

# Domestic Animal Management Plan

## 2022-2025 - Snapshot



City of  
**STONNINGTON**





## **Our Service Objective**

A community that recognises the importance of pets and treats them humanely; and where pets live in harmony with people, other animals and the environment.

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## About the Domestic Animal Management Plan (the Plan)

The Plan establishes a policy and planning framework that will guide the delivery of Animal Management Services for the next four years. It identifies matters that currently impact the service and those that are likely to emerge over the life of the plan.

### Snapshot Purpose

The Domestic Animal Management Plan Snapshot provides a summary of key service objectives and actions from the Plan.

# Domestic Animal Management Plan

2022-2025

## 1. Service Management and Training of 'Authorised Officers'

### 1.1 Service Objectives:

A well-integrated and efficient Animal Management Service that has the capacity to address community needs.

### 1.2 Actions to Address Emerging priorities:

- Review Animal Management Services resourcing requirements to reflect the demands on the service.
- Review and update procedures and administrative processes.
- Review staff training requirements and personal development opportunities.
- Liaise with other key service areas to ensure an understanding of the existing and emerging matters relating to pets in the community.

## 2. Responsible Pet Ownership

### 2.1 Service Objective:

Communication strategies that specifically target priority matters relating to the care and management of pets in the community.

### 2.2 Proposed Actions to Address Emerging Priorities:

Establish clear protocols for communicating messages and information about pet owner responsibilities.

## 3. Overpopulation of Pets

### 3.1 Service Objective:

Identify areas where matters relating to stray urban cats may need to be addressed.

### 3.2 Proposed Actions to Address Emerging Priorities:

- Identify neighbourhoods where there are potentially populations of cats that are not 'fully owned' and/or stray.
- Work with the Save-A-Dog Scheme to ensure relevant information is collected when animals are taken in.

## 4. Registration and Identification of Pets

### 4.1 Service Objective:

A level of pet registrations that is more closely in line with industry estimations of actual likely pet ownership.

### 4.2 Proposed Actions to Address Emerging Priorities:

- Cross-reference microchip databases with Council's registration database.
- Map cat and dog ownership on Council's GIS system to identify areas of low registration.

## 5. Nuisance Issues

### 5.1 Service Objective:

Reduced complaints as a result of localised and targeted messaging.

### 5.2 Proposed Actions to Address Emerging Priorities:

- Consider researching relevant LGAs to identify the financial and public relations benefits of commissioning an animal behaviourist to assist Council.
- Develop information and advice for body corporate associations and developers.
- Using Council's GIS system, plot the location of barking dog complaints to identify areas or dwelling types where incidents may be concentrated/more prevalent.
- Consider commissioning and trialing a bio-gas generator fueled by dog litter.
- Consider a registration system for Commercial Dog Walkers and limit the number of dog walkers utilising a site.

## 6. Dog Bites, 'Rushing', and Attacks

### 6.1 Service Objective:

Decreased incidence of dog bites, attacks and rushes.

### 6.2 Proposed Actions to Address Emerging Priorities:

- Encourage pre-schools and primary schools to participate in Victorian State Government programs.
- Consider a communication strategy to increase awareness of appropriate behaviours around dogs.
- Consider the promotion/profiling of children's books that teach appropriate behaviour around dogs and/or consider the commissioning of a local children's writer.

## 7. Dangerous, Menacing, and Restricted Breed Dogs

### 7.1 Service Objective:

Enhanced and targeted information highlighting dog behaviour that can result in dogs being 'declared'.

### 7.2 Proposed Actions to Address Emerging Priorities:

- Prepare a process for regular cross-reference of microchip database information with the current Council registration database for potential restricted breed dogs.
- Review and update Council procedures and checklists for declaring a dog as 'dangerous', 'menacing' or a 'restricted breed'.

## 8. Domestic Animal Businesses

### 8.1 Service Objectives:

Domestic Animal Businesses (DAB) compliance with registration requirements and with relevant Codes of Practice.

### 8.2 Proposed Actions to Address Emerging Priorities:

- Carry out a desktop search for DABs that may not be aware of their obligations to register with Council.
- Review information for and about DABs on Council's website.

## 9. Town and Open Space Planning

### 9.1 Service Objective:

Town planning and open space planning and policies that acknowledge and address matters relating to pet owners and pets.

### 9.2 Proposed Actions to Address Emerging Priorities:

- Engage with developers for inclusion of pet friendly design and amenities in high density developments.
- Encourage developers to include private and public open space in development designs.
- Prepare a Dog Off/On-Leash Policy and Provision Plan.
- Prepare concept and detailed signage information and templates for off-leash areas.

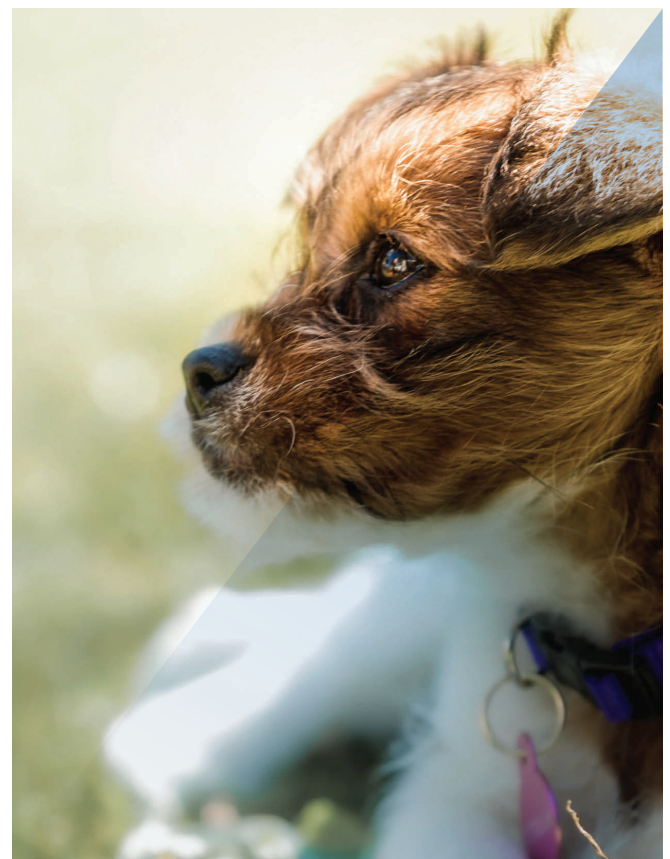
## 10. Community Support and Strengthening

### 10.1 Service Objective:

The needs of pet owners are recognised and addressed in Council service planning processes.

### 10.2 Proposed Actions to Address Emerging Priorities:

- Identify staff to undertake Common Risk Assessment Framework (CRAF) or similar training (Family Violence).
- When Preventing Violence Together; A Strategy for the Southern Metropolitan Region (2016-2021) is reviewed, ensure that consideration is given to the needs of pet owners.
- Work with domestic violence organisations to help promote awareness of assistance for pet owners experiencing domestic violence.
- Review the Animal Welfare Plan.
- Ensure that all Council's strategic planning processes and documents recognise issues and opportunities relating to pet owners.
- Investigate opportunities to profile community-led community support initiatives.





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**STONNINGTON**



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#### Community Languages

Call the Stonnington Community Link,  
a multilingual telephone information service.

Mandarin	普通話	9280 0730
Cantonese	廣東話	9280 0731
Greek	Ελληνικά	9280 0732
Italian	Italiano	9280 0733
Polish	Polski	9280 0734
Russian	Русский	9280 0735
Indonesian	Bahasa Indonesia	9280 0737
All other languages		9280 0736

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8290 1333
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