

NOVEMBER 2016

# Domestic Animal Management Plan 2016-2021

[STONNINGTON.VIC.GOV.AU](http://STONNINGTON.VIC.GOV.AU)

 [stonningtoncouncil](#)  [StonningtonNews](#)

## Contents

Statement of Commitment	3
Council Aims	3
Stonnington Animal Management Philosophy	3
Strategic Overview	4
Animal Management Staffing and Structure	5
Flagship Animal Management Initiatives in Stonnington	6
Current Programs and Services	7
Key Actions for 2017 – 2021	9
Background and Context	10
Strategic Directions for Animal Management	
Training of Authorised Officers	13
Registration and Identification	15
Nuisance	18
Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed Dogs	21
Dog Attacks	23
Overpopulation and High Euthanasia	25
Domestic Animal Businesses	28
Other Matters	30
Annual Review of Plan and Annual Reporting	32
Appendices	
Appendix A – Council Orders	34
Appendix B – Local Laws (Keeping of Animals)	36

## Statement of Commitment

Council is committed to advocating for, and working towards achieving positive community and animal welfare outcomes.

The welfare and care of all companion animals is important within the municipality – Council will endeavour to ensure that no dog or cat is unnecessarily killed or harmed and that wherever possible, all unwanted animals are re-homed.

Companion animals are recognised as being highly beneficial to the health and wellbeing of people in our community.

Council will aim to keep the community safe, by educating the community on responsible pet ownership, and performing legislative functions as required.

## Council Aims

To encourage people to manage dogs and cats in ways that protects the health and welfare of these companion animals, and considers needs of the broader community by encouraging responsible pet ownership practices. These include:

- Ensuring all lost animals are safely and quickly reunited with their owners.
- Improving animal welfare outcomes by minimising wherever possible the number of animals that go to the Pound.
- Minimising the number of unwanted animals that are euthanased.
- Enhancing community awareness of responsible pet ownership practices including the promotion of community safety as a priority.
- Increasing rates of community compliance with regulations.
- Minimising the potential for animals to create a nuisance.
- Minimising the risk of dog attacks in the community.
- Ensuring that all Domestic Animal Businesses maintain the highest standard of animal welfare and are compliant with legislative requirements.
- Ensuring that all animal management staff are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out their work effectively.
- Ensuring that all programs and activities are monitored and evaluated.

## Stonnington Animal Management Philosophy

The management of dogs and cats in Stonnington affects the entire community – both pet owners and non pet owners. This Domestic Animal Management Plan is designed to respond strategically to the needs of the community as a whole.

Council's community safety obligations mean that pet owners are expected to employ responsible pet ownership practices, and minimise the potential for nuisance or safety issues occurring.

Council provides a range of information and education initiatives, and works with the community to achieve positive outcomes. Council also performs legislative functions to ensure compliance where required, in accordance with enforcement protocols.

Council strongly encourages all pet owners to act responsibly and humanely in the treatment and ownership of their companion animals. Acting responsibly towards a pet includes a number of aspects:

- Providing proper housing for the animal.
- Keeping animals confined to their properties.
- Desexing animals.

- Providing sufficient room to move.
- Protecting the animal from the elements.
- Supply regular appropriate food.
- Providing appropriate routine veterinary services.
- Registering dogs and cats with Council.
- Micro-chipping animals.
- Providing an appropriate amount of exercise/socialisation.
- Undertaking dog obedience training.
- Complying with State Government legislation, Council's Local Laws and Council Orders.
- Preparedness by owners to abide by societal rules.

## Strategic Overview

The Domestic Animal Management Plan was developed in consultation with Council's Animal Management Unit, and informed by research and benchmarking activities. It is a five year strategy that guides the delivery of animal management services across Stonnington.

The Domestic Animal Management Plan is directly referenced in the City of Stonnington Council Plan and Council's budget activities; and aligns with the broader strategic directions for the municipality. It provides a sound basis and direction from which Council can plan and make future decisions over the next five years, and relates back to the wider Council policy context.

The Domestic Animal Management Plan also builds on the foundation established through the implementation of the Domestic Animals Act 1994. Under this Act, every Victorian Council must prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan that addresses the following:

- Set out a method for evaluating whether animal control services provided by council are adequate to give effect to the requirements of the Act and regulations.
- Outline programs for the training of authorised officers.
- Outline programs, services and strategies to:
  - Promote and encourage responsible ownership of dogs and cats;
  - Ensure that people comply with the Act, regulations and legislation;
  - Minimise risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals;
  - Address over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats;
  - Encourage registration and identification of dogs and cats;
  - Minimise potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance; and
  - Effectively identify all dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs and to ensure that these dogs are kept in compliance with Act and regulations.
- Provide for review of existing orders and Local Laws made under the Act.
- Provide for review of any other matters related to management of dogs and cats.
- Provide for periodic evaluation of the Plan.

This Domestic Animal Management Plan contains a range of actions to be undertaken by Council to address these objectives.

## Animal Management Staffing and Structure

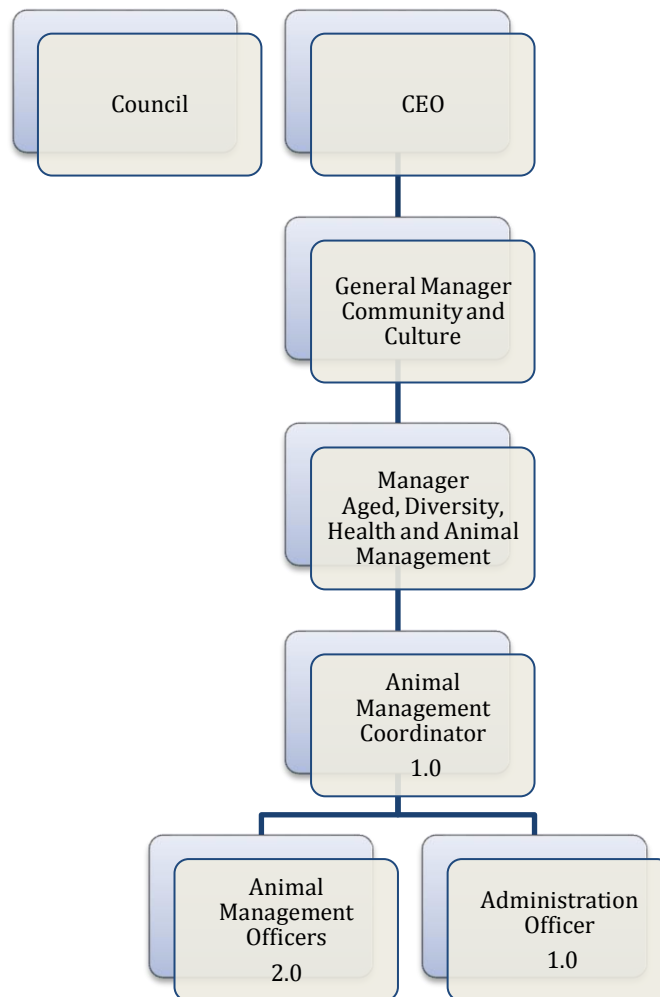
The Animal Management Unit at the City of Stonnington forms part of the Aged, Diversity, Health and Animal Management Department.

The relatively small geographic area of the municipality and the size of the team means that Animal Management Officers are not allocated job zones, instead they closely collaborate to provide services to the community.

Animal Management Services are provided from 8.30am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday. An After Hours Service is provided for the collection of stray animals which are preferably delivered to owners in the first instance. Animals will be delivered to the Stonnington Pound in cases where owners are not contactable, animals cannot be identified, or an attack has taken place. The After Hours service is operated by either Council's After Hours Team or external provider depending on the time of day.

Animal Management Officers have access to the registration database to assist with identifying and returning animals to their owners. Officers' first priority is to return identified animals to their owners. Enforcement actions against owners are undertaken where required, often after animals have been returned to their home environment.

Animal Management Officers undertake proactive initiatives to minimise nuisance and risk to safety of the community. This includes education and provision of advice, negotiation with residents, and proactive patrols of parks and reserves.



# Flagship Animal Management Initiatives in Stonnington

## Stonnington Pound

Council contracts its Pound services to *Save-A-Dog Scheme*. Under this contract, *Save-A-Dog Scheme* operates Stonnington's Pound facilities and also provides a lost and found telephone service from 8.00am to 10.00pm, 365 days per year.

Council's Animal Management Unit works hard to reunite animals with their owners at first point, without taking them to the Pound. Council's priority is to achieve positive community and animal welfare outcomes wherever possible.

## Save-A-Dog Scheme

*Save-A-Dog Scheme* is an incorporated, community-based not-for-profit animal welfare organisation that saves hundreds of dogs and cats from being killed each year. The organisation is operated primarily by volunteers, with the help of paid staff. It operates as a registered animal shelter and combines this with foster care in the community.

*Save-A-Dog-Scheme* has a no-kill philosophy and seeks to re-home every animal that comes into its care. Council is proud to support the *Save-A-Dog Scheme* and the important work they do in the community.

## Caring for Our Community

The City of Stonnington Council Plan vision states that '*Stonnington will be a connected community that fosters the hopes, wellbeing and aspirations of all people.*' With this vision in mind, Council seeks opportunities wherever possible to support positive community and animal welfare outcomes.

In cases of emergency Council has provided ad hoc crisis care for animals to provide 'peace of mind' to owners and ensure the welfare of their companion animals. Council is experiencing many more situations where support is required for animal crisis care due to cases of domestic violence, house fires, traffic incidents and other emergencies. Council is keen to continue to provide crisis care for companion animals.

Council facilitates a discounted Desexing Voucher Scheme to assist concession and pension card holders, and to reduce the number of unwanted animals in the community.

Council continues to work with community members of need, often providing them with items such as leads and waste bags to help them with the responsible management of their companion animals.

## Reduced Registration for Animals Purchased from Animal Welfare Agencies

In February 2015, Council introduced a reduced registration incentive for owners who purchase dogs and cats from animal welfare agencies (i.e. first 12 months are free of charge).

The introduction of this popular animal welfare focused initiative helps to encourage the community to buy their animals responsibly, thus reducing demand for 'puppy farm' animals. It also encourages pet shop owners to source their animals responsibly, with 3 out of 9 pet shops in Stonnington now sourcing their animals from animal welfare agencies.

During 2015, 803 cats and 594 dogs were registered under this scheme. Council is hoping to capture more new animal registrations than before, thus increasing rates of compliance.

## Working with Domestic Animal Businesses

Council continues to work closely with the Domestic Animal Businesses operating in Stonnington to ensure compliance with regulations and the welfare of animals.

Council strongly encourages Domestic Animal Businesses to source animals from reputable suppliers, particularly animal welfare agencies. The introduction of a reduced registration initiative encourages the community to purchase animals from reputable suppliers.

Council limits the number of animals that can be held in a pet shop at any one time, under provisions of the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

## Pets in the Park Community Event

The popular Pets in the Park community event is held annually in March, with over 5,000 people attending each year.

This event is a fantastic opportunity for Council to engage with the community and provide education and advice on responsible pet ownership practices.

## Current Programs and Services

A comprehensive list of our current domestic animal management programs and services are listed below:

Program	Service Level to Community
Identification and Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual registration renewal notices, including comprehensive follow up process, designed to improve compliance (letters, SMS and phone calls).</li> <li>Periodic cross referencing of CAR database with Council's animal registration database.</li> <li>A reduced registration incentive for owners who purchase dogs and cats from animal welfare agencies (i.e. first 12 months are free of charge).</li> </ul>
Nuisance Complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Response within 24 hours.</li> </ul>
Dog Complaints (dog attacks / rushes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediate response if situation is deemed as dangerous.</li> <li>Otherwise, response within 24 hours.</li> </ul>
Wandering Cat Complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Humane cat cages are available for the public to utilise to confine nuisance, unowned or feral cats.</li> <li>Strict protocols are in place governing the use of these cages to ensure that welfare of the confined cats is protected.</li> </ul>
Dogs on / off leash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Orders are in place restricting dogs off leash to designated areas and designated reserves.</li> </ul>
Park / Street Patrols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proactive patrols of parks and reserves.</li> <li>Unscheduled patrols of high use areas and 'hot zones' as required.</li> </ul>
Pound Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council's Pound is open to the public 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Sunday (including public holidays) – or by appointment.</li> <li>Lost and found telephone service is available from 8.00am – 10.00pm, 365 days per year.</li> <li>Community and animal welfare based outcomes wherever possible – work hard to reunite animals with owners at first point, without taking to the Pound.</li> </ul>
Desexing Voucher Scheme (MAV/AVA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discounted desexing vouchers provided for concession and pension card holders.</li> <li>A flexible approach for the community is applied to this scheme on a case by case basis.</li> </ul>

Program	Service Level to Community
'Pets in the Park' Free Community Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual event, held in March - with over 5,000 people attending each year.</li> </ul>
Education and Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media and communications strategy in place, including but not limited to a range of activities across the year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Social media.</li> <li>➤ Media releases.</li> <li>➤ Advertorial.</li> <li>➤ Council magazine.</li> <li>➤ Brochures and fact sheets.</li> <li>➤ Website information.</li> <li>➤ Annual 'Pets in the Park' free community event.</li> <li>➤ Animal information newsletter mailed to pet owners with registration renewals each year.</li> <li>➤ Temporary A-frame signage used in parks and reserves to remind owners of off leash and dog waste requirements.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
After Hours Services (Call 8290 1333)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The After Hours Service operates 365 days a year utilising both Council's internal After Hours Team and an externally contracted service provider. The After Hours Service looks after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Animals found after hours.</li> <li>➤ Dog attacks.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Coordination of emergency after hours veterinary care for the above as required.</li> </ul>
Domestic Animal Business Inspections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council conducts annual audits and issues annual registration certificates.</li> <li>• Respond to and investigate complaints.</li> <li>• Undertake unscheduled 'spot' audits of Domestic Animal Businesses to ensure compliance.</li> <li>• Limit the number of animals Domestic Animal Businesses can sell under DAA legislation.</li> <li>• Encourage pet shops to source animals from reputable suppliers, particularly welfare agencies.</li> </ul>
Declared Dogs (Dangerous / Menacing or Restricted Breed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stonnington currently does not have any registered declared dogs.</li> <li>• Annual inspections to be undertaken in accordance with DAA legislation should residents apply to have such dogs registered in the future.</li> </ul>
Crisis care of animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In cases of emergency, Council provides ad hoc crisis care for animals to provide 'peace of mind' to owners and ensure the welfare of animals.</li> <li>• Examples of this includes: coordinating transport, veterinary care and temporary housing of animals.</li> <li>• Situations where this may apply can include but are not limited to: cases of domestic violence, house fires, traffic incidents and other emergencies.</li> </ul>



## Key Actions for 2016-2021

Some of the key actions we will undertake over the next five years include:

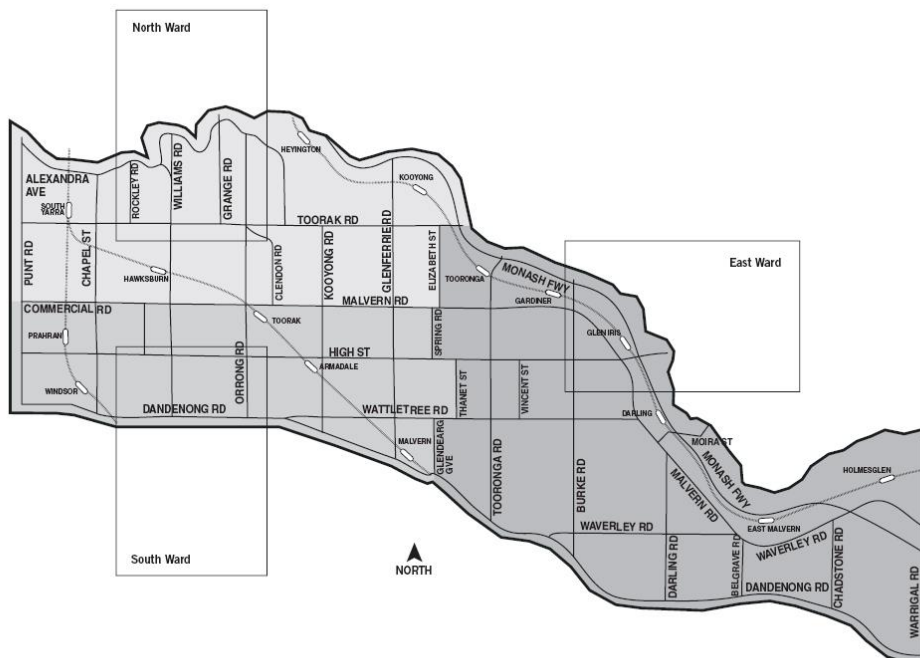
- Advocate to the state government regarding the benefits of the reduced registration initiative currently in place at Stonnington.
- Develop strategies to provide new residents (particularly those in apartment developments) animal registration and responsible pet ownership information.
- Develop information and advice for body corporate associations and developers to provide guidance to assist them in dealing with nuisance animal issues.
- Develop a pet registration kit for use by Domestic Animal Businesses.
- Review the Local Law to:
  - Simplify the definition of 'keeping of animals' and subsequently develop a policy on permits for excess animals.
  - Consider restrictions for cats and dogs living in flats and apartments.
- Continue supporting companion animals in cases of crisis.
- Investigate the feasibility of introducing compulsory desexing of dogs.
- Continue to encourage pet store owners to stop selling puppies and kittens in retail outlets, or at least to stop encouraging impulse buying of puppies and kittens.
- Investigate the feasibility of implementing separate dog waste bins in Council parks and reserves, inclusive of composting capability.
- Explore implementing more effective signage in the community regarding responsible pet ownership and compliance.
- Foster relationships with other councils and government departments to share ideas, data and information.
- Support Animal Management Officers to further develop their suite of skills in handling crisis situations.
- Review the media and communication strategy to ensure its effectiveness and continue to include key message for the community on animal management and welfare issues.

Detailed Action Plans are provided in the Strategic Directions for Animal Management section of this document.

# Background and Context

## Current Stonnington Community Profile

Stonnington is located in Melbourne's inner east, and covers an area of 25.62 square kilometres. It includes the suburbs of Windsor, Toorak, Armadale, Malvern, Malvern East, Kooyong and parts of South Yarra, Prahran and Glen Iris.



Stonnington is primarily a residential area, with some commercial, industrial, office and institutional land uses.

Stonnington has a culturally and economically diverse population with an estimated resident population of 108,903. Housing types range from grand properties to high rise public housing estates. 64% of residents living in medium and high density housing, the community are also on the move with 41% of residents renting (the Greater Melbourne average is 27%).<sup>1</sup>

Stonnington has a relatively young population with 31% of the population aged 20 to 34 years and a median age of 35 years. However, Council acknowledges that the community is diverse in its range of age and needs. Services are planned and provided with this in mind.

Although limited in the amount of open space available, Stonnington does have a variety of parks, gardens and reserves, many of which are well utilised by various sectors of the community.

<sup>1</sup> Condensed from Profile ID -City of Stonnington Community Profile (2016).

## Domestic Animals Profile

City of Stonnington Key Statistics	2015
Population	108,903
Number of households	52,489
Geographic area of municipality	25.62km <sup>2</sup>
EFT Authorised Animal Management Officers (AMO)	2
EFT Authorised AMO's per 1000 households	0.04
Number of complaints or requests annually	1,905
Number of complaints or requests per AMO annually	953
Hours of animal management related training per AMO annually	73.5
Number of registered dogs	7,690
Number of registered declared dogs (dangerous, menacing or restricted breed)	0
Number of registered cats	2,640
Number of registered Domestic Animal Businesses	9
Keeping of animals / excess animals permits issued	77
Number of successful prosecutions	7
Dogs impounded	99
Dogs returned to owner (without being impounded)	90
Dogs rehoused	9
Dogs euthanased	0
Cats impounded	81
Cats returned to owner (without being impounded)	10
Cats rehoused	46
Cats euthanased	7

## Stonnington in the Future

It is estimated that the population in Stonnington will grow to 126,525 people in 2036. This represents a population increase of 16% across the municipality over 20 years.

Residential development forecasts assume that the number of dwellings in Stonnington will increase correspondingly to 63,479 in 2036.

The area of both highest forecast population increase and residential development is South Yarra. This suburb is forecast to have more than 7,500 additional households developed, and a population that is expected to rise from 20,585 to 28,646 (39%).<sup>2</sup>

Open space is a highly valued community priority and it is becoming increasingly scarce as population growth and development density in Stonnington continue to place pressure on all areas of the municipality. Stonnington has the second lowest amount of public open space at 6.7% (20m<sup>2</sup> per person) of any Victorian municipality and with the population increasing, the current average rate of 20m<sup>2</sup> of open space per person is continuing to decline.<sup>3</sup>

Open space issues will be further impacted by the flow on effect of an increase in domestic animal numbers. There will be more demand for use of facilities in open space areas by user groups, including residents who wish to walk their dogs. Council needs to be aware of and prepared for the

<sup>2</sup> Condensed from Forecast ID – City of Stonnington Population Forecasts (2016)

<sup>3</sup> Stonnington – Strategies for Creating Open Space 2013

potential of increased nuisance complaints, attacks and dog waste with the population increases of both people and animals.

Council continues to consider strategies for how to manage the issue of potential conflict between user groups as competition for use of facilities increases. This is not only limited to various open space and recreational facility user groups, but also includes high foot traffic areas such as streets and outdoor dining areas in shopping precincts. How the community uses the built-up amenity together with minimal conflict is an issue that will require consideration.

A high proportion of the community already lives in medium to high density housing developments. This will continue to grow as older traditional homes on large residential blocks are demolished and replaced with high density apartment style living.

Although population and development in Stonnington has consistently increased over the past years, the number of animal registrations has remained relatively stable. Council is considering new strategies for ensuring cats and dogs over three months are registered in accordance with the Domestic Animals Act.

Currently in Stonnington 31% of homes are 'lone person' households (the Greater Melbourne average is 22%). By 2036, this is expected to rise to 35% of households. Council is conscious of a potential community need for emergency or crisis services for companion animals, as many residents live alone. Instances of domestic violence are also increasing and crisis care for animals should also be considered.

Council is aware of and continuing to respond as new digital communication channel preferences evolve. Council's key animal management messages and services will continue to be developed in order to best meet needs and target audiences appropriately.

# Strategic Directions for Animal Management

## 1. Training of Authorised Officers

**Strategic Objective:** To ensure that all staff involved in animal management have the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out their work

Actions in this section address Section 68(A)(2)(b) of the Domestic Animals Act by outlining programs for the training of authorised officers to ensure that they can properly administer and enforce the requirements of this Act.

### Current Situation

The City of Stonnington is located in Melbourne's inner east, and covers an area of 25.62 square kilometres. It includes the suburbs of Windsor, Toorak, Armadale, Malvern, Malvern East, Kooyong and parts of South Yarra, Prahran and Glen Iris.

The Animal Management Unit at Stonnington forms part of the Aged, Diversity, Health and Animal Management Department.

The relatively small geographic area of the municipality and the size of the team means that officers are not allocated job zones, instead they closely collaborate to provide service to the community.

Animal Management services are provided from 8.30am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday. An After Hours service is provided for the collection of stray animals which are preferably delivered to owners in the first instance. Animals will be delivered to the Stonnington Pound in cases where owners are not contactable, animals cannot be identified, or an attack has taken place. The After Hours service is operated by either Council's After Hours team or external provider depending on the time of day.

Animal Management Officers have access to the registration database to assist with identifying and returning animals to their owners. Officers' first priority is to return identified animals to their owners. Enforcement actions against owners are undertaken where required, often after animals have been returned to their home environment.

Animal Management Officers undertake proactive initiatives to minimise nuisance and risk to safety of the community. This includes education and provision of advice, negotiation with residents, and proactive patrols of parks and reserves.

### Current and Ongoing Training Activities

The City of Stonnington's current Animal Management officer training and development activities are designed to ensure that all Animal Management Officers have the necessary training and qualifications to undertake their duties.

Training activities include:

- Formalised training through accredited registered training organisations.
- Short course refresher training on relevant topics.
- Industry forums and training sessions.
- On-the-job training.

### Summary

Council ensures that animal management officers are fully trained. Currently all officers possess Certificate IV in Animal Regulation and Control, or equivalent; first aid training; mental health first aid; and are well versed in the interview, investigation and prosecution processes.

## Plans – Training of Authorised Officers

**Objective 1.1:** Support Animal Management Officers to further develop their suite of skills in handling crisis situations.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
1.1.1	Provide formal CRAF (Common Risk Assessment Framework) training, or similar, to Animal Management Officers.  This training assists professionals who work with victims of family violence and play a role in initial risk assessment, but for whom responses to family violence are not their only core business.	2016	Officers trained.

**Objective 1.2:** Conduct skills audit of all Animal Management staff and provide further training to address any areas for improvement.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
1.2.1	Conduct skills audit and provide training as required.	Ongoing	Ongoing training for continuous improvement.

## 2. Registration and Identification

**Strategic Objective:** To ensure all lost animals are safely and quickly returned to their owners

Actions in this section address Sections 68A(2)(c)(v) and 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f) - by outlining services and strategies to encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats.

### Current Situation

A quick and safe return home for a wandering animal reduces stress on the animal and its owner and reduces the possibility that the animal will cause a nuisance in the community. Registration and micro-chipping are essential to meeting this goal.

The City of Stonnington's registered dog and cat population is:<sup>4</sup>

- Number of registered dogs: 7,690
- Number of registered cats: 2,640

The following two services operate in partnership to deliver a comprehensive lost and found service to the animal owners of the Stonnington community:

- Council's After Hours service provides pick up of animals at large 24 hours per day every day of the year.
- As Council's contracted pound operator, *Save-A-Dog Scheme* provides a lost and found service from 8.00am to 10.00pm, 365 days per year.

### Current and Ongoing Key Programs

Stonnington ensures stray animals are able to be reunited with their owners as soon as possible, and seeks to improve registration rates through these key programs:

- Annual registration renewal notices, including comprehensive follow up process, designed to improve compliance (letters, SMS and phone calls).
- Periodic cross referencing of CAR database with Council's animal registration database.
- Reduced registration incentive for owners who purchase dogs and cats from animal welfare agencies (ie. first 12 months are free of charge).
- Animal registration information in new resident kits.
- Patrols of Council parks, reserves and streets to monitor registration compliance in a constructive way.
- Follow up registration of animals sold through Pounds and Domestic Animal Businesses.
- Media releases information in relation to legislative registration requirements.
- Promotion of registration of animals with the use of magnetic signage on the Animal Management vehicles.
- 'Pets in the Park' free community event – including registration information and advice.

### Current and Ongoing Community Education / Promotion Activities

- The City of Stonnington Animal Management Unit has a comprehensive media and communications strategy in place, including but not limited to a range of activities across the year:
  - Social media.
  - Media releases.
  - Advertorial.

---

<sup>4</sup> Current at April 2016

- Council magazine.
- Brochures and fact sheets.
- Website information.
- Annual 'Pets in the Park' free community event.
- Animal information newsletter mailed to pet owners with registration renewals each year.

## Council Orders, Local Laws and Council Policies

- Annual registration renewal and reminder notices
- Council enforces the legislative requirements of the Domestic Animals Act.
- Legislative requirement for registration of dogs and cats at age of three months.
- Legislative requirement for micro-chipping of all newly registered dogs and cats.
- Compulsory desexing of cats.

## Compliance Activities

- Investigate complaints.
- Proactive and unscheduled patrols as required.
- Humane cat cage system.
- Issue cautions and infringement notices.
- Prosecutions.

## Summary

Stonnington endeavours to reunite lost pets with their owners as a priority. Council will endeavour to maximise the number of registered dogs and cats to aid this process.

## Plans – Registration and Identification

**Objective 2.1:** Advocate to the state government regarding the benefits of the reduced registration initiative currently in place at Stonnington.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
2.1.1	Advocate to the state government the benefits of the recently introduced reduced registration incentive for owners who purchase dogs and cats from animal welfare agencies (i.e. first 12 months are free of charge).	2016-2017	Implementation of enhanced legislation.

*Please note that this objective is repeated in Section 6 – Overpopulation and High Euthanasia – under objective number 6.2*

**Objective 2.2:** Develop strategies to provide new residents (particularly those in apartment developments) animal registration and responsible pet ownership information.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
2.2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of strategy including analysis of most effective delivery methodologies.</li> <li>• Development of documentation.</li> </ul>	2017	Strategy and documentation complete.

*Please note that this objective is repeated in Section 6 – Overpopulation and High Euthanasia – under objective number 6.3*



**Objective 2.3:** Develop a pet registration kit for use by Domestic Animal Businesses.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
2.3.1	Development and distribution of pet registration kit.	2018	Kit developed and distributed.

*Please note that this Objective is repeated in Section 7 – Domestic Animal Businesses – under objective number 7.1.*

### 3. Nuisance

*Strategic Objective: To minimise the potential for domestic animals to create a nuisance*

*Actions in this section address Sections 68A(2)(c)(vi) and 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f) – by outlining programs, services and strategies to minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance.*

#### Current Situation

With over 5,000 kilometres of footpaths and 126 parks and reserves in the City of Stonnington, only a small percentage of these areas can be patrolled in any given period. Although proactive patrols are undertaken, Stonnington primarily relies on community education and voluntary observance to meet the expectations of the community for animal management compliance.

The Animal Management Unit responded to 1,905 animal related requests and enquiries in 2015. The primary domestic animal complaint types received in the City of Stonnington are:

- Dogs found at large.
- Nuisance or barking dogs.
- Dog bite / attack.
- Dog rushing.

#### Current and Ongoing Community Education / Promotion Activities

- The City of Stonnington has a comprehensive media and communications strategy in place, including but not limited to a range of activities across the year:
  - Social media.
  - Media releases.
  - Advertorial.
  - Council magazine.
  - Brochures and fact sheets.
  - Website information.
  - Annual 'Pets in the Park' free community event.
  - Animal information newsletter mailed to pet owners with registration renewals each year.
  - Temporary A-frame signage used in parks and reserves to remind owners of off leash and dog waste requirements.
- Council's Animal Management team creates a physical presence in Council Parks and Reserves by undertaking both proactive and unscheduled patrols of high use areas and 'hot zones' as required.
- Council provides advice to residents on the keeping of animals and responsible pet ownership.
- Information about responsible pet ownership is included in new resident kits.

#### Council Orders, Local Laws and Council Policies

- Orders in place restricting dogs off leash to designated areas and designated reserves.
- Pet owners to remove faeces from public places and carry a means to collect faeces.
- Local Law regulating the number of dogs and cats kept at a property.

## Compliance Activities

- Providing prompt action and information to animal owners concerning barking dogs in accordance with Stonnington's Barking Dog Procedure.
- Providing effective and timely response to the approximately 1,900 animal-related requests per annum.
- Investigating all reported dog attacks in accordance with the provisions of the Domestic Animals Act 1994.
- Using DNA technology as necessary to confirm identity of attacking animals.
- Installing permanent signage in parks and reserves to inform users of off/on leash conditions.
- Utilising temporary A-frame signage in parks and reserves to remind owners of off leash and dog waste requirements.
- Utilising Council's geographic information system (GIS) to identify areas of low registration of animals.
- Providing leashes and dog waste bag holders while patrolling streets and parks to encourage compliance.
- Hiring out of citronella and bark recording collars designed to assist owners in controlling barking dogs.
- Issuing cautions and infringement notices.
- Investigating complaints.
- Prosecutions.
- Proactive and unscheduled patrols conducted as required.
- Humane cat cage system.

## Summary

Council aims to reduce potential for nuisance or harm to others through a range of initiatives. Council also encourage residents to protect the health and welfare of the animal, and maximise the companion benefits of their pet whilst demonstrating behaviours of responsible pet owners.

## Plans – Nuisance

**Objective 3.1:** Develop information and advice for body corporate associations and developers to provide guidance to assist them in dealing with nuisance animal issues

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
3.1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of strategy including analysis of most effective delivery methodologies.</li> <li>• Development of documentation.</li> </ul>	2018	Strategy and documentation complete.

**Objective 3.2:** Review the Local Law

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
3.2.1	Review the Local Law to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simplify the definition of 'keeping of animals' and subsequently develop a policy on permits for excess animals.</li> <li>• Consider restrictions for cats and dogs living in flats and apartments.</li> </ul>	2017	Local Law review complete.

*Please note that this objective is repeated in Section 6 – Overpopulation and High Euthanasia - under objective number 6.1.*

**Objective 3.3:** Explore implementing more effective signage in the community regarding responsible pet ownership and compliance.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
3.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate alternative effective signage options to assist with communicating key messages.</li> <li>Liaise with relevant Council departments to determine feasibility and cost of implementation.</li> </ul>	2019	Investigation conducted.

*Please note that this objective is repeated in Section 5 – Dog Attacks – under objective number 5.1.*

**Objective 3.4:** Investigate the feasibility of implementing separate dog waste bins in Council parks and reserves, inclusive of composting capability.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
3.4.1	Investigate separate dog waste bin options and liaise with relevant Council departments to determine feasibility and cost of implementation.	2017	Investigation conducted.

## 4. Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed Dogs

*Strategic Objective: To minimise the risk of dog attacks to the community*

*Actions in this section address Sections 68A(2)(c)(vi) and 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f) – by outlining programs, services and strategies to effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and to ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this Act and the regulations.*

### Current Situation

In May 2016, the City of Stonnington had no registered declared dogs within the municipality (i.e. menacing, dangerous or restricted breed).

Restricted breed dogs include the following breeds:

- American Pitbull Terrier.
- Pitbull Terrier.
- Dogo Argentino.
- Japanese Tosa.
- Fila Brasileiro.
- Perro De Canario.

Council's Animal Management Officers are trained in identifying restricted breed dogs and respond to reports or sightings of possible restricted breed dogs.

### Current and Ongoing Activities

Programs/activities aimed at minimising the risk to the broader community from declared dangerous, restricted breed and menacing dogs include:

- Respond promptly to notifications of potential restricted breed dogs.
- Respond promptly to notifications of potential menacing or dangerous dogs.
- Review registration applications placed on Council's database with follow-up of suspected restricted breeds.
- Enter into Animal Management Plans as appropriate.

### Council Orders, Local Laws and Council Policies

- Ensure all dogs that meet the Domestic Animals Act 1994 criteria are declared dangerous or menacing.
- Ensure all dogs declared by Council are recorded on the Victorian Declared Dog Registry.

### Current and Ongoing Community Education / Promotion Activities

- The City of Stonnington has a comprehensive media and communications strategy in place, including but not limited to a range of activities across the year:
  - Social media.
  - Media releases.
  - Advertorial.
  - Council magazine.
  - Brochures and fact sheets.

- Website information.
- Annual 'Pets in the Park' free community event.
- Animal information newsletter mailed to pet owners with registration renewals each year.
- Temporary A-frame signage used in parks and reserves to remind owners of off leash and dog waste requirements.

## Compliance Activities

- Investigation of complaints.
- Prosecutions.
- Annual inspections to be undertaken in accordance with provisions of the Domestic Animals Act 1994, should residents apply to have such dogs registered in the future.

## Summary

Council strives to minimise the risks of dog attack to the community and animals from menacing, dangerous or restricted breed dogs.

## Plans – Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed Dogs

**Objective 4.1:** Continue to implement elements of Council's communications/media strategy with regard to dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
4.1.1	Continue strategic community messaging with regard to dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs. Includes scheduled and ad-hoc topics across the year. Utilises social media, media releases, website, advertorial, Council Magazine etc.	Ongoing	Continuation of strategic messaging.

## 5. Dog Attacks

*Strategic Objective: To minimise the risk of dog attacks to the community*

*Actions in this section address Sections 68A(2)(c)(iii) and 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f) - by outlining programs, services and strategies to minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals.*

### Current Situation

We responded to 1,905 animal related requests and enquiries in 2015. The primary domestic animal complaint types received in the City of Stonnington are:

- Dogs found at large.
- Nuisance or barking dogs.
- Dog bite / attack.
- Dog rushing.

### Council Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

- Orders in place restricting dogs off leash to designated areas and designated reserves.
- Local law regulating the number of dogs and cats kept at a property.
- Policy relating to officer response times in the instance of dog attack.

### Current and Ongoing Community Education / Promotion Activities

- The City of Stonnington has a comprehensive media and communications strategy in place, including but not limited to a range of activities across the year:
  - Social media.
  - Media releases.
  - Advertorial.
  - Council magazine.
  - Brochures and fact sheets.
  - Website information.
  - Annual 'Pets in the Park' free community event.
  - Animal information newsletter mailed to pet owners with registration renewals each year.
  - Temporary A-frame signage used in parks and reserves to remind owners of off leash and dog waste requirements.

### Compliance Activities

- Investigate complaints.
- Proactive and unscheduled patrols conducted as required.
- Issue cautions and infringement notices.
- Prosecutions.

### Summary

At all times Council looks towards minimising the risk of dog attacks on people and animals.

## Plans – Dog Attacks

**Objective 5.1:** Explore implementing more effective signage in the community regarding responsible pet ownership and compliance.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
5.1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Investigate alternative effective signage options to assist with communicating key messages.</li><li>Liaise with relevant Council departments to determine feasibility and cost of implementation.</li></ul>	2019	Investigation conducted.

*Please note that this objective is repeated in Section 3 – Nuisance – under objective number 3.3.*

**Objective 5.2:** Continue to implement elements of Council's communications/media strategy with regard to dog attacks.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
5.2.1	Continue strategic community messaging with regard to dog attacks. Includes scheduled and ad-hoc topics across the year. Utilises social media, media releases, website, advertorial, Council Magazine etc.	Ongoing	Continuation of strategic messaging.



## 6. Overpopulation and High Euthanasia

### Strategic Objectives:

- To reduce the number of unwanted animals that are euthanased.
- To encourage people to manage pets in ways that protects the health and welfare of the animal and maximises the companion benefits of their pet

Actions in this section address Sections 68A(2)(c)(iv) and 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)- by outlining programs, services and strategies to address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats.

### Current Situation

The City of Stonnington is committed to ensuring that all unclaimed animals are given the opportunity to find a new home. In meeting this commitment, Council has dedicated significant resources to the housing of animals that need re-homing. Please refer to the Flagship Animal Management Initiatives section of this document for detailed information regarding:

- Stonnington Pound
- Save-A-Dog Scheme

Council strives for positive community and animal welfare based outcomes wherever possible and works hard to reunite animals with owners at first point, without taking animals to the Pound.

Compared to other Victorian Councils, the City of Stonnington has very good rates of returning dogs and cats to their owners, and subsequently low euthanasia rates.

Data - 2015	# animals
Dogs impounded	99
Dogs returned to owner (without being impounded)	90
Dogs rehoused	9
Dogs euthanased	0
Cats impounded	81
Cats returned to owner (without being impounded)	10
Cats rehoused	46
Cats euthanased	7

### Current and Ongoing Activities

- Council's contract with *Save-A-Dog Scheme* for its pound operations includes a stipulation that all unclaimed animals are transferred to the *Save-A-Dog Scheme* shelter for re-homing.
- Discounted desexing vouchers provided for concession and pension card holders.

### Current and Ongoing Community Education / Promotion Activities

- The City of Stonnington has a comprehensive media and communications strategy in place, including but not limited to a range of activities across the year:
  - Social media.
  - Media releases.
  - Advertorial.

- Council magazine.
- Brochures and fact sheets.
- Website information.
- Annual 'Pets in the Park' free community event.
- Animal information newsletter mailed to pet owners with registration renewals each year.

## Council Orders, Local Laws and Council Policies

- Legislative requirement for desexing and micro-chipping of all newly registered dogs and cats.
- Compulsory desexing of cats.

## Compliance Activities

- Investigate complaints.
- Proactive and unscheduled patrols as required.
- Humane cat cage system.
- Issue cautions and infringement notices.
- Prosecutions.

## Summary

It is Council's aim to further reduce the number of unwanted animals that are euthanased. We encourage people to manage pets in ways that protects the health and welfare of the animal. Our relationship with Save-a-Dog Scheme will also assist to increase the rate of animal rehoming.

## Plans – Overpopulation and High Euthanasia

### Objective 6.1: Review the Local Law

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
6.1.1	Review the Local Law to: 1) Simplify the definition of 'keeping of animals' and subsequently develop a policy on permits for excess animals. 2) Consider restrictions for cats and dogs living in flats and apartments	2017	Local Law review complete.

*Please note that this objective is repeated in Section 3 – Nuisance – under objective number 3.2.*

### Objective 6.2 Advocate to the state government regarding the benefits of the reduced registration initiative currently in place at Stonnington

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
6.2.1	Advocate to the state government the benefits of the recently introduced reduced registration incentive for owners who purchase dogs and cats from animal welfare agencies (ie. first 12 months are free of charge).	2016-2017	Implementation of enhanced legislation.

*Please note that this objective is repeated in Section 2 – Registration and Identification – under objective number 2.1*

**Objective 6.3:** Develop strategies to provide new residents (particularly those in apartment developments) animal registration and responsible pet ownership information.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
6.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of strategy including analysis of most effective delivery methodologies.</li> <li>• Development of documentation.</li> </ul>	2017	Strategy and documentation complete.

*Please note that this objective is repeated in Section 2 – Registration and Identification – under objective number 2.2.*

**Objective 6.4:** Continue to encourage pet store owners to stop selling puppies and kittens in retail outlets, or at least to stop encouraging impulse buying of puppies and kittens.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
6.4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to limit the number of animals pet stores can sell under DAA legislation.</li> <li>• Continue to provide pet store owners with animal welfare information, and encourage them to source animals from reputable suppliers.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Ongoing liaison with pet store owners.

*Please note that this objective is repeated in Section 7 – Domestic Animal Businesses – under objective number 7.2.*

**Objective 6.5:** Investigate the feasibility of introducing compulsory desexing of dogs.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
6.5.1	Investigate the introduction of compulsory desexing of dogs, including determination of community impact, feasibility and cost of implementation.	2020	Investigation conducted.

## 7. Domestic Animal Businesses

*Strategic Objective: To ensure all domestic animal businesses maintain the highest standards of animal welfare.*

*Actions in this section address Sections 68A(2)(c)(ii) and 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(d),(f) – by outlining programs, services and strategies which the Council intends to pursue in its municipal district to ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations and any related legislation.*

### Current Situation

The City of Stonnington has nine Domestic Animal Businesses. Officers inspect these facilities on an annual basis to ensure they are in full compliance with all relevant Acts and Codes of Practice prior to the renewal of registration.

Council also encourages informal communication between these businesses and the Animal Management Unit.

### Council Orders, Local Laws and Council Policies

- Enforcement of the legislative requirements of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 and relevant Codes of Practice.
- Limit the number of animals that can be held at a pet shop at any one time, in accordance with the provisions of the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

### Current Education / Promotion Activities

- Providing each animal business with up-to-date animal welfare information and registration application forms for all new purchased dogs and cats.
- Encouraging pet shops to source animals from reputable suppliers, particularly welfare agencies.

### Compliance Activities

- Annually inspecting all domestic animal businesses prior to the renewal of registration.
- Investigation of complaints / enforcement action for non-compliance.
- Responding to any complaint lodged about a Domestic Animal Business and ensuring their compliance with the Codes of Practice.
- Undertake unscheduled 'spot' audits of Domestic Animal Businesses to ensure compliance.

### Summary

Council works with Domestic Animal Businesses to ensure compliance with standards, and to protect the welfare of animals.

### Plans – Domestic Animal Businesses

**Objective 7.1:** Develop a pet registration kit for use by Domestic Animal Businesses.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
7.1.1	Development and distribution of pet registration kit.	2018	Kit developed and distributed.

*Please note that this Objective is repeated in Section 2 – Registration and Identification – under objective number 2.3.*

**Objective 7.2:** Continue to encourage pet store owners to stop selling puppies and kittens in retail outlets, or at least to stop encouraging impulse buying of puppies and kittens.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
7.2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to limit the number of animals pet stores can sell under DAA legislation.</li><li>• Continue to provide pet store owners with animal welfare information, and encourage them to source animals from reputable suppliers.</li></ul>	Ongoing	Ongoing liaison with pet store owners.

*Please note that this objective is repeated in Section 6 – Overpopulation and High Euthanasia - under objective number 6.4.*

## 8. Other Matters

*Actions in this section address Section 68A(2)(e) by providing for the review of any other matters related to the management of dogs and cats in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary.*

### Crisis Care of Animals

In cases of emergency, Council provides ad hoc crisis care for animals to provide 'peace of mind' to owners and ensure the welfare of animals. This may include coordination of transport, emergency veterinary services and temporary housing of animals where required.

Situations where this may apply can include but are not limited to cases of domestic violence, house fires, traffic incidents and other emergencies.

### Communication and Education

Council applies a strategic approach to provide education and communication initiatives to the community on animal management and welfare issues. This approach touches on all aspects of responsible pet ownership and seeks to effectively target the varied demographic population of the community.

### Plans – Other Matters

**Objective 8.1:** Continue supporting companion animals in cases of crisis.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
8.1.1	Development of guidelines and accompanying process documentation.	2017	Guidelines and processes developed.

**Objective 8.2:** Foster relationships with other councils and government departments to share ideas, data and information.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
8.2.1	Undertake activities to build relationships.	Ongoing	Annual report of outcomes.

**Objective 8.3:** Review the media and communication strategy to ensure its effectiveness and continue to include key messages for the community on animal management and welfare issues.

#	Activity	When	Evaluation
8.3.1	Enhance our media and communication strategy, with particular emphasis on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education initiatives regarding registration and desexing of cats and dogs.</li> <li>• Promote responsible management of cats and dogs as part of the community.</li> <li>• Promote the benefits of dog obedience training.</li> <li>• Education to assist residents to understand dog behaviour.</li> <li>• Reinforce the benefits of companion animals.</li> <li>• Encourage residents to obtain animals from welfare associations.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Strategy document revised.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote 'apps' that help people select appropriate animal breeds and types.</li><li>• Promote use of 'media alerts' to assist Council to reactively respond to 'hot topics'.</li><li>• Cross-promotion of events and initiatives with neighbouring Councils.</li></ul> <p>Work with other Council departments to provide a more coordinated approach to community education initiatives.</p>		
--	--	--

## Annual Review of Plan and Annual Reporting

*Strategic Objective: To ensure that all programs and activities are monitored and evaluated*

68A(3) Every Council must—

- (a) *review its domestic animal management plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan*
- (b) *provide the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan*
- (c) *publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.*

### Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Process

The monitoring of the performance of the plan will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Act. In addition, Council will continue to conduct its monthly monitoring of the performance of the Animal Management Unit. The results of this monthly monitoring will enable Council to adjust the Plan, ahead of the annual review. The results are also reported to Council's Executive Management Team meetings, which are conducted on a monthly basis.

### Current and Reporting Activities

- Developing and monitoring KPIs for the Animal Management Unit
- Reporting on KPIs to the Executive Management Team
- Annually reporting to the community through the Council Annual Report and Council Plan.
- Identifying, monitoring and evaluating new programs through the Department's Business Plan.
- Evaluating Animal Management programs and activities.
- Annually reviewing Council Orders made under the Domestic Animals Act 1994 and Council's Local Laws relating to animals



## Key Performance Indicators

KPI Description	Target	Actual 2015	Comment
Enforcement success rate (% successful prosecutions / total prosecutions)	100%	100%	100%
Animal nuisance / dog barking complaints (number of animal complaints per 1000 population)	20	20	1905 animal complaints / 93,145 people
Dog rehousing rate (% total dogs rehoused / total dogs impounded)	12%	9%	9 of 99 dogs impounded
Cat rehousing rate (% total cats rehoused / total cats impounded)	50%	57%	46 of 81 cats impounded
Dog reclaim rate (% total dogs reclaimed / total dogs impounded)	88%	91%	90 of 99 dogs impounded
Cat reclaim rate (% total cats reclaimed / total cats impounded)	25%	12%	10 of 81 cats impounded
Dog euthanasia rate (% total dogs euthanased / total dogs impounded)	1%	0%	0 of 99 dogs impounded
Cat euthanasia rate (% total cats euthanased / total cats impounded)	9%	9%	7 of 81 cats impounded
Domestic Animal Business Compliance Rates (number registered / number audits)	100%	100%	100%

### Review Cycle / Date for this Plan

This plan will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Manager Aged, Diversity, Health and Animal Management.

The Plan will be reviewed and a new Domestic Animal Management Plan will be completed on or before 30 June 2021.

## Appendices

### Appendix A – Council Orders

#### **RESOLVED BY COUNCIL 25 JUNE 2012**

---

*Notice is hereby given that, at its meeting held on 25 June 2012, the Council of the City of Stonnington resolved to make an Order under section 10A(1) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 to not accept the registration of a cat unless the cat is de-sexed or exempted under the Domestic Animals Act 1994 from any requirement to be de-sexed, effective 1 July 2012.*

*Exemptions relevant to this Order include:*

*1. The following cats do not have to be de-sexed to be registered or to have their registration renewed by a Council in accordance with section 10B of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 –*

*(a) a cat that is owned by a person or body that conducts a domestic animal business under which cats are bred and the cat is used for breeding purposes in connection with that business;*

*(b) a cat that is owned by a person who is a current member of an applicable organisation and the animal is registered with that organisation;*

*(c) a cat that is the subject of written veterinary advice that the health of the cat is liable to be significantly prejudiced if it is de-sexed.*

*2. Renewal of an existing registration.*

*3. Where applicants have an objection to de-sexing a cat when required to be registered at three months of age, they may apply for a deferral for the first year of registration after which time proof of de-sexing must be provided to Council. Council will not accept the renewal of registration of a cat that has had de-sexing deferred at the time of renewal.*

*This Order covers all areas of the municipality.*

#### **RESOLVED BY COUNCIL DECEMBER 2013**

---

*The following declaration be made under section 26 Domestic Animals Act 1994:*

*Domestic Animals Act 1994 Section 26(2)*

*Order of The Stonnington City Council*

*1. Revocation of Previous Orders:*

*All previous Orders made by Council under section 26(2) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 are revoked.*

*2. Dogs Must Be on a Leash:*

*The person in apparent control of any dog must keep the dog restrained by means of a chain, cord or leash not greater than 3 metres in length, and is attached to the dog when the dog is:*

- in any reserve or area other than a Designated Area or Designate Reserve; or*
- in any Public Place in the municipality; and*
- the chain, cord or leash must be held by or attached to the person in apparent control of the dog.*

*3. Dogs in a Designated Area or Designated Reserve:*

*Subject to clause 6 of this Order, a dog may be exercised off a chain, cord or leash in a Designated Area or Designated Reserve if the person in apparent control of the dog carries an operational and effective chain, cord or leash.*

*4. Dogs Must Be Under Effective Control*

*The person in apparent control of any dog must ensure that the dog is under effective control at all times when in any reserve or Public Place within the municipality, including a Designated Area or Designated Reserve.*

*5. Dogs Prohibited*

*Dogs are prohibited from:*

- (a) Sports grounds during sports club and school training and match times; and*
- (b) Children's playground areas.*

6. *Non-application to Specified Dogs or Greyhounds*

*Clause 3 of this Order does not apply to any dog which has been declared a dangerous dog, menacing dog or restricted breed dog under the Act, or to a greyhound that must be restrained in accordance with the restraint requirements at section 27 of the Act.*

*Meaning of Words:*

*In this Order:*

*"Act" means the Domestic Animals Act 1994.*

*"Council" means Stonnington City Council.*

*"Designated Area" or "Designated Reserve" means any of the following reserves or part of the reserves:*

*Ardrie Park – Oval – Howard Street, Malvern East;*

*Armadale Reserve – Sutherland Road, Armadale;*

*Brookeville Gardens – Fairbairn Road, Toorak;*

*Caroline Gardens – Caroline Street South, South Yarra;*

*Central Park Oval – Burke Road, Malvern East;*

*Chris Gahan Reserve – Hornby Street, Windsor, 6am to 9am – 4pm to 8pm;*

*Como Park – Alexandra Avenue, South Yarra;*

*Darling Park – Maxwell Street, Glen Iris;*

*DW Lucas Oval – Dunlop Street, Glen Iris;*

*Gardiner Park – Carroll Crescent, Glen Iris;*

*Lumley Gardens – Eastern Half – Lumley Crescent, Prahran;*

*Malvern Cricket Ground – High Street, Malvern;*

*Milton Grey Reserve – Wattletree Road, Malvern, 5pm to 9am;*

*Orrong Romanis Reserve – Orrong Road, Prahran;*

*Percy Treyvaud – Quentin Road, East Malvern;*

*Pevevill Park – Pevevill Street, East Malvern;*

*Princes Gardens – Essex Street, Prahran;*

*Sir Robert Menzies Reserve – Toorak Road, Malvern;*

*Sir Zelman Cowan Park – Glenferrie Road, Kooyong;*

*South Yarra Siding – William Street, South Yarra;*

*Stanley Gross Reserve – Winton Road, Malvern East;*

*Sydare Reserve – Southern Section – Waverley Road, East Malvern (western side of Sydare Avenue);*

*Tooronga Park – Milton Parade, Malvern;*

*Union Street Gardens – Orchard Street, Armadale, 5pm to 9am;*

*Victoria Gardens Oval – High Street, Prahran (sunken oval area);*

*Victory Square – Ashleigh Road, Armadale;*

*Waverley Oval – Malvern Road/Waverley Road, East Malvern;*

*Windsor Siding – Union Street, Windsor.*

*"Effective Control" means, but is not limited to:*

- capable of being controlled if the dog behaves in a manner which threatens or worries any person or animal; and*
- capable of being controlled to such an extent that no damage and or injury could be or is caused to any person or animal; and*
- is under effective voice and or hand control and within constant sight; and*
- is restrained and prevented from digging, burrowing or otherwise disturbing turf, grassed areas or the earth in any way; and*
- is restrained and prevented from damaging property or Council assets.*

*"person" means a natural person.*

*"Public Place" has the meaning given to it in the Summary Offences Act 1966.*

## Appendix B – Local Laws

### PART 8 - KEEPING OF ANIMALS

---

#### Application of Part

800 This Part does not apply to land:

- a) on which a pet shop is located; or
- b) on which an animal hospital or veterinary practice is located

if the use of the land for this purpose is permitted under the Planning Scheme applicable to that land.

#### Conditions under Which Animals May be Kept

801 (2) The owner and occupier of land must not, without a Permit, keep or allow to be kept on that land at any time no more in number for each type of Animal than is set out in the following table:

Cats	2
Cats under 3 months	12
Cattle	0
Dogs	3
Dogs under 3 months	12
Domestic Birds	10
Domestic Mice	6
Large Birds	0
Pigeons	0
Pigs	0
Rabbits/Guinea Pigs	10
Sheep	0
Poultry	0
Any other agricultural animals	0

Sub-Clause (1) does not apply where a planning permit has been obtained for the use of land for the purposes of animal boarding or breeding.

A Permit may be granted for any Animals listed in the table of sub-Clause (1) if the Animals are part of a display for education, cultural or historical purposes.

## Conditions under which an Animal may be housed

802 The owner and occupier of any land on which any Animal is kept must ensure that:

- a) the ground surrounding the place where the Animal is kept is free from dry grass, weeds, refuse rubbish or other material capable of harbouring rodents or vermin;
- b) the place where the Animal is kept and the surrounding area is well drained;
- c) all food for consumption by the Animal is kept or stored in a vermin and fly proof receptacle;
- d) any area where the Animal is kept is thoroughly cleaned as often as necessary to keep the area clean and sanitary at all times;
- e) subject to Veterinary advice, any Animal suffering from any infectious disease communicable to human beings, is if deemed necessary, to be destroyed and disposed;
- f) all manure, excrement, refuse or rubbish produced or accumulated by the Animal is as soon as practicable placed in a container which:
  - is vermin and fly proof;
  - has impervious walls and floor;
  - is maintained in a good state of repair so as to prevent the escape or leakage of its contents;
  - is kept covered with a vermin and fly proof lid; and
  - is maintained in a clean and sanitary condition; and
  - the contents are removed and disposed of as is necessary;
- g) no feathers, carcass or any part of any carcass is burnt.

## Animal Noises

803 (5) The owner and occupier of land where any Animal is kept must ensure that the keeping of the Animal does not create a nuisance.

(6) An Animal creates a nuisance for the purpose of sub-Clause (1) if it creates a noise by any means and unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of any person.

## Animal Excrement

804 (7) A person in charge of any Animal in a Public Place must immediately remove that Animal's excrement and dispose of it as litter in a lawful manner.

(8) A person in charge of any Animal in a Public Place must carry a Litter Device suitable to clean up and remove any excrement left by his or her Animal and must produce that Litter Device upon request of an Authorised Officer.

(9) A person who fails to produce a Litter Device when requested to do so is guilty of an offence.

## Wasp Nest(s) To Be Removed

805 The owner and occupier of land must, upon becoming aware of the existence of a wasp's nest or nests on the land, immediately take steps to cause that nest or those nests to be removed.

## Pest Animals

806 (10) A person must not keep, store or allow to be kept or stored on land any prepared food for consumption by an Animal unless the food is stored in a manner secure from all vermin, feral and stray Animals.

(11) A person must not, without a Permit, feed or encourage the presence of feral Animals, stray Animals or foxes nor allow any such Animals access to prepared food stored or issued to Animals.

## Animals on Road or Council Land

807 A person in charge of a grazing Animal must not, unless with a Permit, allow that animal to be upon any Road or Council Land.

## Fencing

808 The owner and occupier of land on which a dog is kept must ensure that all boundary fencing is adequate to keep the dog wholly within the boundaries of the land.