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Companion Animals Management Plan

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1. Purpose

Federation Council has developed a Companion Animal Management Plan to provide a platform for achieving best practice and continuous improvement in relation to the investigation, education, compliance and enforcement of identified activities concerning matters of public health, environmental nuisance and animal control.

Best Practice principles in achieving lasting changes in human behaviour encourage a combination of enforcement approaches with a targeted plan to encourage more passive and voluntary approaches to achieving responsible pet ownership within the community.

2. Background

2.1 Introduction and Local Context

The NSW Companion Animals Act 1998 No. 87 (the Act) defines companion animals as dogs and cats or any other animal that is prescribed by the regulations as a companion animal.

Federation Council has a high ratio of companion animals with current registrations showing an average of >1 dog per household and 1 cat for every 5.5 households. As a consequence, a large proportion of the population of Federation Council has an involvement in companion animal issues, from ownership, breeding, care and control and the consequences of nuisance caused by some companion animals.

Less than 1% of all dogs and cats registered were seized over the past 12 months. Council also received 5 surrendered or abandoned dogs during the 12 month period. Of those animals 53% were released to their respective owners with 21% being released to organisations for re-homing. Just over one third of animals were euthanased either because they were a dangerous dog, not able to be re-homed or at the owners request.

Companion animals play an integral role in society but can cause problems and conflict when not properly cared for or when irresponsible pet ownership occurs.

Many of the problems identified in companion animals management can be related to irresponsible pet ownership and by encouraging responsible ownership and providing educational programs most problems can be overcome.

2.2 Responsible Pet Ownership

Promotion of responsible companion animal ownership is a guiding principle behind this Plan. Federation Council aims to encourage all companion animal owners to be responsible for their animal's actions through education and enforcement.

Responsible companion animal ownership includes but is not limited to micro-chipping and registration, identification tags, socialisation of the pet, training, exercise, basic health and welfare, de-sexing where appropriate, secure confinement, environmental and social enrichment, consideration of neighbours and other members of the community, commitment to the lifetime of the animal, and importantly careful pet selection.

Responsible companion animal owners will:

- Ensure that their animal(s) do not have an adverse impact such that they unreasonably interfere with the peace, comfort or convenience of any person in any other premises.
- Ensure companion animal(s) are secured in their own property and prevent them roaming at night.
- When in a public place have their dog(s) under effective control.

- Keep their animal(s) out of prohibited areas.
- Have their animal identified with a micro-chip, and a collar and tag – to assist in identification and returning if the animal is lost and captured.
- Have the animal registered on the NSW State register.
- Where appropriate have the animal(s) de-sexed. This will in itself reduce nuisance behaviour, reduce the number of unwanted animals, and have a healthier and happier animal.
- Clean up after their animal(s).

2.3 Non Compliance

Council is obliged to ensure that owners of companion animals comply with the provisions of the Act. Staff assist all owners with advice on any matter dealing with companion animals and attempt to resolve difficult issues without resorting to the legal procedures. Staff will adhere to the Guidelines on the Exercise of Functions under the Companion Animals Act where an instance of non-compliance arises.

2.4 Penalties

Penalties for non-compliance with the provisions of the Act are found in the Companion Animals Regulations 2018 and vary from offence to offence. Applicable penalties are communicated to residents via the website, local newspapers, Council open days and by contacting the Council offices during office hours.

3. Scope

3.1 Integration

The Companion Animals Management Plan integrates the demonstrated best practice expertise in companion animals' management across similar LGA's to produce a program of actions to be undertaken by Council over the next four years.

For the purposes of this plan a companion animal is deemed to be a dog, cats or any other animal that is prescribed by the regulations as a companion animal.

The Local Government Area includes the regional centres of Corowa, Mulwala and Howlong and extends to smaller towns such as Savernake, Rennie, Balldale, Coreen, Daysdale, Buraja-Lowesdale, Oaklands, Rand, Urana, Boree Creek and Morundah.

The Plan addresses issues prescribed under relevant legislation as well as the those raised by the community using information collected via Community surveys, complaints, pet registrations and consultation with the general community and staff across a range of functional areas.

Council has adopted policies and procedures to ensure consistency in service delivery. In addition to this, Local Orders under Section 18 of the Companion Animals Act have been developed to facilitate greater compliance within the community regarding issues under the Companion Animals Act.

Also, the NSW Government has released the full response to the Companion Animals Taskforce, supporting most of the Taskforce's 38 recommendations, in full or in part. This will provide councils with access to increased funding and other resources to promote responsible pet ownership.



Key measures identified by the NSW Government include:

- Newly enacted laws which are helping councils to control aggressive dogs and which have significantly increased penalties for owners whose dogs are involved in serious attacks.
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- Increased registration fees in-line with the CPI index, from 1 January 2014, to better reflect the current cost of managing cats and dogs and provide additional funding for education and grant programs.
- A fundamental redesign of the system under which cats and dogs in NSW are managed to ensure that more owners take responsibility for their pets.

This will also consider a streamlined and easier on-line registration process for owners.

- A Responsible Pet Ownership Reference Group to provide advice to the Government on strategic cat and dog management issues and to assist further implement Taskforce recommendations. The Reference Group will report to the Minister for Local Government.

3.2 Implementation Process

The objectives and initiatives outlined in this plan to address gaps and achieve best practice have been incorporated into Action Plans for each of the key areas of:

- 1) Community
- 2) Companion Animals
- 3) Environment

Responsibilities are linked to key personnel and relevant service levels.

This document is highlighted to applicable staff upon induction and is accessible via the website and HP Content Manager.

3.3 Monitoring, Review and Performance

Monitoring is carried out via the organisations overall Integrated Planning and Reporting Process. Progress on actions is measured and reported via the staff performance appraisal process and governance processes.

The Companion Animals Management Plan will be monitored continually to ensure its relevance to the operations of Federation Council. A formal review of the plan will take place annually and if varied will be presented to Council for adoption.

4. Definitions

The Action Plans have been grouped into three key issue areas. The Companion Animals Management Plan is to be read in conjunction with Council's local enforcement policies and is intended to be a guide to inform leadership strategies for balancing the needs of:

4.1 Community

Companion animals play an important role in Australian society and culture. Many of the Federation Council community assimilate companion animals into everyday life. Other members of society may not associate with companion animals.

Council encourages tolerance and harmony between the various groups based on respect for others and responsibility of owners.

Key issues for council concerning Companion Animals and the Community, include the following:

4.1.1 Number of Animals Per Household

It is Council's intention to ensure residents are able to enjoy the amenity of their home. The number of animals at a residence can impact on the neighbourhood. As a guide, Council considers a suitable maximum number of dogs in a household to be three, the number of cats to be three, and the number of animals in total to be five. When complaints are received Council staff will assess the merits of the complaint, with consideration being given to the appropriateness of the number of animals involved, and whether there is a health, safety or amenity concern for the community. This number is not to include any litters that a companion animal may have, but the number is to be reduced to those stated above within twelve (12) weeks of the birth.

Council has adopted Local Orders detailing requirements for keeping of dogs, Order no. 18 (7) and Keeping of cats, Order no. 18 (4). These and other orders outlining requirements for keeping of animals are available on Council's website.

Council aims to ensure that all members of the community are well educated and compliant with the current restrictions on authorised numbers of animals per household. Council will act swiftly and firmly on any report of a household in breach of these regulations.

4.1.2 Breeding Animals

Breeding of companion animals for sale/profit is considered to be an industry and as such requires Development Approval. Any person wishing to conduct a breeding activity for sale/profit should contact Council Environment and Planning Department for details of requirements and approval procedures.

Exemption from micro-chipping for a cat or dog less than 12 weeks of age that is sold by a recognised breeder to a pet shop has been removed from the Regulation. Recognised breeders must therefore ensure that all the cats and dogs they sell are micro chipped prior to sale.

A recognised breeder as defined by the Office of Local Government is a person who is a "breeder" member of one of the following breed organisations:

a) Royal NSW Canine Council Limited

b) NSW Cat Fanciers Association

c) Waratah State Cat Alliance Inc or,

c) Any other body approved by the Director-General for the purpose of this definition by an order published in the Gazette.

Council aims to ensure that all members of the community wishing to conduct a breeding activity for sale/profit are well educated on the regulations concerning conducting breeding activities in an appropriate manner.

Council will act swiftly and firmly on any report of a breeding operation which breaches these regulations.

4.1.3 Public Safety

Dog attacks severely compromise public safety. Attacking or threatening dogs impinge on the right of the community to safely walk the streets and footpaths and to enjoy the pursuit of leisure and recreational activities on public parks and reserves.

Council aims to ensure public safety is not compromised by having a community that is well educated and proactively engaged in minimising dog attacks. Council will deal with any reported incident of attacking or threatening activity by a dog in a timely and thorough manner.

4.1.4 Nuisance Dogs

Council aims to have a community that is well educated and proactively engaged in minimising nuisance dog complaints as per Section 32A of the Companion Animals Act 1998 No. 87 . Council will act appropriately on any report of an alleged nuisance dog, by investigating the report, gathering evidence/information and then applying the provisions of the Act to provide a satisfactory outcome.

Council has adopted a procedure for dealing with nuisance dogs. A fact sheet is also available on council's website outlining the process for lodging a formal complaint.

4.1.5 Dangerous and Menacing Dogs

Council aims to have a community that is well educated and proactively engaged in the cessation of dangerous and menacing dog incidents. Part Five, Division One of the Companion Animals Act 1998 No. 87 will apply to alleged dangerous or menacing dog incidents. Council will use due diligence when enforcing these provisions following any report of a dangerous or menacing dog incident.

4.1.6 Leash Free Areas

Federation Council has provided leash free areas in Corowa, Howlong and Mulwala. These areas are located as follows:

- Corowa. On Council owned land at the intersection of Federation Avenue and River Street, South Corowa; and at the Eastern end of Edward Street opposite Bangerang Park, adjacent to tennis courts.
- Howlong. In the south west corner of Lowe Square and part of Memorial Park.
- Mulwala. At Kyffins Reserve, 4.1km east of Mulwala on Spring Drive

Note: Oaklands, Urana, Rand and Morundah TBA

The purpose of leash free areas is to allow dogs to exercise off lead, to run freely in a safe environment, to enjoy off lead activities without interfering with the general public and to provide the opportunity for socialising with other dogs.

Council aims to have a community that is well educated and proactively engaged in the locations and appropriate use of lease free areas. Council will endeavour to:

- provide a free running exercise areas in each of the Federation Council towns of Corowa, Howlong and Mulwala.
- to encourage companion animal owners and carers to provide appropriate exercise for the animals so as to improve animal welfare and minimise adverse impact on the general community.
- ensure owners of dangerous and menacing dogs are aware of their responsibilities in off leash areas.

4.1.7 Disaster Planning

Disaster planning is critical in minimising the impact of disasters on persons and property. The recovery of a community is largely dependent on the wellbeing of those members of the community affected. It's important that this planning gives consideration to companion animals being an integral part of a person's wellbeing and therefore, their recovery.

Council aims to provide the community with options for the safe evacuation of their family and companion animals in the event of natural disasters.

4.1.8 Community Action Plan

Actions / Initiatives	Target Group	Responsibility	Performance Indicator/s	Target date
<p>Continue to utilise Council communications channels to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide information on regulations and policies concerning companion animals • provide information on council services to support the community with effectively managing their own companion animals • provide information to support the community to raise any concerns regarding companion animals 	The community at large.	Manager and Ranger	<p>Participation in Council's activities enabling ratepayers to access information and key staff.</p> <p>Community feedback collected.</p> <p>Reported in Annual Report</p>	Ongoing
<p>Continue to use existing resources to Investigate available NSW Government grants to facilitate the development and distribution of information for residents on responsible pet ownership including information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification/Registration • De-sexing • Nuisance animals • Dangerous and menacing dogs • Impoundment and retrieval • Surrendering • Animal welfare and housing • Public safety • Breeding • Restrictions • Leash free areas • Noise Pollution • Water Pollution and responsible use of council bins • Environmental protection • Emergency evacuation <p>and promoted through:</p> <p>Website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception • Open Days • Other events (e.g. Paws in the Park) • Veterinarians • Response to a complaint • Newsletters 	The community at large.	Manager and Ranger	Grant money obtained and resources for residents developed and promoted.	Ongoing

Actions / Initiatives	Target Group	Responsibility	Performance Indicator/s	Target date
Proactive patrols undertaken within LGA including leash free areas.	Community at large Dog owners	Ranger	Leash free areas patrolled weekly.	Weekly ongoing
Conduct annual audits of premises where declared dangerous dogs are kept and assess issues including adequacy of child proof enclosures.	Owners of declared dangerous dogs	Ranger	Audits conducted annually.	annually
Procedures in place to address complaints from the public regarding companion animals.	Community at large.	Manager and Ranger	Complaints procedure/notification developed and adopted. Accessible to the public via website.	By 30/12/18
Council develops a Nuisance/Dangerous/Menacing dog policy and reviews this annually.	Community at large.	Manager and Ranger	Nuisance/Dangerous/Menacing dog policy developed and reviewed annually with any changes adopted.	By 30/11/18
Ensure ongoing reporting of incidents regarding companion animals to inform preventative and enforcement activities.	Community at large.	Ranger	Incidents reported and findings used to inform preventative and enforcement activities.	Review of incidents conducted annually
Research dog attack/incidents within LGA to identify high risk areas/trends and adapt education and enforcement.	Community at large.	Ranger	Prevalence/location of dog attacks/incidents identified. Increased patrols and surveillance of areas is being undertaken.	Annual review of incidents Increase patrols
Review existing Leash Free areas and identify any changes to be made or additional areas to be allocated.	Dog owners Community at large.	Manager and Ranger	Leash free areas reviewed and any changes adopted by council.	Review by 30/11/18
Review Emergency Management Plan to ensure details of possible evacuation centres for large numbers of companion animals are identified and included.	Community at large	Director and Ranger	Evacuation Centres for large numbers of companion animals secured, and noted on the plan.	Ensure included in review of EMPLAN

4.2 Companion Animals

The Act nominates some specific requirements for all companion animals. Council recommends that all owners of companion animals be aware of the provisions of the Act to assist them in being responsible pet owners.

Some of these particular requirements are:

4.2.1 Identification and Registration

The Act requires that companion animals be micro-chipped by 12 weeks of age, and be registered by six months of age. This process allows lost or straying animals that are captured to be returned to their owners as quickly as possible, generally avoiding the need for the animal to be impounded or euthanised.

Micro-chipping can only be carried out by authorised persons such as a veterinarian, breeder, animal welfare staff and Council Rangers.

Council aims to have a community that is well educated and compliant with the current identification and registration requirements for all companion animals. Council will endeavour to:

- provide the community with a fast and efficient service in the registering or updating of information on the NSW Companion Animal Register.
- do all that can be done to trace owners of captured animals when registered, and to re-house unclaimed animals rather than resort to euthanasia.
- encourage compliance with the Act and have all companion animals micro-chipped and registered. Microchip identification assists Council in the prompt return of a lost or impounded animal to its owner(s).

4.2.2 Impounding

Under Section 9(1) of the Impounding Act 1993 No. 31 animals unattended in public places can be impounded.

An impounding officer may impound an animal that is in a public place in the area of operations of the officer if the officer believes on reasonable grounds that the animal is unattended.

Council has an obligation to capture and impound straying companion animals particularly where there is no obvious identification or the community is at risk.

Council aims to have a community that is well educated and compliant with the current impounding requirements and will endeavour to:

- patrol all towns in a proactive endeavour to encourage responsible pet ownership, and
- responds promptly to complaints from the public.
- to assist in the prompt return of captured animals to their owner(s) and therefore reduce the number of animals impounded.
- to assist in the tracing of the owners of impounded animals so as to minimise the need to euthanase these pets.
- to return as many animals to owners as possible rather than resort to impounding.

4.2.3 Animal Welfare

Federation Council is responsible for the welfare of companion animals under its control, including seized and impounded animals.

In the Companion Animals Act, approved welfare organisations are:

- (a) The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, New South Wales (Contact: www.rspcansw.org.au)
- (b) The Animal Welfare League NSW, (Contact: www.animalwelfareleague.com.au)
- (c) The Cat Protection Society of NSW, (Contact: www.catprotection.org.au) and
- (d) Any other organisation approved by the Director-General of the Department of Local Government.

Council aims to have a community that is well educated and proactively engaged in animal welfare matters affecting the local community.

Council will endeavour to:

- actively encourage all owners of companion animals to be aware of their responsibilities concerning animal welfare,
- ensure that Council staff regard animal welfare as a high priority in all dealing with the community and companion animals and
- provide high level animal care facilities and transport for seized animals.

4.2.4 Companion Animal Action Plan

Actions / Initiatives	Target Group	Responsibility	Performance Indicator/s	Target date
Continue to explore opportunities to access NSW Government grants and seek funding to target microchipping, registration and desexing to reduce pet overpopulation from mid-2014.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	NSW Government grant funding application submitted Micro-chipping, registration and desexing campaign conducted.	30/11/20
Review existing identification and registration policies and procedures to ensure this reflects current legislation and guidelines.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Existing policies and procedures for identification and registration of companion animals reviewed and changes adopted.	Annually
Continue to facilitate simultaneous micro-chipping and registration of companion animals through collaboration with veterinarian and Department of Local Government.	Community at large	Ranger	Collaboration with local veterinarians and the Department has taken place and simultaneous micro-chipping and registering rates have increased.	Ongoing
Continue to collaborate with stakeholders such as NSW Agriculture and Wodonga Dog Rescue to ensure transport and impoundment practices are in line with legislation and best practice guidelines.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	on animal transport and impounding policies and procedures reviewed with any changes adopted.	annually
to encourage efficiency of database checking and strategies for locating owner e.g. Website/Facebook to facilitate prompt return of animal to its owner (Wodonga Dog Rescue).	Community at large	Ranger	Database checking process streamlined and linked to strategies for locating owner e.g. Website/Facebook	Ongoing
Develop a process for authorised identifiers to record comprehensive owner information to facilitate prompt return of animal to its owner.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	A process developed for authorised identifiers to record comprehensive companion animal owner information.	Annually
Continue to collaborate with local providers and services to re-home unclaimed animals and promote within LGA via website.	Community at large	Ranger	Support existing arrangements with local providers and services and promote within LGA via website.	Ongoing
Develop a Local Orders Policy that includes guidelines on the number of companion animals to be kept on premises.	Community at large	Ranger	Local orders policy developed and adopted. Available to the public.	By 31/12/18

Investigate all nuisance behaviour complaints and repeated incidents of animals escaping their enclosures/yards for any signs of animal abuse and cruelty.	Community at large	Ranger	All nuisance behaviour complaints and repeated incidents of animals escaping their enclosures/yards are investigated.	Ongoing
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4.3 Environment

Companion animals can have both positive and negative effects on the environment, and Council is concerned to ensure that any adverse effects are minimised or mitigated. Adverse effects can include noise pollution, water pollution, soil (faecal) pollution, and predation of native fauna.

Council aims to have sound environmental protection behaviour of companion animals by regular advertisement, discussions with owners, provision of waste collection containers, and any other measures found necessary from time to time to further this cause.

4.3.1 Noise Pollution

With a substantial dog population, barking dogs are a major concern for Council as they cause disturbance to neighbours and the public in general. Council aims to have a community that is well educated and proactively engaged in the cessation of noise pollution incidents as per Section 32A of the Companion Animals Act 1998 No. 87. Council will educate the public and support members of the community to resolve the issue through discussion and mediation in most cases. Council may impose a Local Orders Policy that will control the number of companion animals that will be permitted at any one residential premises.

Council will act appropriately on any report of an alleged barking dog, by investigating the report, gathering evidence/information and then applying the provisions of the Act to provide a satisfactory outcome. Council has adopted a procedure for dealing with nuisance dogs. A fact sheet is also available on council’s website outlining the process for lodging a formal complaint.

4.3.2 Water Pollution

Companion animals and particularly dogs can have a serious detrimental effect on the local environment. In particular, the pollution of domestic yards, footpaths, parks and reserves and ultimately of waterways caused by dog faeces. Pet faeces have high levels of phosphorus and other nutrients that harm waterways and can contribute to the spread of bacteria, parasites and protozoa including roundworm and hookworm.

Under Section 20 of the Companion Animals Act 1998 No. 87 it is an offence not to immediately remove a dog’s faeces and dispose of it appropriately. Council provides animal free waste deposit bins at various locations in each town and particularly at leash free areas and encourages pet owners to avail themselves of this service.

Council aims to have a community that is well educated and proactively engaged in the reduction of water pollution throughout the LGA. Council will continue to educate the public and actively encourage all owners of companion animals to be aware of their responsibilities concerning water pollution.

4.3.3 Biodiversity

Free ranging companion cats and feral cats have a significant detrimental effect on birdlife and pet owners are encouraged to keep their cats inside during the night to reduce damage to Federation Council's wildlife and natural environment.

Council will continue to educate the public and actively encourage all owners of companion animals to be aware of their responsibilities concerning the environment. Council will also continue to encourage the de-sexing of cats, as entire animals can provide a reservoir of breeding animals for wild populations.

4.3.4 Environmental Action Plan

Actions / Initiatives	Target Group	Responsibility	Performance Indicator/s	Target date
Document key contacts for animal behaviour specialists and providers.	Community at large	Ranger	Key contacts for animal behavior specialists and provider list developed. Contact list available on website.	By 19/12/2019
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of dogs.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of dogs developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of declared dogs (dangerous and restricted breeds).	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy for keeping of declared dogs (dangerous and restricted breeds) developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of guard dogs.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of guard dogs developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of greyhound dogs.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of greyhound dogs developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of cats.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the Keeping of cats developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of birds.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of birds developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of guinea pigs.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of guinea pigs developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of rabbits.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of rabbits developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of rodents.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of rodents developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018

Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of reptiles.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of reptiles developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of horses.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of horses developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Actions / Initiatives	Target Group	Responsibility	Performance Indicator/s	Target date
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of sheep.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of sheep developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of goats.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of goats developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of cattle.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of cattle developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of poultry.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of poultry developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of pigs.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of pigs developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of bees.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of bees developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of pigeons.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of pigeons developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018
Develop a local orders policy on the keeping of native wildlife.	Community at large	Manager and Ranger	Local orders policy on the keeping of native wildlife developed and adopted. Policy available on website.	31 /12/ 2018

5. References & Associated Documents

NSW Local Government Act 1993 No. 30, & Regulations 2005
NSW Government Guideline on the Exercise of functions under the Companion Animals Act,
NSW Companion Animals Act 1998 No 87, & Regulations 2018
NSW Companion Animals and other Legislation Amendment Act 2018 no 27
NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 & Regulations
NSW Impounding Act 1993 No 31 & Regulations
NSW Protection of the Environment Operation Act 1997 & Regulations

Council's Strategic plan and Community Engagement Strategy (Companion Animals or Community Safety could also be reflected in the Community Engagement Strategy to demonstrate Councils commitment to this),
Staff Delegations
Local orders
Standard Operating Procedures

6. Policy History

Version	Date	Changes / Amendments
1	2014	Adopted December 2014
2	2019	Review of document and new template

7. Reviews

Every four years.

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