

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**4.1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20 OCTOBER 2025****ATTACHMENT ITEM**

98051 Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes 20 October 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held Monday 20 October 2025 as per copies supplied to members be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting.

4.2. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2025**ATTACHMENT ITEM**

100604 Special Council Meeting Minutes 11 November 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held Tuesday 11 November 2025 as per copies supplied to members be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting.

5. ADJOURNED ITEMS**5.1. DRAFT CITY OF PORT LINCOLN ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN - PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Due to the formal motion passed at the 20 October 2025, the following proposed motion lay on the table pending an opportunity provided to Elected Members to review the draft Animal Management Plan document.

FORMAL MOTION

CO 25/233

Moved: Councillor Ritchie

Seconded: Councillor Hollamby

That Item 12.10 Draft City of Port Lincoln Animal Management Plan – Public Consultation lie on the Table until the next Council meeting on 17 November 2025 to provide Elected Members with time to review the draft Animal Management Plan document.

CARRIED

Procedural Matters

Prior to the recommendation provided in the current report, it is not necessary for Council to consider the recommendation in the previous report as the motion was not moved therefore had not yet become a motion.

It is noted that no formal debate on this matter had occurred as there was no mover for the original motion on 20 October 2025. For this reason, no motion had arisen which could have been debated.

6. QUESTIONS WITH AND WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

7. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

8. PETITIONS

Nil

9. DEPUTATIONS/REPRESENTATIONS

9.1. PORT LINCOLN MUROTO FRIENDSHIP GROUP – UPDATE TO COUNCIL

Members of the Port Lincoln Muroto Friendship Group make a presentation to update elected members on their recent activities as well as plans for 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the deputation by Port Lincoln Muroto Friendship Group.

10. ELECTED MEMBERS REPORTS

10.1. MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT 21 OCTOBER TO 15 NOVEMBER 2025

DATE	ACTIVITY	OUTCOMES
21 October	Meeting with AMA(SA) President (Dr John Williams)	
	Welcome Governor-General to Port Lincoln upon arrival at airport	
22 October	Governor-General visit to Port Lincoln - Welcome and media opportunity at Port Lincoln Hotel - Foreshore Redevelopment Project walking tour - Factory tour – The Fresh Fish Place - Seafood Industry SA presentation and lunch at Marina Hotel	Presentation of First Official Invitation to Tunarama

5.1 DRAFT CITY OF PORT LINCOLN ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN - PUBLIC CONSULTATION

REPORT INFORMATION								
Report Title	Draft City of Port Lincoln Animal Management Plan – Public Consultation							
Document ID	96874							
Organisational Unit	Environment & Infrastructure							
Responsible Officer	Manager Development & Regulatory - Theo Theodosiou							
Report Attachment/s	Yes 97414 Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030							
REPORT PURPOSE								
The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the review of the City of Port Lincoln's existing Animal Management Plan and to seek endorsement to commence community consultation on the draft 2026–2030 Animal Management Plan, as required under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.								
REPORT DECISION MAKING CONSIDERATIONS								
Council Role	Regulate - Specific role in response to legislation and compliance - direct, specific or general in nature (such as duty of care)							
Strategic Alignment	SDP GOAL: Goal 3: Governance and Leadership SDP ACTION: Choose an item.							
Annual Business Plan 2024/25	ABP INITIATIVE: Choose an item. ABP PROJECT: Choose an item.							
Annual Business Plan 2025/26	ABP INITIATIVE: Choose an item. ABP PROJECT: Choose an item.							
Legislation	Dog and Cat Management Act 1995							
Policy	Not Applicable							
Budget Implications	Not Applicable <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>DESCRIPTION</th> <th>BUDGET AMOUNT \$</th> <th>YTD \$</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Budget assessment comments:		DESCRIPTION	BUDGET AMOUNT \$	YTD \$			
DESCRIPTION	BUDGET AMOUNT \$	YTD \$						
Risk Implications	Low Risk							
Resource Implications	This is a planned resource allocation							
Public Consultation	Yes - Mandatory							
IAP2 Commitment	CONSULT - We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public feedback input has influenced the decision.							

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the draft City of Port Lincoln Animal Management Plan (Doc 97414) (with minor administrative and graphic amendments) for the purpose of public consultation in accordance with Council's adopted Community Consultation Policy.

REPORT DETAIL

The current Animal Management Plan for the City of Port Lincoln is outdated and no longer adequately reflects the current needs, expectations, and challenges of animal management in our community. Under Section 26A of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*, all councils are required to develop and maintain an Animal Management Plan, reviewed at least every five years, to guide the management of dogs and cats within their jurisdictions.

The Dog and Cat Management Board (DCMB) oversees compliance with this legislative requirement and must approve each council's Plan. The review of the current Plan ensures that it aligns with legislative changes, reflects up-to-date community values, and incorporates contemporary best practices in animal management.

Why the Plan has been reviewed

The existing Plan has exceeded its intended life span and no longer provides adequate guidance on emerging issues, including increasing urban development, dog-on-leash compliance, responsible pet ownership, and environmental protections in public spaces.

The review was initiated to:

- Comply with the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*;
- Update Council's animal management approach based on community expectations;
- Reflect data collected from Council's compliance activities, dog attack reports, and beach usage observations;
- Support public safety, environmental protection, and responsible pet ownership.

Objectives of the Draft Animal Management Plan

The draft 2026–2030 Animal Management Plan (Attachment 1) sets out to:

- Promote responsible dog and cat ownership;
- Reduce public and environmental nuisance caused by uncontrolled animals;
- Support the safety and enjoyment of shared public spaces;
- Encourage registration and microchipping of pets;
- Manage cat and dog population growth and promote de-sexing;
- Provide clear, enforceable rules on dog access in public spaces.

Key Proposed Changes in the Draft Plan

Several key changes have been proposed based on community concerns, best practice research, and enforcement trends, including:

- **Foreshore Area**
Proposed to become **on-leash at all times**, reflecting high pedestrian traffic, proximity to food businesses, and community safety concerns.
- **Laguna Beach**
Currently an off-leash area, it is now proposed to be **on-leash at all times** due to environmental sensitivity and increasing recreational use.

Other changes include:

- Updated dog exercise and on-leash zones throughout the city;
- Clarification of responsibilities for owners in off-leash areas;
- Strengthened provisions for cat containment and registration;
- Clearer enforcement protocols and community education measures.

Next Steps

Pending Council's endorsement of the draft Plan for consultation, the following process will occur:

1. **Public Consultation Period (minimum 21 days)**
Community members will be invited to provide feedback via Council's website, Yoursay, social media, and physical information points.
2. **Review and Consideration of Submissions**
All feedback will be analysed and used to refine the Plan.
3. **Final Draft and Council Adoption**
A final version of the Plan will be presented to Council, incorporating community feedback, for formal adoption.
4. **Submission to Dog and Cat Management Board**
Once adopted by Council, the Plan must be submitted to the DCMB for formal review and approval.

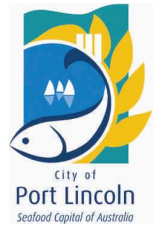
The Animal Management Plan is currently in draft format. As such, the document is subject to change and will undergo a number of administrative, graphic, and content-related amendments following the public consultation period. Community feedback is a vital part of this process, and all input received will be carefully considered to help shape the final version of the Plan.

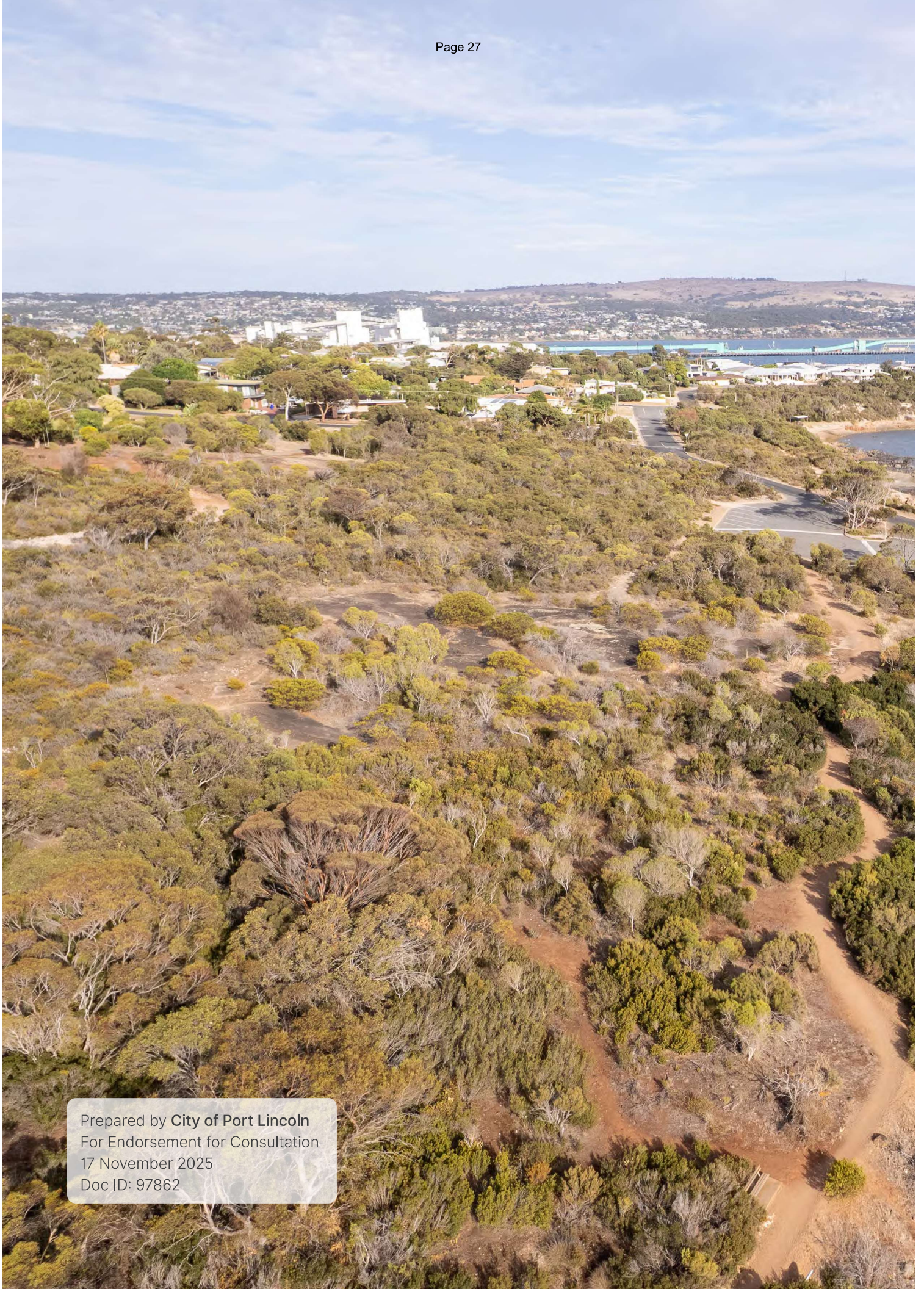
The City of Port Lincoln remains committed to promoting responsible dog and cat ownership, protecting public safety, and preserving the shared use and enjoyment of our natural and urban environments. The review and renewal of the Animal Management Plan reflects Council's proactive approach to addressing emerging challenges in dog and cat management and its responsibility under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.

By endorsing the draft Plan for public consultation, Council reaffirms its dedication to working in partnership with the community, stakeholders, and the Dog and Cat Management Board to implement practical, balanced, and sustainable animal management strategies for the benefit of all residents and visitors.

CITY OF PORT LINCOLN

DRAFT ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026-2030





Prepared by **City of Port Lincoln**
For Endorsement for Consultation
17 November 2025
Doc ID: 97862

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Barngarla People, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the City of Port Lincoln rests and their continuing connection to land, sea, culture, and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging, and we extend that respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in our community.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Dog and Cat Management Act, enacted in 1995, introduced a new legal framework in South Australia that encompasses both dogs and cats. Its objectives are to encourage responsible ownership, reduce public and environmental nuisances caused by these animals, and promote effective management, including encouraging de-sexing.

Following the Act's introduction, animal control has expanded its scope to encompass various contexts. A comprehensive understanding of both animal and human behaviours is now essential for those working in this field.

Recognising that enforcing laws alone won't lead to lasting, voluntary behavioural changes, the plan emphasises the need for a range of non-regulatory approaches, such as public education and improved signage.

In response to the Council's adoption of a planned approach to fulfil its responsibilities under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*, the City of Port Lincoln, in collaboration with the Dog and Cat Management Board, has developed this Animal Management Plan. This five-year plan aims to guide domestic animal management within the City of Port Lincoln.

The plan outlines strategies and actions to implement the vision, aims, and objectives for domestic animal management. To ensure community engagement, the draft plan has been circulated for public comment before its adoption by the Council.

The plan contains a comprehensive set of strategies for a programmed approach to various actions undertaken by the Council. These strategies will enable the Council to maintain a balance between competing interests and adapt domestic animal management to meet new requirements.

The Council's Strategic Directions Plan 2025-2034 mandates that the Council provide services that maximise the social, economic, residential, and environmental benefits to the people of the City of Port Lincoln.

There's now ample evidence to support our understanding of the advantages of pet ownership. This suggests a potential new role for the Council in capitalising on these benefits or at least ensuring the community's continued ability to own dogs and cats. In this evolving landscape, it's crucial that the Council adopts a strategic approach to managing domestic pets within its community.

This strategy will provide the Council with a solid foundation and direction to guide planning, coordination, and future decisions aimed at meeting the community's needs over the next five years.

VISION STATEMENT

To recognise that companion animals are part of the community, contributing to its quality of life, and to ensure that the needs of animals and their owners are accommodated while recognising the differing needs of non-pet owners of the community.



DEFINITIONS

Approved kennel establishment means a building, structure or area approved by a relevant authority, pursuant to the *Planning, Development, and Infrastructure Act 2016*, for the keeping of dogs on a temporary or permanent basis.

Cat has the same meaning as in the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*;

Children's playground means an enclosed area in which there is equipment or other installed devices for the purpose of children's play (or within five metres of such devices if there is no enclosed area).

Council means City of Port Lincoln;

Detached dwelling row dwelling and semi-detached dwelling have the same meanings as in the *Planning, Development, and Infrastructure Act 2016*;

Dog has the same meaning as in the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*;

Effective control means a person exercising effective control of a dog either;

- By means of physical restraint; or
- By command, the dog being in close proximity to the person and the person being able to see the dog at all times;

Foreshore defined as the low water mark to the street frontage;

Keep includes the provision of food or shelter;

Performance Measures are quantitative and qualitative statistical information used to assess how successfully objectives are achieved;

Lead restraining device to keep control of a dog by means of a chain, cord or leash that does not exceed two (2) metres;

On-leash the dog is restrained by a responsible person on a suitable lead;

Off-leash the dog is unrestrained by a lead, but under **effective control** by command;

Premises includes land, whether used or occupied for domestic or non-domestic purposes, except an approved kennel establishment;

Prohibited means that a person must not allow a dog under that person's control, charge, or authority (except an accredited assistance dog) to enter or remain;

Small Dwelling means a self-contained residence that is:

- a residential flat building;
- contained in a separate strata unit;
- on an allotment less than 400 to 600 square metres in area; or
- without a secure yard of at least 100 square metres in area.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES



PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE DOG AND CAT OWNERSHIP TO ENSURE THE WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF THESE BELOVED PETS.

- Promote, identification and registration of dogs and the identification of cats to enable reunion of lost pets with their owners and control of un-owned animals.
- Promote de-sexing and microchipping of dogs through differential registration fees.
- Policing of provisions of Dog and Cat Management Act.
- Provide advice to assist people in dealing with unwanted pets.
- Promote obedience and socialization programs, puppy preschool.
- Promote events that encourage responsible dog and cat ownership on Council's website and notice boards.

ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY, IMPROVE AMENITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

- Provide easy access to public open space areas for regular utilisation by animal owners as exercise areas.
- Establish a community consultation process designed to identify the needs of constituents in relation to public open space.
- Provide access to specific dog friendly areas for owners and dogs e.g., agility areas, unmown areas.
- Provide access to specific off leash areas to meet the 'free running' needs of companion animals.
- Provide specific areas which are designated as prohibited zones for dogs.
- Ensure that all areas designated as off leash or prohibited are furnished with adequate signage.
- Maintain adequate local impoundment facilities for temporary protection of lost or un-owned animals.

EMBRACE THE ADVANTAGES OF DOG AND CAT COMPANIONSHIP.

- Inform the community of the social and economic benefits of pet ownership to the community.
- Establishing links with and encourage the cooperation, expertise, and support of key players within Port Lincoln.
- Assist with training and education of children to be responsible pet owners.
- Encourage the training and education of animals to facilitate their integration into the community.
- Educate pet owners in responsible ownership.

Performance Measures

- Increase in desexed, microchipped, and registered dogs
- Reduction in un-registered dogs
- Increase in number of dogs reunited with their owners when found wandering at large
- Reduction in the number of dogs found wandering at large
- Reduction in harassment/nuisance/barking complaints
- Reduction in animal management faeces complaints
- Improvements identified and implemented

POLICY CONTEXT

The City of Port Lincoln's Strategic Directions Plan 2025-2034 serves as the Council's primary strategic planning document. It outlines the overall direction the Council intends to pursue, along with more specific goals and key actions. This plan forms the foundation for developing the vision, aims, and objectives for domestic animal management, as outlined in the previous section.

The development of this strategy takes place within the broader planning context, considering the process for developing strategies as outlined below.

The Strategic Directions Plan includes the Council's Vision Statement, which reads:

"An inclusive, connected and sustainable community committed to excellence in lifestyle, culture, industry and innovation."

The Animal Management Plan aligns closely with the goals of the City of Port Lincoln Strategic Directions Plan by:

- **Goal 2 (Liveable & Active Communities):** Fostering health, safety, inclusive recreation, and better use of public open spaces.
- **Goal 3 (Governance & Leadership):** Providing a transparent, accountable framework, built with community input, for managing risks and compliance.
- **Goal 5 (Community Assets & Placemaking):** Integrating animal-friendly infrastructure as public assets, improving the usability, attractiveness, and sustainability of shared spaces.





RELEVANT LEGISLATION

The Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 outlines the responsibilities for dog and cat management in South Australia. Under the Act, councils are mandated to administer and enforce the provisions pertaining to dogs within their jurisdiction. These responsibilities include appointing a Registrar, maintaining a Dog Register, appointing at least two Officers responsible for animal management, and making arrangements for dogs seized. Additionally, councils have By-Laws (refer to Council's By-Law No. 5) related to the management of dogs within their area.

The Act also establishes the Dog and Cat Management Board, which is responsible for:

- Plan, promote, and provide advice on effective management of dogs and cats in the state. Monitor councils' management of their responsibilities, issue guidelines for councils, and assist councils in fulfilling their responsibilities.
- The Board also has a responsibility to advise the Minister for Sustainability, Environment, and Conservation to periodically review the Act, conduct research on companion animal management, and develop educational programs for Officers responsible for animal management and community awareness.
- The Act also allows a council to appoint a cat management officer or officers for its area and can enact By-Laws concerning cats within its jurisdiction.

While these provisions establish the legal framework for the council's responsibilities and the penalties that can be imposed on dog owners for non-compliance, this Plan aims to adopt a balanced approach that addresses the communities' needs. This approach will not only benefit dogs, cats, and their owners, who have legitimate needs, but also the wider community and those responsible for animal management.



1. Enforcement

- The Dog and Cat Management Act mandates the Council to enforce its provisions within its jurisdiction. Initially, the Council will adopt an approach of encouraging pet owners to voluntarily accept their responsibilities and comply with the Act's provisions.
- However, the community expects public places to be monitored to ensure compliance with the Act's provisions. They also expect appropriately trained and authorised individuals to respond to community concerns and serious breaches of the Act and Council By-Laws.
- The Council will allocate sufficient resources to offer after-hours services that meet the community's expectations.



2. Resources

- The Council will enforce the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act and Council By-Laws within its jurisdiction, following these guidelines as a reference.
- The Council has a Registrar and two employees who are responsible for animal management. They ensure that the necessary training and equipment are provided to carry out their duties effectively.
- The Council will diligently monitor all public spaces to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Act and the Council By-Laws.
- The Council will respond to calls and complaints from the public regarding violations of the Act and Council By-Laws.
- Section 26(3) of the Dog & Cat Management Act requires any revenue generated from its provisions to be used for the administration or enforcement of regulations concerning dogs and cats.
- Revenue is primarily generated from two main sources: registrations and expiation fees or fines imposed for violations of the Act's provisions. The Act itself sets the rates for registration fees and expiation fees or fines. Therefore, the Council has limited options to increase revenue from this source, except to achieve a high level of registration and diligently monitor the area for any violations of the Act.
- The Council has a Registrar and two employees who are responsible for animal management.

DOGS AND CATS ONLINE (DACO)

DACO, South Australia's mandatory database, serves as a repository for registering dogs, cats, breeders, microchips, and desexing information. Various entities, such as councils, veterinarians, microchip implanters, RSPCA, and Animal Welfare Leagues, can access and record specific information within DACO. This platform facilitates the return of lost pets with registered microchips. DACO offers a range of functionalities to enhance pet ownership and welfare.

- Register dogs and cats;
- Pay registration fees;
- Keep details up to date; and
- Transfer ownership to new owners.

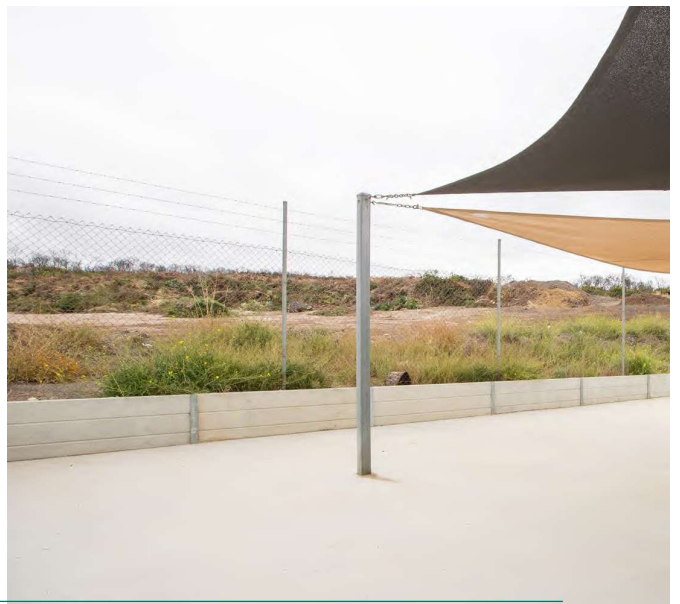
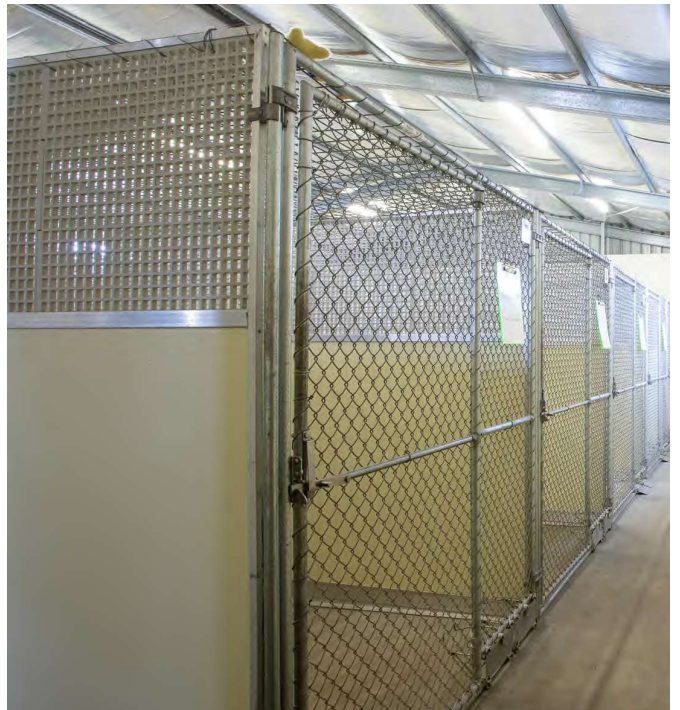
Further information regarding DACO can be found at:

<https://dogandcatboard.com.au/dogs-and-cats-online/about-dogs-and-cats-online>

COUNCIL POUND FACILITY

The Council's Pound Facility is an essential component of Council's responsibilities under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*. It enables Council to lawfully seize, impound, and manage dogs and cats in accordance with its duties as a delegated authority under the Act. The facility provides a secure, controlled environment for the temporary holding of stray, seized, or lost animals while appropriate identification, return, or rehoming processes are undertaken.

The Pound Facility supports the enforcement of key provisions of the Act, including mandatory microchipping, desexing, and registration requirements. It also plays a vital role in ensuring public safety and reducing community nuisance caused by uncontrolled or unregistered animals. Council is committed to maintaining high standards of compliance and animal welfare within its pound operations. In recognition of its role as a frontline regulatory asset, Council will continue to explore opportunities to improve the facility's infrastructure, capacity, and operational practices. These enhancements will ensure that the facility continues to meet legislative requirements, reflects contemporary animal management practices, and supports positive outcomes for both the community and the animals in Council's care.



REHOMING PARTNERSHIPS

As part of its obligations under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* and its commitment to responsible animal management, Council actively engages in partnerships with approved animal welfare organisations and rescue groups for rehoming services. These partnerships play a crucial role in achieving positive rehoming outcomes for unclaimed animals and reducing euthanasia rates within the pound system.

Council works collaboratively with these partners to ensure that animals are assessed, cared for, and matched with suitable adoptive homes, in accordance with animal welfare standards and best practice rehoming protocols. Through these partnerships, Council supports the broader objective of promoting responsible pet ownership and ensuring that all rehomed animals are microchipped, desexed, and registered prior to adoption, in line with legislative requirements.

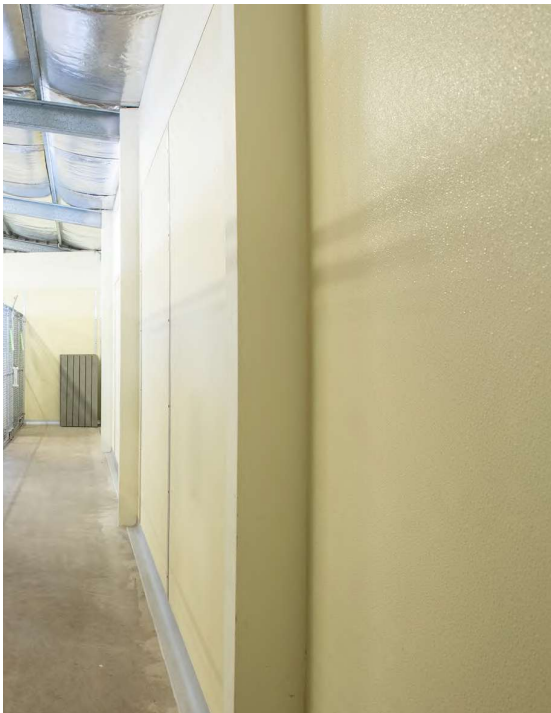
Council will continue to strengthen its relationships with rehoming organisations to improve outcomes for impounded animals and to support the community's expectations around animal welfare. Future actions may include formalising agreements, streamlining transfer processes, and increasing transparency and accountability in reporting rehoming outcomes.

HUMANE EUTHANASIA

Euthanasia of animals is one of the methods used by Councils in South Australia to manage their legislative duties under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 (SA)*. This Act outlines responsibilities for controlling and regulating dogs and cats to ensure community safety, protect the environment and native fauna, and promote responsible pet ownership.

Under the Act, councils are empowered to seize and impound animals that are found wandering at large, are not registered or microchipped as required, or pose a threat to public safety. If an impounded animal is not claimed within the legislated holding period, or if it is deemed dangerous, unwell, or unsuitable for rehoming—due to aggression, illness, lack of community interest, or behavioural issues—the council may lawfully decide to humanely euthanise the animal. This decision is typically made in consultation with qualified veterinarians and in accordance with animal welfare standards to avoid unnecessary suffering.

Euthanasia is considered a last resort, used only when all reasonable alternatives such as reuniting with the owner, adoption, or transfer to a rescue organisation are not viable. It allows councils to uphold their obligations under the Act to protect public health and safety, prevent harm to native wildlife, and manage unowned or unmanageable animals in a humane and legally compliant way.



ANIMAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

1. PET OWNERSHIP

There are three key factors that contribute to successful pet ownership:

1. **The pet owner**, who must be aware of the responsibilities of pet ownership, ensures that the pet is registered (identified in the case of cats), microchipped, de-sexed, and immunised. Additionally, the owner is responsible for training the pet and being aware of its behaviour at all times, including when the owner is away from home. Furthermore, the owner is responsible for providing the pet with adequate food, water, shelter, and regular exercise, and should be aware that these needs may vary depending on the pet's age, breed, and activity level.
2. **The breed** determines the size and temperament of a dog or cat. When choosing a pet, it's crucial to seek professional advice on the health and suitability of the animal for your home, yard, and family, especially if you have small children.
3. **The home environment**, in most cases, includes an enclosed yard and a portion of the dwelling that the pet has access to. Key factors to consider are the adequacy of the fencing, whether the pet can see out of the yard through a gate, the adequacy of shelter, food and water, the presence of children, the proximity of neighbours' pets, and access to exercise areas.
 - Successful pet ownership involves both financial and time commitments, so it's crucial for individuals considering pet ownership to carefully select a pet that aligns with their specific living environment and family dynamics.
 - The City of Port Lincoln Dogs By-Law No. 5, 2025, prescribed in Clause 7, regulates the number of dogs that can be kept on private premises. The City of Port Lincoln requires



owners to obtain permission before keeping more than two dogs.

- The Council may grant permission for more than the prescribed number through an application. They conduct inspections of the premises to ensure that adequate measures have been taken to minimise any impact on neighbouring residents.
- This rule doesn't apply to licensed kennels that comply with all the necessary approvals and consent forms, or any dog-related business, provided that the business is registered in accordance with the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.
- The approval can be revoked if an expiation is issued or if justifiable complaints are received.

BEHAVIOURS TO LOOK FOR AT THE DOG PARK	
WARNING BEHAVIOURS	POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS
CROWDING ONE UNRESPONSIVE DOG Threats, growls, and stiff body Body pressed back, tail tucked	PLAY BOWING An invitation to play
UNWANTED CHASING Chasing, lunging, snapping Overhead play from above, body low	OPEN, RELAXED MOUTH Relaxed
RISK OF PREY DRIVE KICKING IN Tail high Stiff body, head down Stiff, forward and fast Forward, no eye contact	SELF-HANDICAPPING A dog jumping over its own front legs to avoid a smaller dog
RIGID BUTT-SNIFFING WITH TAILS ERECT Threatening or warning Stiff body, head down	BUTT-SNIFFS WITH RELAXED, LOOSELY WAGGING TAILS A relaxed sniffing posture, head to the side, body to the side, no eye contact
REAL RUNNING DURING CHASE GAMES Quick approach and retreat, no eye contact, no sniffing, no sniffing, no sniffing	BOUNCY "ROCKING HORSE" GAIT Head, forward, body, forward
ANXIOUS BODY LANGUAGE Stiff body, head down Stiff body, head down Stiff body, head down	SNEEZES OR SHAKES TO RELIEVE TENSION AND SAY "It's all good, just playing" Head, forward, body, forward
BIG-ON-SMALL CHASE GAMES Quick approach and retreat, no eye contact, no sniffing, no sniffing, no sniffing	ROLE REVERSAL Head, forward, body, forward



Performance Measures

- Reduction in the number of nuisance complaints
- Reduction in the number of dogs found wandering at large and unclaimed

Strategies

- People considering getting a dog or a cat should think about the factors that make for a successful pet ownership experience in their specific situation.
- Online information about breeds and assistance in pet selection is available at:
 - **Pet care Information and Advisory Service**
www.petnet.com.au
 - **The Dog and Cat Management Board of SA**
www.dogsncats.asn.au
 - **RSPCA South Australia**
www.rspcasa.asn.au
- Conducting a survey every July in conjunction with dog registration renewals.
- The Council Community Safety Officers are available to provide advice.
- People considering getting a pet should learn about the responsibilities of pet ownership before bringing one home. They should also be aware of the time commitment involved and ensure that their new pet is properly trained.
- Random inspections are conducted.
- Review applications for more than two dogs during registration renewal, contacting applicants to verify the accuracy of the permit details.

2. DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES

Dog Exercise Areas (Off Leash)

- A person may enter a public place or part of Local Government land to which the council has determined this clause applies under Dogs By-law No. 5 2025, for the purpose of exercising a dog under his or her effective control.
- A person entering a dog off lead area designated by the council must ensure that any dog under that person's control, charge or authority is under effective control at all times.

Dog on Leash Areas

- A person must not, without the Council's permission, allow a dog under that person's control, charge, or authority (except an accredited assistance dog that is required to remain off-lead in order to fulfil its functions) to be or remain:
 - on Local Government land or public place to which the Council has resolved that this subclause applies; and
 - on any park or reserve during times when organised sport is being played;
 - unless the dog is secured by a strong leash not exceeding 2 metres in length which is either tethered securely to a fixed object capable of securing the dog or held by a person capable of controlling the dog and preventing it from being a nuisance or a danger to other persons.

[See Table 1 Dog On Leash Areas](#)

Dog Prohibited Areas

- A person must not allow a dog under that person's control, charge, or authority (except an accredited assistance dog) to enter or remain:
 - on any children's playground on Local Government land;
 - on any other Local Government land or public place to which the Council has determined that this subclause applies.

[See Table 2 Dog Prohibited Areas](#)

Dog Park

The City of Port Lincoln Dog Park is located on Windsor Avenue. This facility has been established to promote responsible pet ownership and provide a safe environment for dogs to exercise and socialise.

The dog park is designed to enhance community interaction and support the wellbeing of both pets and their owners. Council encourages all dog owners to utilise this space and engage in positive social activities with their pets. By fostering a sense of community and responsible pet management, Council aims to ensure a harmonious environment for all residents.

Parnkalla Trail

The Parnkalla Trail has been identified as a concern during the consultation process for this Plan. Users of the trail are concerned about the number of dogs that are off-leash and the faeces that they leave behind. The trail is a designated 'On Leash' area, and Council Officers will monitor it by regular patrolling. Additionally, more signage is required to inform walkers and dog owners about the regulations and penalties involved.

Strategies

- Designate specific areas for dogs to run off-leash and clearly mark these areas with signage.
- Raise awareness about dog owner responsibilities through media and council resources, such as a website, bulletin board, and social media platforms.
- Regular patrols are conducted to ensure compliance.

Performance Measures

- Reduction in public complaints regarding incidents of dogs wandering at large
- Reduction in the number of complaints about dog attacks in designated on-leash areas



3. WANDERING DOGS

- A dog is considered to be 'wandering at large' when it's in a public or private place and not under the effective control of a person. The owner or the person responsible for the dog's wandering at large has committed an offence and is accountable for the prescribed penalties under the Act.
- A dog roaming freely can pose a danger to the public, especially children and the elderly. The Council is aware that severe attacks can occur in such situations. Consequently, they will implement measures to reduce the likelihood of these incidents in the community.

Strategies

- Owners must be informed of their responsibilities to adequately fence their property to control their dog or provide an enclosure within the property boundaries.
- Owners must be informed of their responsibilities to ensure their dog is under effective control when in public places.
- Council Community Safety Officers to conduct random patrols of all public areas and detain dogs wandering at large.
- That Council respond to calls from the general public of a dog wandering at large

including normal working hours and after hours.

- The Council's primary objective will be to return the dog to its rightful owner.
- Un-identified dogs will be impounded in accordance with the Act.
- All unclaimed dogs that are suitable as pets will be eligible for distribution to individuals interested in adopting a pet.

Performance Measures

- Reduction in public complaints regarding incidents of dogs wandering at large



4. REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION

- The foundation of a successful domestic animal management system lies in identification, which also involves registration. Here are some of the benefits of this approach:
 - To facilitate the reunification of lost pets with their owners.
 - Encourage owners to microchip their animals by providing financial discounts for registration;
 - To provide proof of ownership;
 - To assist in funding the Council's animal management facilities and resources.
- Council Community Safety Officers, while performing their duties, will take notes of animals on properties to verify the validity of dog registrations at those addresses.
- Adhering to the legislative requirements outlined in the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.

Strategies

- Enforcing Dog & Cat Management Act requirements such as identification and registration.
- Providing an amnesty period for registration of dogs and cats.
- Educating animal owners about community issues like roaming, nuisance, noise, and the disposal of dog and cat faeces, as well as the environmental damage they cause.
- Promoting and facilitating socialisation and training of dogs, particularly puppies.
- Promoting desexing & microchipping by increasing community awareness and reducing registration fees.
- Researching the feasibility of a microchipping subsidy program, in collaboration with other interested parties such as local veterinarians and the RSPCA.
- Community Safety Officers will undergo microchipping training to offer subsidised microchipping programs.

Performance Measures

- Improve voluntary compliance in dog and cat registrations
- Increase the number of discounted registrations by promoting animal desexing and microchipping
- Reduction in the number of outstanding registrations at time of renewal

5. BARKING DOGS

- Nuisance dog barking can be a great source of irritation to people and can be the source of many complaints. We all want to live in a community that is peaceful and one where dog owners take responsibility for their dog's behaviour.
- Everyone has different levels of tolerance and sensitivity to dog barking. When Council is investigating a complaint, firstly the presence of a 'nuisance' is established, especially as dogs naturally bark. If possible, evidence is gathered from multiple sources.
- Council will work with complainants and pet owners to investigate, substantiate and to find a resolution that works for everyone.
- Residents are encouraged to fill in a 'barking dog diary' to record the frequency of excessive barking.

Strategies

- Council staff continue to review procedures for dealing with barking dogs.
- Council staff continue to work with residents to resolve barking dog complaints.
- Information packs will be created to assist dog owners in providing environmental enrichment for their dogs, which can help reduce barking.

Performance Measures

- Reduction in the number of barking dog complaints

6. DOG ATTACKS

- The Council takes reports of attacks very seriously and investigates all reported attacks when sufficient information is provided. If a dog attack is proven, the Community Safety Officers have various enforcement options, including warnings, expiations, control and destruction orders, and prosecution.
- The City of Port Lincoln's primary objective is to prevent dog attacks. The primary method of educating the community is through the distribution of educational materials and primary school-level education.
- Anyone who claims a dog attack, whether on a person, animal, or bird owned or under the care of another person (regardless of whether any actual injury occurs), is strongly advised to report the incident as soon as possible.
- The public should contact Council's Community Safety Officers if they suspect an alleged attack or harassment. These officers will conduct an investigation and require the public to provide a written statement, along with any medical or veterinary evidence, to aid in the investigation process.
- If sufficient evidence is obtained, the Council may take action against the dog owner or the person responsible for the dog. This could involve issuing expiations, issuing Orders, or prosecuting the individual.

Strategies

- The Council collaborates with the Dog & Cat Management Board to develop an education program aimed at reducing dog attacks within the City of Port Lincoln.
- Information packs are distributed at the time of registration.
- Raising awareness about the penalties for dog attacks using various media platforms, including local newspapers, television, radio, and social media.

Performance Measures

- Reduction in the number of dog attacks



7. FAECES MANAGEMENT

- Dog owners must retrieve and dispose of their dog's faeces for health, environmental and amenity reasons. For the purpose of complying with Section 45A (6) of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*, a person who owns or is responsible for the control of a dog (not being an accredited assistance dog) is guilty of an offence if the dog defecates in a public place and the person responsible for the control of the dog does not immediately remove the faeces and dispose of them in a lawful and suitable manner.
- Failure to clean up after a dog may incur an expiation (fine).
- In addition to providing education, dog owners also require facilities to encourage them to collect their dogs' waste. There are various options available, including both council-provided and individual-provided mechanisms (such as pooper scoopers, pooch pouches, bag dispenser stations, and so on).
- Council currently supplies dog bag dispensers throughout high traffic areas and locations such as:
 - Walking trails
 - Parks and reserves
 - Port Lincoln Foreshore
- Although the Council will continue to provide dog litter bags in high-traffic areas, dog owners are strongly encouraged to bring their own bags. The Council facilities are provided as a backup for the community.

Strategies

- Council prepares an information brochure which encourages dog owners to remove their dog's faeces from public places. This brochure should include a map of the City of Port Lincoln dog litter bag dispensers.
- Signage will be increased on the Parnkalla Trail, parks, playgrounds, oval, foreshores, boat ramps, and other areas to inform people about the penalties for not picking up their pet waste.
- The Council will annually review the current locations of dispensers and provide additional bag dispensers at new strategic locations, as identified.

Performance Measures

- Reduction in the number of animal faeces complaints



8. DOMESTIC CAT MANAGEMENT

- Cat management in South Australia is still in its early stages, with councils reviewing their position throughout the Plan's lifespan. The primary objective will be to support controls that protect fauna and biodiversity within their respective areas.
- The Council, in collaboration with the Dog and Cat Management Board, will continue to provide a strong educational focus to encourage people to desex, microchip, identify, and confine their cats. While education is crucial for successful cat management, the programs must be meticulously designed and tailored to specific needs.
- The Council's primary strategies for managing cats revolve around trapping and disposing of stray cats, as well as providing assistance to residents dealing with nuisance cats.
- The majority of complaints received by Council regarding cats are about cats wandering onto property. To assist residents to resolve these issues, Council hire out cat traps at a nominal fee.

Strategies

- Promote responsible cat ownership in the community, with desexing and microchip identification strongly encouraged.
- Owners to ensure that cats carry an identification collar and micro-chip.
- Encourage owners to be responsible for their cats' behaviour and take positive timely action to avoid nuisance to neighbours and damage to property such as providing exercise runs.
- Make traps available to the community to trap cats that are causing a nuisance.
- Un-owned or unwanted cats are taken to a veterinary centre.

Performance Measures

- Reduction in the feral/unowned cat population
- Reduction in the number of complaints regarding stray cats
- Increase in the number of identifiable cats

9. MANAGEMENT OF OTHER ANIMALS AND BIRDS

- The City of Port Lincoln comprises both urban dwellings and semi-rural properties. If the council designates a property as semi-rural, it allows the keeping of horses, sheep, and other livestock. On the other hand, residentially zoned properties are limited to keeping domestic animals, such as birds, poultry, rabbits, and guinea pigs.
- All animal owners are obligated to ensure that their animals are kept in a manner that does not cause any nuisance or hazard to other residents or road users.
- Currently, all complaints involving other animals and birds (including pigeons) are handled by staff in accordance with the applicable legislation.

TABLE 1 DOG ON LEASH AREAS

DOG ON LEASH AREAS		
Map Ref	CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT	
Map 1	CBD Area Roads and Footpaths (same area as designated "Dry Area")	On Leash between Bishop and Eyre Streets and Tasman Terrace and Liverpool Street / Hallett Place at all times
Map 2	Port Lincoln Foreshore between mean low water mark and Tasman Terrace (beach and lawns)	On leash from the carpark adjacent to the beach (aligned with the bend in Bishop Street) to the Silos at all times
AREAS SURROUNDING PLAYGROUNDS (By-Law 5 - No dogs in enclosed area or within 5 metres of ANY playground equipment if not enclosed)		
Map 3A	Formed Walking Trails (including total length of Parnkalla Trail)	at all times
Map 3B	Altair Cres Playground Reserve	
Map 3C	Train Playground – New West Road	
Map 3D	Rustlers Gully Reserve	
Map 3E	Wellington Square Reserve	
Map 3F	Flinders Park (all of park)	
Map 3G	Puckridge Park (areas around BBQ's and Rotundas)	
Map 3H	Laguna Beach	

TABLE 2 DOG PROHIBITED AREAS

DOG PROHIBITED AREAS		
Map Ref	SPORTING GROUNDS	
Map 4I	Centenary Oval	Prohibited between 8.30am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday <u>AND</u> when there is organised sport or training or other community event
Map 4J	Ravendale Sports Complex (all areas within complex boundaries - Netball, Hockey, Ovals, Baseball etc)	When there is organised sport or training or other community event
Map 4K	Poole Oval	
Map 4L	Kirton Oval Soccer Grounds	

MAP 2 : PORT LINCOLN FORESHORE AREA

Port Lincoln Foreshore - dogs on leash at all times between mean low water mark and Tasman Tce (beach and lawns)



From "A" the carpark
adjacent to the beach
(aligned with the bend
in Bishop Street)
To "B" Silos
(line is indication only)

MAP 3 : DESIGNATED DOG ON LEASH AREAS

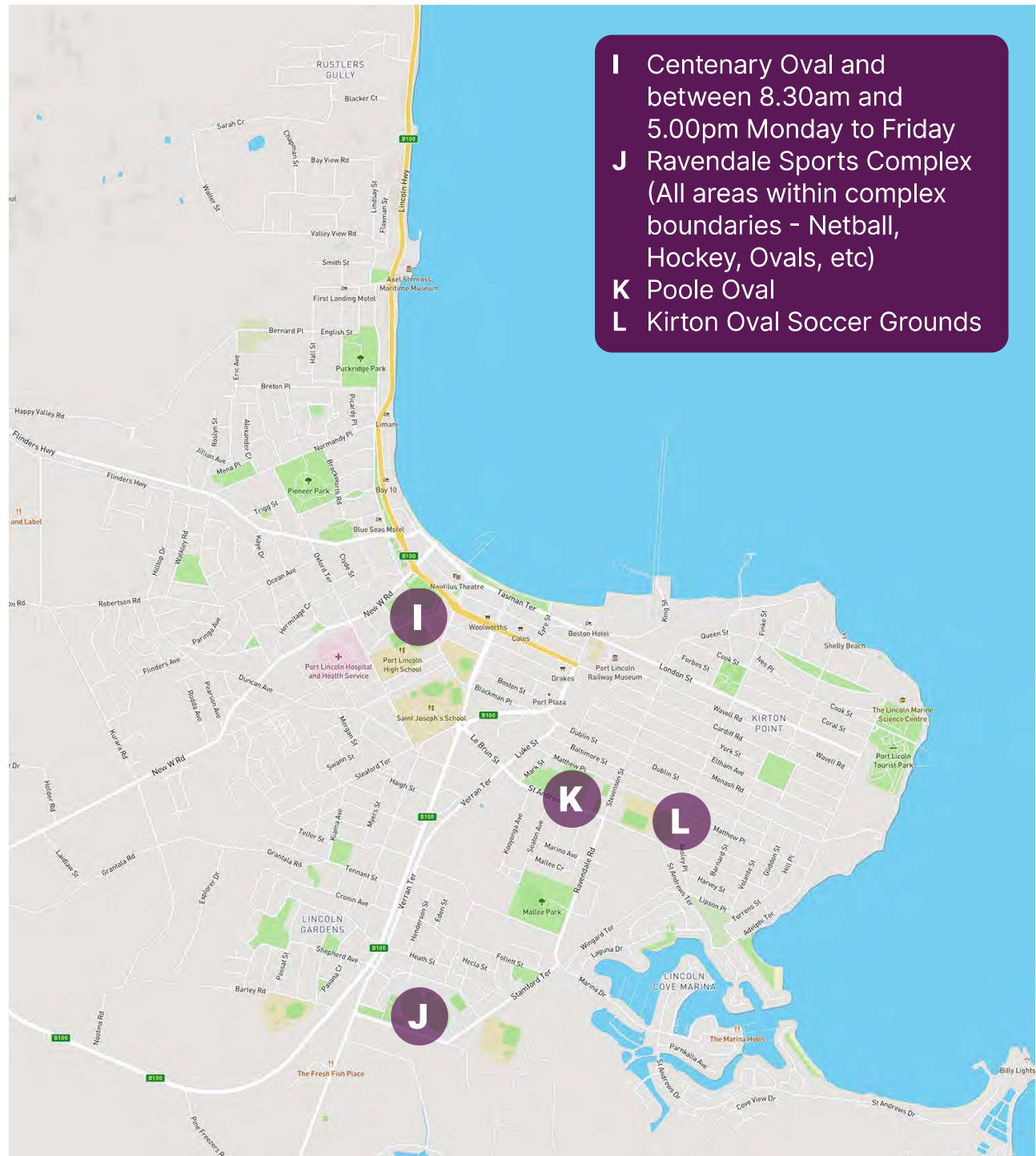
Designated areas where dogs must be on leash at all times



MAP 4 : DESIGNATED DOGS PROHIBITED AREAS

Designated areas where dogs are prohibited

When there is organised sport or training or other community event







CONTACT

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