

**12.4. DELEGATION OF COUNCIL FUNCTIONS AND POWERS****REPORT PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with amended provisions of delegations required under the Local Government Act 1999 (the LG Act) and other relevant legislation for adoption.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Resolves to grant the delegation of powers and functions of the Council as provided for in the attached Instrument of Delegation (Attachment 1 - 106088); and**
- 2. Resolves that such powers and functions may be further delegated by the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with Sections 44 and 101 of the Local Government Act as the Chief Executive Officer sees fit, unless otherwise indicated herein or in the Schedule of Conditions contained in the proposed Instrument of Delegation.**

**12.5. ADOPTION OF NET ZERO PATHWAY****REPORT PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is present Council with the Net Zero Pathway 2026 for adoption in line with strategic actions of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2025-34 and Strategic Directions Plan 2025-34.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council receive and adopt the attached Net Zero Pathway 2026, establishing FY24 as the baseline year for carbon emissions and committing to a target of 70% reduction in carbon emission intensity by 2035.**

**12.6. FINAL DRAFT CITY OF PORT LINCOLN ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026-2030 FOR ADOPTION****REPORT PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council a summary of feedback received during consultation and the final version of the City of Port Lincoln Animal Management Plan 2026-2030 for adoption.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Notes the public consultation process and feedback received (Attachment 2) on the Draft Animal Management Plan; and**
- 2. Adopts the final City of Port Lincoln Animal Management Plan 2026-2030 (Attachment 1) with minor amendments.**

**12.6 FINAL DRAFT CITY OF PORT LINCOLN ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026-2030 FOR ADOPTION**

REPORT INFORMATION							
<b>Report Title</b>	Final Draft City of Port Lincoln Animal Management Plan 2026-2030 for Adoption						
<b>Document ID</b>	108593						
<b>Organisational Unit</b>	Environment & Infrastructure						
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Manager Development & Regulatory - Theo Theodosiou						
<b>Report Attachment/s</b>	<p>Yes</p> <p>97862 Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030 - Presented to Council for Adoption</p> <p>107909 Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030 Consultation Submission Summary 2025-12-12 – Public Redacted</p>						
REPORT PURPOSE							
The purpose of this report is to provide Council a summary of feedback received during consultation and the final version of the City of Port Lincoln Animal Management Plan 2026-2030 for adoption.							
REPORT DECISION MAKING CONSIDERATIONS							
<b>Council Role</b>	Regulate - Specific role in response to legislation and compliance - direct, specific or general in nature (such as duty of care)						
<b>Strategic Alignment</b>	<p>SDP GOAL: Goal 3: Governance and Leadership</p> <p>SDP ACTION: Choose an item.</p>						
<b>Annual Business Plan 2024/25</b>	<p>ABP INITIATIVE: Choose an item.</p> <p>ABP PROJECT: Choose an item.</p>						
<b>Annual Business Plan 2025/26</b>	<p>ABP INITIATIVE: Choose an item.</p> <p>ABP PROJECT: Choose an item.</p>						
<b>Legislation</b>	Dog and Cat Management Act 1995						
<b>Policy</b>	Choose an item.						
<b>Budget Implications</b>	<p>Not Applicable</p> <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> <p>Budget assessment comments:</p>	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET AMOUNT \$	YTD \$			
DESCRIPTION	BUDGET AMOUNT \$	YTD \$					
<b>Risk Implications</b>	Not Applicable						
<b>Resource Implications</b>	This is a planned resource allocation						
<b>Public Consultation</b>	No						
<b>IAP2 Commitment</b>	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:

1. Notes the public consultation process and feedback received (Attachment 2) on the Draft Animal Management Plan; and
2. Adopts the final City of Port Lincoln Animal Management Plan 2026-2030 (Attachment 1) with minor amendments.

#### REPORT DETAIL

The City of Port Lincoln has statutory obligations under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* to develop and implement an Animal Management Plan outlining Council's strategic approach to effective animal management, including promoting responsible pet ownership and supporting community safety.

At its October meeting, Council endorsed the Draft Animal Management Plan for the purpose of public consultation. Community engagement was undertaken to ensure that feedback from residents, stakeholders and interested parties could meaningfully inform the development of the final Plan.

#### **Public Consultation Process**

Public consultation on the Draft Animal Management Plan was undertaken from 20 November 2025 to 12 December 2025.

The consultation process included:

- Public exhibition of the Draft Plan on Council's website;
- Promotion via Council's social media channels and website news items;
- Opportunity for written submissions via email and online feedback form; and
- Opportunity for submissions/feedback via Yoursay

A total of 35 submissions were received during the consultation period.

#### **Summary of Consultation Feedback**

Overall, community feedback demonstrated strong interest in animal management matters and broad support for Council's strategic direction. A summary of submissions is provided in Attachment 2.

The key themes identified through the consultation process included:

##### **1. Responsible Pet Ownership**

Respondents expressed strong support for enhanced education and awareness initiatives relating to responsible pet ownership, including registration, microchipping and effective containment of animals.

## **2. Dog Exercise and Control**

Community feedback highlighted interest in:

- clearer rules on designated on-leash and off-leash areas;
- consistent enforcement of dog control requirements in public places; and
- improved signage within dog exercise zones.

## **3. Animal Welfare**

Many submissions emphasised the need for humane and ethically sound animal management practices, as well as continued collaboration with animal welfare organisations.

## **4. Compliance and Enforcement**

Some respondents raised concerns regarding the enforcement of existing regulations and supported an approach that balances education with appropriate compliance measures where required.

### **Consideration of Feedback and Amendments**

All submissions received through the consultation process were reviewed and considered in finalising the Animal Management Plan.

In response to community feedback, the following amendments and clarifications were incorporated into the final Plan:

- strengthened references to community education initiatives
- clarification of Council's approach to compliance and enforcement
- minor updates to improve clarity, readability and consistency
- removal of the proposed inclusion of Laguna Beach within the designated on-leash areas

These amendments refine and enhance the Plan; however, no changes to its overall strategic direction were required.

### **Final Animal Management Plan**

The final Animal Management Plan:

- complies with all legislative requirements;
- incorporates feedback received from the community and key stakeholders; and
- establishes a clear strategic framework for animal management within the City of Port Lincoln.

The Plan will guide Council's animal management activities over the next four years.

Implementation of the Plan will be undertaken within existing operational budgets. Any future financial implications arising from the Plan's actions or initiatives will be considered through Council's annual budget process.

Failure to adopt an Animal Management Plan may result in:

- non-compliance with statutory obligations;
- reduced effectiveness in addressing animal-related issues; and
- increased community dissatisfaction.

Adopting the Plan mitigates these risks and ensures Council continues to meet its legislative and community responsibilities.

### **Conclusion**

Public consultation on the Draft Animal Management Plan was undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Framework. The feedback received has informed the development of the final Plan, which is now presented to Council for adoption.

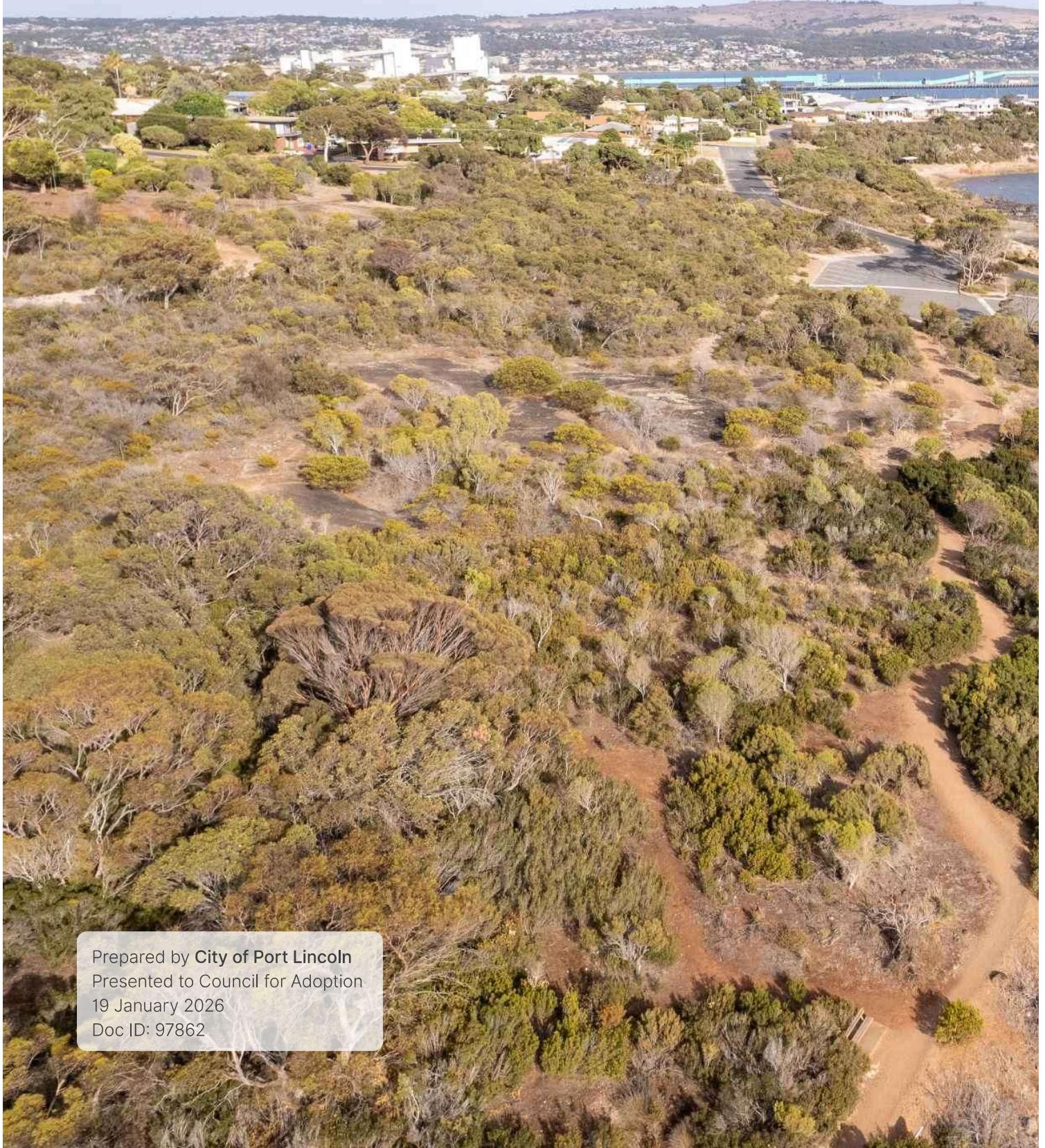
The City of Port Lincoln remains committed to promoting responsible dog and cat ownership, enhancing public safety, and safeguarding the community's shared use and enjoyment of its natural and urban environments. The review and renewal of the Animal Management Plan demonstrates Council's proactive approach to addressing emerging challenges in dog and cat management, as well as its ongoing responsibilities under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.

By adopting the Animal Management Plan, Council reaffirms its commitment to working collaboratively with the community, key stakeholders, and the Dog and Cat Management Board to implement practical, balanced and sustainable animal management strategies that support the wellbeing of residents and visitors alike.

CITY OF PORT LINCOLN

# DRAFT **ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026-2030**





Prepared by **City of Port Lincoln**  
Presented to Council for Adoption  
19 January 2026  
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 Assistance Animal) 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 cats to enable reunion of lost pets with their owners and control of un-owned animals.
- Promote de-sexing 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 socialisation 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.
- Promote and 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 Climate, Environment and Water 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.
- The approval can be revoked if an expiation is issued or if justifiable complaints are received.



## 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.
- 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.

## Performance Measures

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

## 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 Assistance Animal recognised by the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 or Disability Discrimination Act 1992 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 - Page 22

### Dog Prohibited Areas

- A person must not allow a dog under that person's control, charge, or authority (except an Assistance Animal) 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 - Page 22

### 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

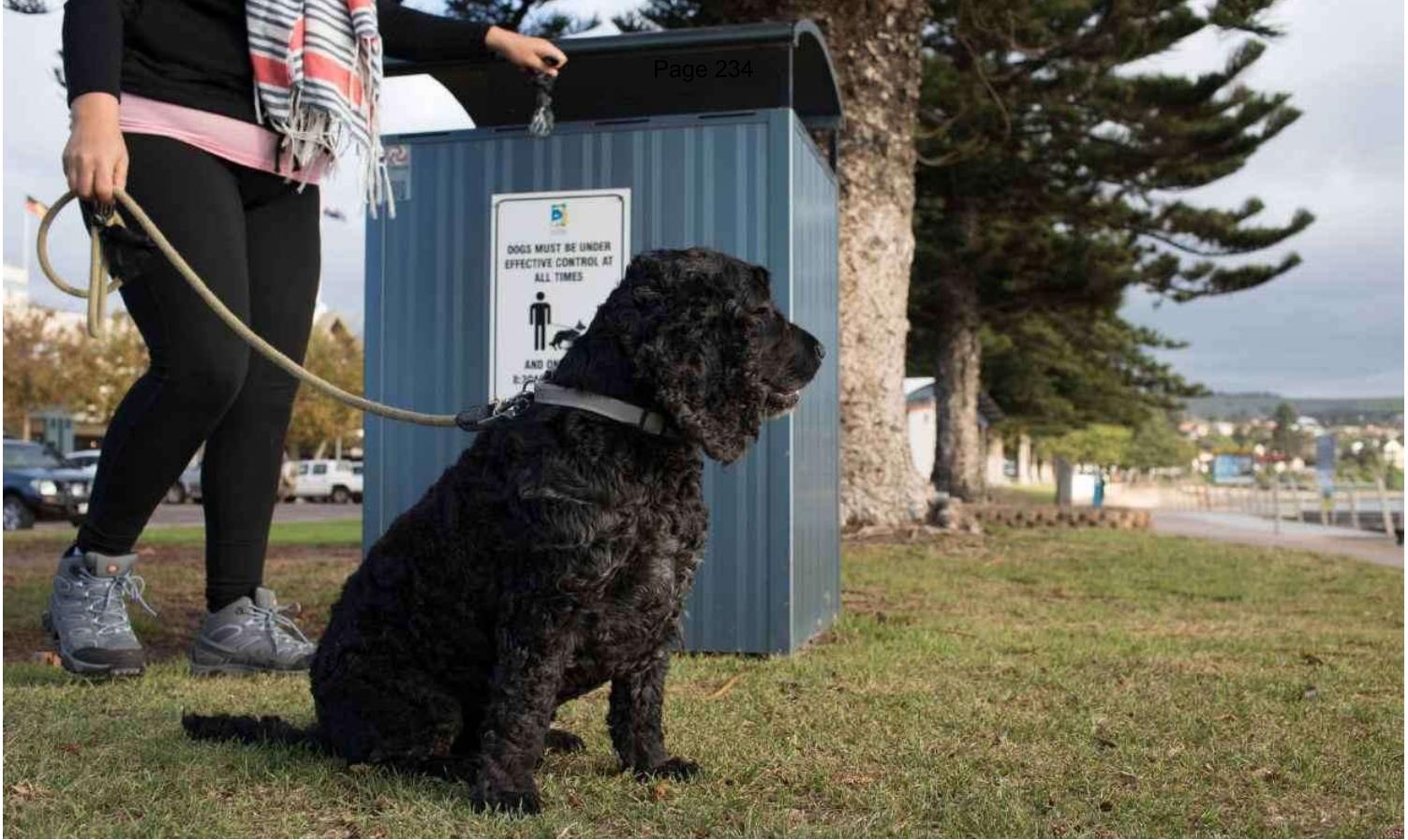
- Owners must be informed of their responsibilities to adequately fence their property to control their dog or provide an enclosure within the property boundaries.
- Owners must be informed of their responsibilities to ensure their dog is under effective control when in public places.
- Council Community 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 Assistance Animal) 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/un-owned 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 (including lawns, footpath, beach, jetty and swimming enclosure)	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)		

## TABLE 2 DOG PROHIBITED AREAS

DOG PROHIBITED AREAS		
Map Ref	SPORTING GROUNDS*	
Map 3A	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 3B	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 3C	Poole Oval	
Map 3D	Kirton Oval Soccer Grounds	
AREAS SURROUNDING PLAYGROUNDS (By-Law 5 - No dogs in enclosed area or within 5 metres of ANY playground equipment if not enclosed)		

\*All other times dogs are not prohibited however must be under effective control

## MAP 1: DESIGNATED CBD AREA

### Central Business District Area Roads and Footpaths (same area as designated "Dry Area")

Dogs on leash at all times between Bishop and Eyre Streets and Tasman Terrace and Liverpool Street / Hallett Place



## MAP 2 : PORT LINCOLN FORESHORE AREA

Dogs on leash at all times on the **Port Lincoln Foreshore** -  
(including lawns, footpath, beach, jetty and swimming enclosure)

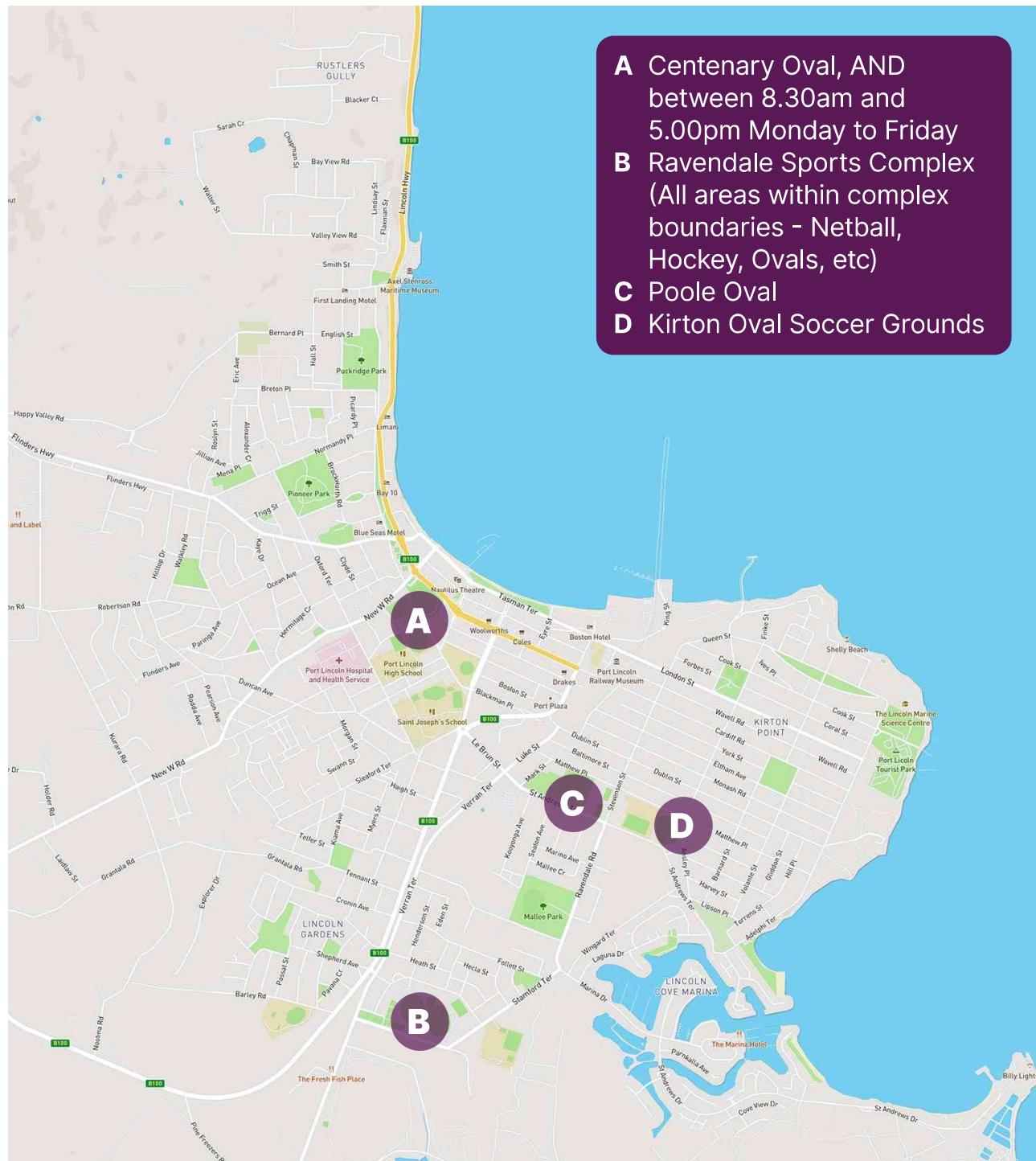


From "A" the carpark  
adjacent to the beach  
(aligned with the bend  
in Bishop Street)  
To "B" Silos  
(line is indication only)

## MAP 3 : DESIGNATED DOG PROHIBITED AREAS

### Designated areas where dogs are prohibited

When there is organised sport or training or other community event





## CONTACT

For further information on the Animal Management Plan  
contact the Council Administration Office:

**Council Administration**

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# Project Name : Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030

*Submission Summary*

*20 November 2025 - 12 December 2025*

**Report generated on 12 December 2025**

## Project Overview

The City of Port Lincoln has developed a Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030 in collaboration with the Dog and Cat Management Board and invited community to provide feedback. Submissions were sought between Thursday, 20 November to 10am, Friday, 12 December 2025.

This five-year plan sets the direction for how dogs and cats are managed in Port Lincoln. It balances the needs of pet owners, the wider community, and the natural environment, promoting responsible pet ownership, public safety, and the safe and enjoyable use of shared spaces. The plan also reinforces the importance of pet registration, microchipping, and desexing, and provides clear guidance to help pet owners understand where dogs are welcome off-leash and when they must be on-leash.

The review of the Animal Management Plan ensures Council's approach continues to meet community needs and reflects current compliance data and best practice in animal management. It takes into account factors such as urban growth, dog-on-leash compliance, responsible pet ownership, and the protection of sensitive environments.

### Key proposed changes

The Draft Animal Management Plan includes several updates to improve animal management across the city:

- **Foreshore area** - proposed to be **on-leash at all times** due to high pedestrian activity, nearby food businesses, and community safety considerations.
- **Laguna Beach** - proposed to be **on-leash at all times** to protect environmentally sensitive areas and accommodate increasing recreational use.
- Revised dog exercise and on-leash zones across the city.
- Clearer guidance for owners in off-leash areas.
- Strengthened provisions for cat containment and registration.
- Enhanced community education and enforcement measures.

The Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030 can be viewed in the Key Documents section on the right.

Printed copies were also available at the Council Office and Port Lincoln Library during the consultation period.

**Report generated on 12 December 2025**

## Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030 Submission Summary

### Number of Submissions : 35

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
1	Animal welfare	We need more dog friendly areas where people can take their dogs and connect with others.. also we really need to do more to help with desexing for those that can't afford it and to help find homes for pets that people can no longer afford to keep their pets and those that are going into aged care facilities...maybe a website or Facebook pages?	-
2	Domestic cat management	Given the overwhelming evidence of the impact of cats on wildlife and the health risk associated with coming into contact with cat faeces. I would like to see more done to support cat owners to keep cats contained. The number of roaming cats at night is extreme. This is when they tend to hunt and are also likely to use sandpits and playground to defecate and urinate	-
3	Submission - Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	Page 18 registration and identification, implement asap both cats and dogs, roaming cats are a bigger problem than dogs. Council must act now.	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
4	Submission - Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	Refer attached	Refer attachment 1 Doc: 101969
5	Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	Hi, Please find my submission attached.	Refer attachment 2
6	Animal Management Plan	I believe dogs should be allowed off leash on the foreshore before 8am everyday. It is so nice to see dogs enjoying their time running along the beach.	-
7	Laguna Beach	How can this area be environmentally sensitive when it is totally man made.	-
8	Animal management plan	Super concerned about the many recent posts about council euthanising dogs. I understand if there are behavioral issues sometimes this can't be avoided, but rehomable dogs should never be put in this position. There are many South Australian dog rescue centres that can help with advertising and rehoming, and I can't understand why council don't utilize these when they're unable to rehome a dog. SAHARA is a perfect example of a shelter willing and able to help, and they have in fact helped rehome two dogs from council so far after community members got involved. More needs to be done to find homes and euthanasia	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>should not even be an option. It's a really easy solution that if council can't find a home they seek help from these shelters who have a huge audience of people looking to rehome dogs.</p> <p>Also appalled at the amount of dog attacks and owners that aren't held accountable. Owners should be required to pay vet bills from damage done by their pets, which should be enforced by council. Innocent people shouldn't have to pay further expenses trying to sue after an attack. Give them a big fine for the attack and give them the vet bill! If people try to chase these themselves it could lead to some really serious situations. We pay the highest dog registration rates in South Australia, put it to good use!</p> <p>I see cat registration is also mentioned, hoping if this comes in the extra revenue could be offset against dog registration and reduce it!!!</p>	
9	Draft Animal management proposed changes	In Particular; opposition to Laguna Beach proposed as on leash at all times- see attached letter/file	Refer attachment 3 Doc: 103680
10	Leash dogs	These measures should be the norm already especially the foreshore. From the Lincoln hotel to the Yacht Club	-
11	Animal Management Plan	Please make cat owners responsible for their animals. They should be inside or confined to cat exercise runs. Please also make it possible for the Council to dispose of stray cats in a	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		humane manner (of course). Landowners should be able to catch strays in traps and call the council for disposal. Cats kill wildlife and spread disease.	
12	Cat registration	Hi I have two cats that my wife n I keep inside, I propose that any future cat registration should exempt indoor cats as they pose no threat to the environment and any future registration fees. Anything less than that is blatant revenue raising considering the added expense of raising them Indoors especially towards owners on a low income	-
13	Animal Management Plan	<p>The draught plan looks good. We especially need to reduce the amount of stray dangerous dogs on the streets and at the foreshore. I'm too afraid to walk my dog on the front beach now because nearly every time, other unleashed dogs come up to my small, shy dog and she freaks out. It ruins our enjoyment. She's even been confronted by an unleashed dog in the Tasman Hotel outdoor dining area.</p> <p>I'm also scared of large and medium sized dogs and I'm too afraid to walk anywhere that's not a busy road now because I see so many stray dogs wandering around. It was never this bad, only in the last few years I've noticed it getting ridiculous. I've even had two dogs on the front beach approach us, and been abused by the owners when I asked them to control their dog. They just sat on the beach and yelled at me. There needs to be patrols on the front beach and people need to be held accountable.</p> <p>Please help, I pay so much in council rates, but I feel like I'm not a valued member of the community because my simple pleasure of taking my dog for a walk feels unsafe a lot of the time.</p>	

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
14	Submission - Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	<p>It's always good to have a plan but how is it going to be actioned and enforced? How many warnings or penalties have been issued to dog owners in areas where they are suppose to have their dogs on leashes but don't? Signs don't work if no one is enforcing them, signs just frustrate those who are doing the right thing. There are dogs running around all over the current zone outside of the 8:30am current restrictions and I don't see council currently enforcing these now, will the community be getting feedback on how enforcement is happening? We should all see a change in the community areas.</p>	-
15	Submission - Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am writing in regard to the registration and containment of domestic cats. Since moving in to Port Lincoln city area in 2022, I have worked hard and spent considerable money to develop a native garden. My plan has been to make a sustainable, water-wise and environmentally friendly garden which will attract and house local native birds and wild life. My garden is flourishing but I am continually frustrated by three domestic cats which often frequent my yard. This of course has meant the local wren population is rarely seen here now.</p> <p>Whilst I understand some people's love for their cats, I feel very strongly that these animals should be kept enclosed in their owners' yards at all times. I don't think that cats should have more rights to my yard than I am to maintaining a feral animal free environment.</p>	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		I hope that in future the Council will look to other areas in Australia where the regulations make it law to keep such animals contained in the owner's yards.	
16	Submission - Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	I would like to see certain off leash times made applicable to the Mundys Mooring / North point reserve as presently dog owners treat this area as a 'dog park' and allow their dogs to run freely the length of the reserve often annoying and harassing walkers, residents, families picnicking etc not to mention defecating so far away the owners can't even see them. I suggest introducing off leash 6am - 9am and the remainder of the time required to be on leash.	-
17	Draft Animal Management Plan	<p>I wish to make some comments re the Draft plan -</p> <p>As a retired veterinarian, I hope my thoughts will be considered.</p> <p>I fully agree with the Plan re dogs, but the cat plan needs further directions.</p> <p>I think we should bite the bullet &amp; just confine cats, full stop! Microchipping, desexing are non negotiable.</p> <p>Cats kept indoors or in outdoor cages are much healthier &amp; they are happy.</p> <p>We have cats belonging to neighbours that terrorise the birds nesting in our garden. They also do a lot of damage to our garden, scratching out seedlings etc.</p> <p>Even if I caught the offending cats in a trap, what would I do with them? Even if they were confined over night, that would be a big step forward.</p>	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		But personally I would like them to be confined full time. Perhaps this regulation could be introduced over a couple of years so the general population have time to digest this idea.	-
18	Submission - Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	<p>With reference to the proposed "Changes" listed below;</p> <p>I have walked my two dogs on the foreshore area for the past 10 years, 1 on the lead and 1 off. I have never, ever had a problem with either. What I do see is most people walking by the beach or on the beach and the dogs enjoying the water. All dogs are under control at all times. At the times they are permitted off leash, especially in the morning, they are no where near pedestrians or food businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foreshore area - proposed to be on-leash at all times due to high pedestrian activity, nearby food businesses, and community safety considerations.</li> </ul> <p>If you need to make any changes in this area, maybe bring the time back to say 7.45am. This is before most tradies start and businesses open. There would be lucky to be 10 people down there walking or on the beach at that time.</p> <p>I would also like to know who proposes these changes????? The one person that gets peeved, or is it the majority of people. Or is it Council on its own.</p>	Refer attachment 4
19	Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	See uploaded file.	

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
20	Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	<p>Hi, I would like to provide feedback on the Draft Animal Management Plan.</p> <p>Overall, I think the plan is very good and has good strategies for animals in the community. I agree with the on leash areas at the foreshore and CBD - I hope it is supported with more education and council presence in those areas to ensure compliance.</p> <p>In regard to the Prohibited Areas, particularly Ravendale Complex, in this large complex I would hope the council are lenient if someone has a dog in the complex but far away from the organised sports or training and that so long as the dogs present are able to be controlled effectively by their owner so as not to approach the sports/training, people would not be penalised.</p> <p>Two areas are of concern for me.</p> <p>The first is ownership of more than 2 dogs at residential premises, including longer term visitors who bring extra pets with them. I would like the Council to not allow more than 2 dogs per residence in the township area. We are currently impacted by a property that has 3 dogs and the noise created is a nuisance and a disturbance. I don't think any breeder or kennel situation should be allowed in the town and should be restricted to large rural style blocks with good separation to the neighbours. This is particularly relevant as dog ownership in rentals has been relaxed which will mean more dogs in the community generally.</p> <p>The second concern is cat management. I believe all pet cats should be registered and microchipped, the same as dogs must be. I would also like to see regulations that require domestic cats to be contained within their own property, either inside the buildings, or in a</p>	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>"cat run" and not allowed to roam in the community. They are a risk to wildlife and create a nuisance when entering others yards, both in faeces left and in disturbance to pet dogs who are rightfully contained.</p> <p>I hope that SA broadly and the Port Lincoln Council look to introduce containment regulations for cats in the near future.</p>	
21	Draft Animal Management Plan	<p>I am a local veterinarian and I have read the Draft Animal Management Plan. It seems a reasonable document, however I wonder if Council has considered a subsidised desexing scheme for cats and dogs? This is a service that is sorely needed in our area.</p>	-
22	Laguna Beach proposal	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I have been taking my Groodle, [REDACTED] to Laguna Beach for his whole life. I can't afford to always drive to out of town beaches, with the cost of fuel nowadays.</p> <p>Laguna is a great place to be able to take dogs off leash, so that they can run in and out of the water, and get the exercise they need.</p> <p>I appreciate the doggie bags that are available, and always take one with me, pick up his droppings, and bin them.</p> <p>If there are other people on the beach, I take [REDACTED] away from them, so as not to disturb their peace. He is a very well behaved dog, who will come to me when I ask, or sit and wait for me to catch up. If other people or dogs turn up, I put him on leash until they can say if they want our dogs to play off leash or not.</p>	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>Being on leash just does not allow him the freedom and exercise he needs.</p> <p>I have just come from there again, where we met up with another dog owner, who was very happy for them to play off leash. It warms my heart to see the two dogs chasing each other in and out of the water, running off their energy, and living a happy, healthy life.</p> <p>Please don't take away our off leash, in town beach. █ is now 10 years old, and he so loves going there. He also swims with me whenever I go in the water, and he can't do that on lead, he'd drown!</p>	-
	Laguna Beach proposal	<p>Hello again,</p> <p>Further to my letter last night (7th December). It was mentioned, in the proposal, that this was to protect environmentally sensitive areas. There is no natural landscape left in that area to protect. It consists of a man made beach and lawned area. I fail to see how dogs, whether they are on leash or off leash, can be a threat to this environment. Isn't it true that the boats coming in and out are more of a risk to the environment? I believe this area should be left as is, for the fishing industry to use, for people to use, and for dogs to run free and exercise as they should.</p>	-
	Laguna	<p>Third and final email from me, and once again, thank you for your time.</p> <p>If, after the community has had their say about the proposed changes to the Laguna Drive off leash rules, council still decides to go ahead, can we please, at least have off leash before</p>	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>8am? That will allow dogs to get the exercise they need, and be gone, before the beach is used for swimming and leisure.</p> <p>I often go there between 6:30 and 7:30am, and rarely see anyone, other than an occasional dog walker.</p>	
23	Animal management plan	<p>Hi, I'd like to have my say on the on leash dog proposal areas please.</p> <p>Please leave Laguna Beach as an off leash area. It's the ONLY beach in town my dog hasn't been attacked at.</p> <p>It has very few problems there at all, none that I've encountered, and everyone is very respectful.</p> <p>The front beach is definitely a problem area, I'm too scared to take my dog there at all anymore. I've witnessed three other dogs be attacked nastily there in 12 months. Thank you</p>	<p>-</p>
24	Draft Animal Management Plan	I am happy to attend Council and discuss further.	<p>Refer attachment 5</p> <p>Doc: 104568</p>
25	Draft Animal Management Plan	I offer feedback regarding the PL Foreshore area proposed to be on-leash at all times due to high pedestrian activity, nearby food businesses, and community safety considerations. As a daily early morning user of this area, I urge Council to continue to allow off-leash as per the current arrangements until 8:30am. My experience over more than a decade of walking my	<p>-</p>

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>dog/s before work (and into retirement) is that the dogs off-leash are well-socialised and non-aggressive, thus community safety is not at risk. Walkers using the area at this time are friendly and enjoy greeting the dogs as much as other people; whilst dog owners are responsible enough to ensure their dog is obedient and the vast majority pick up after their pet. Between 6:30-8:30am, there is NOT high pedestrian activity along the beach or foreshore path and lawns. There is a steady trickle of 'regulars' at the same time most days, with a slight increase in the warmer months. Bicyclists along the path are certainly more of a safety issue than people walking dogs!</p> <p>Apart from the Beach Bakery, there are no food businesses along the sea-side of Tasman Tce operating at this time and the dogs I see off-leash are far more interested in having a swim than heading towards the road. The ability to be able to walk dogs in a flat area, with an easily accessible beach, greatly benefits both the walkers and their pets. During summer months, it is an area where dogs picking up prickles and grass seeds in their fur is not an issue. The off-leash walk is part of a daily routine that sustains social interaction and physical wellbeing for all of us. (PS I commend Council on the Dog Park as a great initiative too.)</p>	-
26	Dog and Cat Management Plan	<p>Not enough being done about cats</p> <p>This is a plan for dogs and hand balling the cat problem</p>	Refer attachment 6
	Dog and Cat Management Plan	<p>not enough being done for cats</p>	

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
27	Cat Management	<p>Not enough is being done about the cats here in Port Lincoln. We have one cat rescue here, which is entirely funded by donations and nothing else, and they are currently carrying all of the work that should 100% be distributed across multiple bodies. Other councils have implemented methods that have worked, and I wonder why nothing is being done currently, but rather being palmed off to other people.</p>	-
28	More help for cat rescue	<p>There is not enough support for the local cat rescue in Port Lincoln the situation with people not desexing their cats is out of control and needs to be policed in certain areas start issuing fines to people not desexing their cats. Also find a solution to offer cheaper desexing. It is council's responsibility to deal with this issue not the public to take on all the unloved and neglected cats. Please look into offering making a difference cat rescue an appropriate premises they can utilise to hold all the cats being handed into them to take the pressure off having to house them in their own homes. RSPCA should never have closed here the money from Mrs Broad was promised to stay in the community and she was lied to. The poor excuse that the numbers of cats being sent to the RSPCA had declined was due to the RSPCA refusing to take cats in so of course it would decline the community were lied to.</p>	-
29	animal management plan feedback	<p>Hi, my feedback is in relation to cats in the management plan.</p> <p>There is a huge problem with feral, stray, and simply uncontained cats in Port Lincoln. I live in Lincoln South, and have constant issues with cats in our garden, climbing the fences, defecating in the yard (which is dirty, carries parasites, and not fun when we'll have a toddler playing in the yard soon), paw prints on the car windscreen, etc. So often when</p>	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>driving around town there are cats running across the road at all hours of the day and night. It's well known that cats hunt all kinds of native and endangered animals, including native birds and lizards. We also have a beautiful national park just down the road, home to endangered native species. I've seen cat prints on beaches on the eastern side of the park. This really saddens me. I'm very happy to see strategies aiming to address the problem of feral and stray cats in the plan. However, in writing this, I urge the council to consider stronger stances on cat management from the beginning. Please consider curfews, mandatory containment (like dogs), penalties for owned cats found wandering or found undesexed, funded trapping and euthanising programs. Please consider our environment and the massive detrimental impact that cats currently have on it.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>	-
30	Submission - Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	<p>Dear Council members,</p> <p>One of the best parts of living here in beautiful Port Lincoln is taking my dog to the front beach and throwing the ball for her. Watching her run and chase it down the sand and in the water brings her so much joy, myself such joy and the people who stop to watch joy. The kids that laugh with excitement as they watch my dog catch the ball! Your proposal seeks to take this away.</p> <p>What is the ratio of dog owners to non dog owners on the council panel proposing this change?</p>	

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>Was there a survey done based on complaints to warrant this proposed change? If so is the data available for the public?</p> <p>Why is the council so restrictive in its thinking? Instead of taking away why not provide more spaces and offer education?</p> <p>The council wants to turn community park lands into infrastructure and now restrict dogs from chasing a ball down the beach. Has the council lost touch with why we live on the EP?</p> <p>The same council that has allowed rockets to be launched on the most sacred land.</p> <p>How can you acknowledge country in your proposals but your actions be so opposing?</p> <p>I am NOT in support of the proposed changes to reduce off lead dog areas, in particular the foreshore.</p> <p>It seems dog owners that train their dog and can keep them under control while off lead are being punished and even worse, the dogs are being punished. Where can a dog go to cool off and chase a ball bouncing down the beach? North Shields is not accessible to everyone.</p> <p>Seems unfair to just make a blanket rule that affects everyone and ultimately will still be hard to manage. And is this the best use of tax payer money? Paying someone to police if a dog is on lead or not?</p> <p>Why not use that money to run free dog training programs for owners?</p> <p>Why is there no alternatives? At least propose to leave the beach free for off leash activities and on lead for the grassed area. Does the council expect people to have to drive out to North Shields so they throw the ball for their dog? What if they don't own a car?</p>	

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>Your proposal is to take away off leash rights at the foreshore but I did not see any other areas being made available, this seems again unfair. Please correct me if I'm wrong.</p> <p>I think it is unfair to assume that off leash dogs are the cause of faeces left behind (as stated in your proposal). It is the owners who leave the faeces behind regardless of the dog being on a lead or not.</p> <p>Yes, dog owners should pick up after their dogs and could this also be a service provided through a council volunteer program? Incentivised with free dog registration or ran through schools? It's no different to picking up rubbish right?</p> <p>Every time I go to the foreshore and let my dog run off leash and enjoy her self I pick up some rubbish, and I've seen other dog walkers with their dog off lead do the same. Again, I feel strongly that this proposal is not considering those doing the right thing.</p> <p>Further more, dog owners pay significant fees to register their dog, what are we seeing done with that money over the next 5 years? I didn't see any pound upgrades proposed, like some grass and dirt to dig and sniff around in. What about a program that pays dog walkers to take dogs that have been taken to the pound for walks? There is so much space up at the dump that could be used as walking area for them.</p> <p>There must a few thousands dogs here.</p> <p>At modest calculations the council would be collecting hundreds of thousands of dollars annually from dog registration fees.</p>	

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>Having dogs on leash on the footpaths through business district makes sense for both dog and traffic safety.</p> <p>I think it would be naive for business owners to forget a large part of cafe goers are dogs owners and often stop in cafes because they are out walking their dog (on or off leash).</p> <p>I look forward to your findings and feedback.</p>	
31	Animal Management Plan 2026 - 2030	<p>Hi Council</p> <p>We would like to comment and voice our opinion regarding the A M P.</p> <p>We are in favour of both proposals, the foreshore and Laguna Drive Park to be on leash areas. Council has provided a suitable off leash park for dogs along Windsor Ave.</p> <p>Our family lives at [REDACTED] Pt Lincoln backing onto Mundy's Mooring Reserve and North Point Reserve. We have lived there for 35 years, we had a dog for many years, as some of our neighbours had and still do.</p> <p>We feel Council has let the property owners of North Point Ave and Surfleet Pl down by designating Mundy's Mooring Reserve and North Point Reserve as a off leash Dog Park.</p> <p>This area was once a peaceful recreational park, able to be enjoyed by everyone.</p> <p>We would like the Council to reconsider turning Mundy's Mooring Reserve and North Point Reserve to a on leash area including the beach.</p> <p>We have many reasons why this should be done, and can list our reasons if you require them</p>	<p>Refer attachment 7</p> <p>Doc: 104918</p>

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
32	Submission - Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	<p>Dear Port Lincoln City Council,</p> <p>Thank you for providing an opportunity for me to have my say.</p> <p>I strongly believe that our foreshore should be a place of safety for everyone to enjoy. It's not only a place for our local community but also an icon for our tourism industry.</p> <p>As a dog owner myself, I would greatly appreciate our foreshore to become an on leash only at all times environment.</p> <p>Unfortunately many dog owners have different views of "under effect control" as my dog has had many interactions while on leash where other dogs off leash have tried to attack and intimidate her.</p> <p>We are both now concerned regularly when a dog off leash approaches us and my dog will drop to the ground and display submissive behaviour.</p> <p>Other off leash dog owners say this is cute, however I'm aware it is fear.</p> <p>We have the right to go for a morning walk at 6am for our physical health and mental wellbeing and not have to worry or feel fear about what could happen.</p> <p>At any time of the day this should be available, local families with small children are out walking early in the mornings too.</p> <p>Please do not wait for a serious incident where a dog, child or person is attacked by a dog off leash. They are animals and no one can predict their behaviour at all times.</p>	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>I also believe dogs off leash contribute significantly to the amount of dog poo along the foreshore walking trail.</p> <p>Our wonderful community also has a dog park for off leash dogs to run freely.</p> <p>On leash at all times for the foreshore please and thank you again.</p> <p>I look forward to the outcome of this matter after your careful considerations.</p>	-
33	Submission - Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030	<p>My suggestions on future dog and cat management in the city of Port Lincoln area.</p> <p>1/ All dogs and cats to be registered by the age of 3 months. Seller to include registration fees before handing over to new owner. If a dog or cat found straying is not registered, the fine goes back to both the current owner and the supplier of that animal.</p> <p>2/ Cats to be registered, and carry the same fees as dogs.</p> <p>3/ A limit of 2 cats and or 2 dogs, per household / property. No exceptions.</p> <p>5/ No breeders in the city of P/L city boundaries. If a breeder wishes to set up a business, they must obtain council permission to run a breeding business, prior to setting up such a business, which includes a property inspection.</p> <p>4/ All cats and dogs to be contained on the property, shown as the owners address, and registration papers, 24 hrs / day. Unless they are out exercising under the owners supervision.</p> <p>6/ Dogs contained in a secure yard with appropriate fencing to contain that dog /dogs.</p>	

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>7/ Cats to have appropriate cage facilities to ensure they do not wander, from their yard. Fencing means nothing to a cat. Therefore it must be kept in an enclosed cage, or in the house.</p> <p>8/ Barking dogs!! More council involvement in curbing barking dogs.</p> <p>9/ Restriction on some breeds of dogs and TOTAL ban on some.</p> <p>10/ If a dog attacks, even once, it is to be assessed by authorities as to whether it is allowed to be kept or disposed of.</p> <p>My thoughts on dog and cat management.</p>	-
34	RE: Draft Animal Management Plan	<p>Hi All , I have had a read over the Animal Management Plan, and it looks well developed. Mostly I just noted a couple of typographical issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On page 14, I note there is a reference to business registration, which will be removed once the relevant sections of legislation come into effect. Whilst this isn't expected immediately, Council should be aware and consider if this could be updated now to suit. Otherwise future changes will be required once these provisions come into effect.</li> <li>2. On page 15 in the strategies box the Dog and Cat Management Board of SA website link (<a href="http://www.dogsncats.asn.au">www.dogsncats.asn.au</a>) doesn't work and my understanding is we don't maintain a database of dog breeds for assistance in pet selection. You could check with Dogs SA to see if there is a database they recommend? If DCMB is still to be listed use: Dog and Cat Management Board</li> </ol>	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>3. Again, on page 15 the RSPCA South Australia website link (<a href="http://www.rspcasa.asn.au">www.rspcasa.asn.au</a>) also doesn't appear to work, but I am unsure if they still have a database with potentially a different link?</p> <p>4. On page 16 you have "except an accredited assistance dog that is required to remain off-lead in order to fulfil its functions" Assistance Animals under section 9(2)(c) of the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992 are not considered accredited assistance dogs under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 however they are still considered an Assistance Animal with the rights entitled to them under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.</p> <p>a. It might be better to say something like: "except an assistance animal recognised by the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 or Disability Discrimination Act 1992 that is required to remain off-lead in order to fulfil its functions".</p> <p>5. Also, on page 16 the formatting implies that these are links to Tables at the end of the document "See Table 1 Dog On Leash Areas" and "See Table 2 Dog Prohibited Areas" - if they are meant to be linked they did not work when I tried clicking on them</p> <p>a. Note: in line with the new guideline, these could be links to an online page on Council website if Council wishes, to allow for the information to be updated without the need to update the plan)</p> <p>6. Map 3 on page 25 has the map mark I, J, K and L was this intentional rather than starting at A?? Also, in the legend against I it states "Centenary Oval and between 8.30am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday" I think the and in red is an error.</p>	

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>When the plan is finalised can you please let us know in line with the new requirements under section 26A of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.</p> <p>I hope this helps, let me know if you have any other questions.</p>	
35	DRAFT ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026 TO 2030	<p>I have read the city of Port Lincoln Draft Management Plan 2026 to 2030. The following are things I believe should be considered during this draft plan.</p> <p>It is noted that the current proposals outlined in the draft have a majority focus on DOG ownership, control, fines and most importantly REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.</p> <p>In this plan Council has the opportunity to impose mandatory CAT registration with a fee charged as is required by dog owners. Many Councils Australia wide have imposed this in their Animal Management and Port Lincoln Council has an obligation to manage both feral and domestic cats within their jurisdiction. Currently there are no fines imposed on cat owners who DO NOT have their cats under 'effective control' or registered. If a member of the public has a cat problem they (as documented in the Draft Plan) can PAY to hire a cat trap! With revenue obtained with mandatory CAT REGISTRATION, cat traps could be purchased from Council and provided FREE to the public. This could have a huge impact to our cities roaming &amp; feral cat population and make cat owners more responsible and accountable in controlling their animal. This is what is ALWAYS expected of dog owners with warnings of fines etc for not following Council 'rules'</p> <p>Regarding our current Dog Park. This needs to be enlarged to include the current unused tennis court area. This should be separate to the current area so there is one area for small</p>	-

Respondent	Subject	Description	Attachments
		<p>dogs and the other for large dogs. I am sure Council is very aware of the ongoing 'dramas' of (some) small dog owners causing significant problems to large dog owners.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to read the above. More focus needs to be applied to CAT CONTROL in this Animal Management Plan.</p> <p>Sincerely</p> <p>City of Port Lincoln Rate Payer</p>	

# Feedback on Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-20230

**This feedback relates to the dog-related aspects of the draft.**

1. Overall, the plan is sound but it needs to be managed assertively. Problem dogs and their owners are as much a problem to other dog owners as they are to non dog owners. People who fail to clean up faeces and who let aggressive dogs run free, threaten real harm to our dogs.
2. Council officers need to be out and about being proactive and issuing warnings to non-compliant owners, especially in the warmer months when there are more dogs using the public areas.
3. The barking response is inadequate. If several neighbours report the same barking dog, there should be no need for a 'barking diary.' Alert barking is natural. Constant barking for long periods is not natural and there should be zero tolerance for this kind of behaviour.
4. I think it would be very sad to see the whole of the foreshore designated an on leash area. The ends of the beach should be OK for dogs 'under control'. A preferred option could be 'on lease within 200 meters of the jetty'.
5. If Laguna Beach is to be an on-leash area, a map should be included to identify this beach which does not seem to appear in any of the maps provided.
6. a) It should not be necessary to ban dogs from ovals and community events provided they are on leash. People attend events as families and dogs are considered family members.  
b) If training is taking place in one area of Centenary, there is no harm in permitting dogs on leash or under the control of a trainer to be in other areas.
7. a) I would like to see council showing initiative in respect to alfresco dining. Frankly, I am tired of having my totally peaceful dog attacked by other dogs that should not be in that environment.  
b) I don't think it is reasonable for diners to be interrupted by barking dogs.  
c) I also do not believe that dogs should be allowed on the furniture especially the tables. This is a health/hygiene issue.
8. There are currently no incentives for dog training in the Port Lincoln City Council area. Trained dogs in other areas enjoy discounted registration fees.
9. In my opinion, it would be helpful to set up an advisory body to assist the council with dog management. Such a body could assist in monitoring the Management Plan and the Dog Park as well as contributing to community education in respect to dog ownership.
10. I would recommend that the majority of the area adjacent to the Dog Park be earmarked for future development as a dog training and dog owner education center. Other councils like the Port Augusta City Council have made generous arrangements for dog training provided by clubs and their volunteers.



## **Draft Animal Management Plan 2026 – 2030**

I wish to comment on the above management plan, and in particular on Cat Management.

I'm absolutely against domestic cat ownership, and this reason is for the protection of our native fauna.

My position on your draft plan for domestic cat management, is that it is non-committal, and does nothing to address the Council's statement of 'Strengthened provisions for cat containment and registration.'

There is nothing in this management plan as listed on page 21 of the draft that makes any meaningful effort to contain cats, and their responsibility for the decimation of our native species. This is because it depends on cat owners to do the right thing and pay to desex, microchip and register their cats. People will simply not pay the money, and the cats end up un-desexed and then in the wild as ferals.

Everywhere across our country our native wildlife is being decimated by feral animals, and none more so than birdlife and small reptiles as a result of domesticated and feral cats.

Registering a cat won't stop it killing wildlife! The Council needs to take effective action on cat ownership, and that should involve limiting cats per household to 1 cat, and ensuring they cannot roam at all.

The idea that someone can own a cat, which then roams the area freely and uncontrolled is ridiculous. I don't like cats and I don't own one, and therefore I should not have to deal with someone else's pet cat running through my yard. Many people who own cats never see them expect when they appear for meal times, and they are out all night with no restriction.

People who own dogs generally don't turn them loose to roam the streets off the lead at day and night, it should be the same for cats.

No cat should be able to have unlimited access to roam where it likes. Responsible cat ownership is to keep them indoors at all times – and/or have a contained cat run in the back yard for exercise.

I'm calling on the Council to take a harder line against cats and start by:

1. Limiting the number of them that people can own
2. Ensuring that no cat can roam freely to kill wildlife and impacting other people's property such as faeces in sandpits etc which is a health risk.
3. Fines to apply for unlicensed cat breeders – you should only be able to purchase a desexed cat from a licensed breeder.
4. All cats to be desexed or a fine applies.
5. All cats must wear a bell to limit killing of wildlife.

I understand there are many responsible cat owners in the community that love their pets and do the right thing, however attitudes are changing and the plight of our native wildlife is dependent on Councils taking a harder stance on cat ownership.

I hope the Port Lincoln Council recognises this and your policies reflect changing community attitudes and expectations.

Thanks for the chance to comment.



[yoursay@plcc.sa.gov.au](mailto:yoursay@plcc.sa.gov.au)

Thank you for the message about Port Lincoln Draft Management plan.

Upon reading it I wish to object to one aspect of the key proposed changes.

- 1) That "**Laguna Beach area be on leash at all times**"- **NO**. This is the only small beach with adjacent lawn area for families and their dog/s, where dogs can easily be controlled off leash( due to the boundaries set by residential properties) with access to the water for dogs and families to swim. **I strongly oppose this proposal.** This is one of the few more centrally located areas where dogs can be exercised by their owners off leash. Currently Mundy's Landing has partially designated lawn space for dogs to exercise off leash,however beach access is not suitable due to the razorfish beds and rocky/marshy entry points.
- 2) I accept that the Tasman Terrace foreshore should be an on leash area due to high volume of people usage on a daily basis.

I would like to comment that the current fenced "Dog Park", on the corner of Windsor Ave and Proper Bay Road , is grossly inadequate size wise and with minimal shelter /shade. This has the ex-Ravendale tennis club facilities alongside , currently unused, which I believe could also have been incorporated into the site ( especially for people toilets!) and in turn made the area larger for exercising of dogs- especially as Ravendale oval toilet facilities are considerable distance away and are not open for public use on non sporting event days or the after hours times when people often exercise dogs.

Recently I took 2 very active medium sized dogs to the fenced Reserve Street dog park in Trott Park( south of Adelaide CBD) which had ample space for numerous larger dogs to exercise without interfering with each other ; with much shade , several watering stations for dogs including working waterwise taps above these , occasional seating ( bench or large gum logs) and access to toilet facilities just outside one of the 3 entrances. To have something similar in Port Lincoln would be a huge complimentary bonus for meeting many aspects of the Strategic directions goals (2025-2034).

I am happy to meet with council representation to discuss my comments further and trust that these will be included in the draft considerations.

Thank You

[REDACTED]

Submission on the “Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030,” Port Lincoln Council

[REDACTED]

I will congratulate the council on the “Draft Animal Management Plan 2026-2030. However, I disagree with the proposal: “Laguna Beach - proposed to be on-leash at all times to protect environmentally sensitive areas and accommodate increasing recreational use.” This proposal seems not to be in the management plan at all.

My reason to disagree.

I take my dog, “[REDACTED],” a GSP, to Laguna Beach every day because he suffers from arthritis and enjoys running along the beach and into the water, which helps him through the day. He carries an electronic dog collar, which “hums” when activated. He is trained to hear the call and respond immediately. Most days I am alone. I cannot support the argument that Laguna Beach is exposed to increased recreational use. On a few days a year, there may be several (3-4) dogs and their owners; most are property owners on Laguna Drive. I talk to the owners of the properties that face the water, and at least three dogs are from there. I have had no complaints but rather the opposite. I have noticed that in the afternoons some unknown dog owners visit the park area because their dogs leave droppings. Mostly, people take care of their dogs’ droppings. During the summer, families come to the beach, but only one or two at anyone time. Some have dogs with them. Then, I keep my dog on the far side of the beach to avoid contact.

I cannot agree with the notion that it is an environmentally sensitive area. It’s a lawn with grass of introduced species, and the sand on the beach is industrial sand. The lawn is sprayed regularly to remove flowering plants. I acknowledge that the plantings are taken well care of by the council but also by the local property owners.

For me personally, it will be a problem if I lose access to the now off-leash area at Laguna Beach. There is nowhere else to go in the marina. It is the beach that is attractive (and the friendly people living there). The closest off-leash area (fenced) is further away and small. In this type of area, there is an increased risk of transferring diseases between dogs. It is therefore disappointing if the council chooses Laguna Beach to be off-leash. I will add that several locals, including myself, pick up garbage left on the beach or lawn, including dog droppings, to keep the place tidy. I have received no complaints about my dog.

Laguna Beach is in contrast with Mundy’s Mooring at Adelphi Tc. There, I have had several encounters with attacking dogs in pairs, leading to hefty vet bills. The owners are completely ignorant of their dogs’ actions and usually out of sight. The beach there is largely inaccessible to dogs because of razor clams. I could suggest that Mundy’s Mooring be on-leash, but I’m afraid these dogs will visit Laguna Beach instead.

[REDACTED].

[REDACTED]  
Port Lincoln SA

3 December 2025.

To: City of Port Lincoln

**Subject: Opposition to Proposed On-Leash Policy at Laguna Beach**

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed policy requiring dogs to be on-leash at all times at Laguna Beach.

Laguna Beach is not a high-traffic dog area compared to Mundy's Beach, where dogs are allowed off-leash, provided they remain under control as indicated by signage.

The current arrangements at Laguna have worked extremely well for many years. Dogs and beach users coexist harmoniously, and I have not observed any significant issues that would warrant such a restrictive change.

I have several concerns regarding this proposal:

1. **Enforcement** – How will Council effectively police this policy?

Enforcement resources are already limited, and compliance will be challenging.

2. **Environmental Justification** – What specific environmentally sensitive areas exist at Laguna Beach? The area is largely lawned and open sand, with minimal vegetation. In fact, environmental concerns such as rubbish washed up on the beach and boats discharging oil and wastewater into the ocean pose far greater risks to the health of the beach and environmental surrounds than dogs.

I personally walk the beach with [REDACTED] off leash every day and collect rubbish to help keep the area clean, which shows the community's commitment to maintaining the environment.

3. **Community Experience** – I live [REDACTED] to Laguna Beach and frequently use the area to spend time with my grandchildren and our dog, [REDACTED]. It has always been a safe and enjoyable space for both people and dogs.

I regularly contact the Council to request additional dog waste bags, which reflects the community's commitment to responsible dog ownership.

4. **Impact on Residents** – The current system works well and supports recreation and social interaction. Changing this could negatively affect local residents and visitors without clear benefit.

5. **Dog Exercise Space** – The designated dog park is not large enough for many dogs to run freely or play ball. If Laguna Beach becomes on-leash only, there will be no suitable space for dogs to exercise adequately, which is essential for their health and wellbeing.

6. **Responsible Ownership** – Many dog owners have invested in dog obedience training to ensure their pets are under effective voice control. If Council is concerned about off-leash behaviour, a more balanced approach could be to require proof of obedience training for off-leash access rather than imposing a blanket restriction.
7. **Practical Alternative** – Instead of Council checking whether dogs are on-leash, a better solution would be to verify dog obedience certification through an online registration app. This would encourage responsible ownership and provide a practical enforcement mechanism without removing off-leash privileges entirely.

Additionally, under the **Dog and Cat Management Act 1995**, dogs in public places must be under *effective control*, which can be achieved either by:

- Keeping the dog on a leash no longer than two metres, **or**
- Keeping the dog in sight and under voice control so it responds immediately to commands.

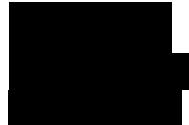
Laguna Beach has successfully operated under these principles for years without major incidents. This demonstrates that the Act already provides a balanced framework for managing dogs responsibly without imposing unnecessary restrictions.

I urge Council to reconsider this proposal and instead:

- Maintain the current arrangements at Laguna Beach.
- Continue providing facilities such as dog waste bags.
- Focus enforcement efforts on higher-traffic areas where issues are more likely to occur.
- Consider requiring obedience training certification for off-leash privileges, verified via an online registration system, rather than removing off-leash access entirely.

Thank you for considering this feedback.

Yours sincerely,



## 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

If traps are made “available to the community to trap cats” who is policing what happens next? Is this being done humanely? Where do these cats go? If the cat is a mother are her kittens being found and dealt with appropriately or left to starve to death?

Do the vets know about this plan and what is their plan for dealing with stray, unwanted or lost cats? Who is paying the vets?

The current number of stray cats is incredible but do we know actual or even approximate numbers? Each Summer the number is growing without there being any clear plan to reduce numbers. The community is great at rehoming kittens but we are surely going to reach “saturation” point at some stage soon.

Making A Difference Cat Rescue and Adoption are trying hard on the money they raise themselves but I feel the service is stretched too thin and the expectation too great.

These are my personal thoughts.

I would like to see Council working WITH existing groups and businesses to make a better long term plan for the cats, kittens and environment in Port Lincoln.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 10 December 2025 3:04 PM  
**To:** YourSay  
**Subject:** Doc 104918 Animal Management Plan 2026 - 2030

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hi Council

We would like to comment and voice our opinion regarding the A M P.

We are in favour of both proposals, the foreshore and Laguna Drive Park to be on leash areas. Council has provided a suitable off leash park for dogs along Windsor Ave.

Our family lives at [REDACTED] Pt Lincoln backing onto Mundy's Mooring Reserve and North Point Reserve.

We have lived there for 35 years, we had a dog for many years, as some of our neighbours had and still do.

We feel Council has let the property owners of North Point Ave and Surfleet Pl down by designating Mundy's Mooring Reserve and North Point Reserve as a off leash Dog Park. This area was once a peaceful recreational park, able to be enjoyed by everyone.

We would like the Council to reconsider turning Mundy's Mooring Reserve and North Point Reserve to a on leash area including the beach.

We have many reasons why this should be done, and can list our reasons if you require them





## Keep your dog under effective control

### Effective control:

- Dog is close to owner at all times.
- Dog can be seen by owner at all times.
- Dog responds to verbal commands.



### Not effective control:

- Dog runs away from owner.
- Dog jumps on, or runs at, other animals and people.
- Dog does not respond to verbal commands.



Your dog may be off lead in this area, provided it is under effective control.

City of  
**Port Lincoln**  
Southern Capital of Australia

