogs	145

THE PLAN

PARKS

Victoria Park, Queen Street – on lead park
West Park, Princess Street – on lead park
Sports Centre, Main Street – on lead area
Reservoir Park, Main Street – on lead/off lead, also parking for cars, caravans available

The parks listed above are being developed and maintained by Council.

Reservoir Park is currently being developed in three stages for the used of residents and tourists alike.

A horse trail is also part of the plan for Reservoir Park. Disabled persons will have the chance to share in this also.

DOGS

Bylaw No. 5 – Dogs and Cats

LIMIT ON DOG NUMBERS

1. In a small dwelling, one dog
2. In premises other a small dwelling, two dogs
3. Outside of a township, three dogs (other than working dogs)

LIMIT ON CAT NUMBERS

1. The limit on the number of cats kept on premises shall be two.

DEVELOPMENT ACT 1993

RESIDENTIAL ZONE (KEEPING OF STOCK)

The keeping of horses, cattle, sheep and goats are non-complying under local LG by-laws in the residential zone.

BY-LAWS

By-laws have been enacted to actively promote and enforce all relevant sections of the Dog & Cat Management Act, the Development Plan and the LG Act relating to dogs and cats.

EDUCATION

The Council undertakes to:

- a. Promote responsibility of dog owners to their animals and also to neighbours;
- b.
- c. Provide information through the Council office, schools and advertising, so that all pet owners are aware of the law and how it can affect not only them, but other residents.

FERAL CATS

Because the District is environmentally sensitive regarding mammals, reptiles and birds, Council actively strives to reduce the threat of stray and feral cats and in the past two years 458 cats have been destroyed. Council supplies cat traps free of charge and disposes of any cats caught if not identified.

As part of the Management Plan, Council is promoting desexing for those who cannot afford to do so through the National Desexing Network (NDN).

DOG BEHAVIOUR

Council undertakes to:

- a. Actively inform dog owners who allow behaviour that constitutes an offence under the Act;
- b. Explain the repercussions of expiation notices and their associated costs to residents.

DOG ATTACKS

Council undertakes to:

- a. Promote awareness through the local newspapers as to the correct way to act when confronted by a dog, that could harass or attack;
- b. Enlist the help of the local Veterinarian and staff, to give advice and distribute flyers on useful tips and dog and cat legislation;
- c. Promote responsible behaviour for owners of dogs that are considered likely to attack other dogs or humans when walking the animal or should it escape.

BARKING DOGS

Most complaints received are barking problems. Council recognises the need to inform owners that barking is anti-social behaviour, is not tolerated by the general public and will be actively pursued at the instigation of a complaint. Reasons for barking will be discussed with the owner and the necessary steps to be taken by the owner to reduce or eliminate the behaviour problem.

DOG TRAINING

As part of Council's five year plan, the newly established Reservoir Park (see map), will have a large off lead area for basic exercise, but will also provide an obstacle course to encourage Dog Clubs to attend and use all the facilities provided. Tables and benches, shade areas and barbeque areas are also part of the Plan. It will be publicised in our Tourist Information Centre, in promotional material and at www.peterborough.sa.gov.au.

SERVICE

Council has two after hours phone lines should they be required by residents, tourists or emergency services. This service is provided by a fulltime Inspector and an after hours Officer.

**Compiled by Mike Pickering
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