



Dog and Cat Management Plan 2017-2022

DRAFT

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Introduction by the Chief Executive Officer

During the next two years, changes will be made to legislation that governs the way South Australians look after their dogs and cats. As such, it's timely that our Council reviews its Dog and Cat Management Plan in readiness for these changes and to ensure that the issues highlighted by our community in the 2012-2017 Animal Management are being considered.

This Dog and Cat Management Plan provides a summary of how we have been progressing the control and wellbeing of domestic animals in West Torrens, not just from a regulatory perspective but education as well. It also outlines how we will address Council's responsibilities when it comes to changes in the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.

The City of West Torrens aims to foster responsible dog and cat management by encouraging residents to:

- select the right pet; taking into consideration compatibility, lifestyle, care and cost
- be mindful of minimising possible negative impacts on neighbours, the wider community and the environment
- be a good citizen by complying with relevant laws and responsibilities.

Council has a role to inform and educate pet owners about their responsibilities and what the changes to legislation will mean to them. We also have a duty to ensure that those who don't have dogs and cats can enjoy public open spaces and peace at home without encountering nuisance animal behaviours.

This supports the aspirations set out in our Community Plan 'Towards 2025'.

Council's Community Plan is our over-arching blueprint that helps us prepare for the future of our city across all aspects - community life, natural and built environment, business and financial sustainability.

As part of our Community Plan, we are committed to engaging with our community and encouraging them to be part of an active, healthy and learning community. We are also aspiring to provide well designed, functional open spaces that will meet the needs of our residents, pet owners included.

Council recognises the benefits that owning a pet can have for individuals and families. We understand that the majority of pet owners in West Torrens do the right thing by their pet, as well as the local community, so we want to ensure that the education and support our Council provides will help when it comes to enacting the new legislative changes.

Because changes are occurring over the next two years, we plan to provide an opportunity for our residents to offer feedback and suggestions once all legislation changes have been adopted.

Our Vision is to be the best place to live, work and enjoy life. We trust you share our vision!

Terry Buss
Chief Executive Officer



Why do we need a Dog and Cat Management Plan?

The *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* requires all South Australian councils to prepare a five year Dog and Cat Management Plan for their area. A new plan is required to replace the 2012-2017 Animal Management Plan.

This Dog and Cat Management Plan 2017-2022 (the Plan) builds on the previous animal management plans produced by Council, previous community concerns, our Community Plan 'Towards 2025' and By-Law 5 - Dogs while incorporating the new legislative responsibilities for dog and cat owners and councils.

The main focus of the Plan is to address the immediate need to implement the changes to the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* throughout 2017 and 2018, supporting the community with a smooth and informed transition. We aim to do this by:

- proactive communication and education strategies
- implementing short term actions to alleviate immediate impacts
- setting realistic, long term actions to address the causes of problems
- committing to measurable activities
- taking a whole-of-Council approach with actions identified from across Council
- prioritising actions to support local community needs.

Changes to the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995

In 2012 the Parliament of South Australia held a Select Committee on Dogs and Cats as Companion Animals (the Committee) and sought public opinion on dog and cat ownership in South Australia. The Final Report of the Committee¹ made 13 recommendations in relation to:

- options for the regulation of welfare standards for breeding companion dogs and cats
- the adequacy of regulation of the source of companion dogs and cats for sale
- the adequacy of regulation of non-retail-shop trade in companion dogs and cats
- the feasibility of a mandatory cooling off period between registering intent to purchase a companion dog or cat and taking possession of the animal
- how the registration, microchipping and de-sexing of companion dogs and cats might address the goals of eliminating cruelty and minimising euthanasia.

Following the publication of the Final Report of the Committee, the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* was reviewed so the recommendations could be addressed. The review process included public consultation through the South Australian Government's 'yourSAy' website and a Citizen's Jury on Dog and Cat Management. The Citizen Jury 2015 Final Report to the Government of South Australia, 'Reducing unwanted Dogs and Cats'² completed the public consultation process and made a further 7 recommendations in relation to:

- preventing abandonment
- reducing supply
- reuniting pets with their owners.

In July 2016 the *Dog and Cat Management Amendment Bill* was passed in the South Australian Parliament with implementation dates set for the 1 July 2017 and 1 July 2018.

¹ Parliament of South Australia (2013) *Final Report of the Select Committee on Dogs and Cats as Companion Animals* Second Session, Fifty Second Parliament

² Citizen's Jury 'Reducing Unwanted Dogs and Cats' (2015) *Final Report to the Government of South Australia* DemocracyCo

The main changes to the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* include:

- **Dog registration** - Registration categories of 'Standard Dog' and 'Non-Standard Dog', replacing the rebates for desexing, microchipping and training.
- **Microchipping** - introducing the requirement for all dogs and cats over three months of age to be microchipped.
- **Desexing** - introducing the requirement (proposed) for all new generations of dogs and cats over six months of age to be desexed.
- **Breeder registration** – introducing a requirement for anyone who breeds dogs and cats for sale to register as a breeder with the Dog and Cat Management Board (the Board).
- **Selling requirements** - Sellers must provide certain information in advertisements and to the buyer.
- **Council powers** – councils to have greater powers to administer and enforce the Act including increases in some expiations and penalties.

About the City of West Torrens

West Torrens has a steady growing population with around 59,000 people currently living in the area.

Conveniently located between Adelaide's Central Business District (CBD) and the South Australian coastline, West Torrens is considered by many as a great location in which to live.

Our community is a vibrant mix of nationalities. People from countries such as Greece, Italy, the United Kingdom, China, India and Vietnam all help make up our cultural richness. They have brought with them their different customs, cuisines and music.

West Torrens is home to the Adelaide Airport and provides a number of retail shopping precincts including Harbor Town, IKEA and the Mile End Homemaker Centre. It is also home to a range of recreational opportunities with parks, reserves, golf courses, ovals and wetlands.

The City of West Torrens is committed to being responsive to the needs, interests and aspirations of individuals and groups within its community and to ensure that services, facilities and programs that are provided adequately meet the needs of the community.

These ideals are formalised in the City of West Torrens' Community Plan '[Towards 2025](#)'.

Our Vision

We are committed to being the best place to live, work and enjoy life.

Our Mission

To strive for excellence in serving our diverse community.

Our Values

Accountability

Advocacy

Community Capacity

Community Involvement

Healthy Communities

Inclusivity

Quality

Supportive Working Environment

Animal management programs and services

Registration fees for dogs are set by the City of West Torrens as prescribed by the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*. For the first year of the Plan, 20 per cent of dog registration fees are to be paid to the Dog and Cat Management Fund. This percentage contribution increases to 24 per cent for dog registration fees collected after July 2018.

The income from registration fees supports the programs and services provided by the Council to both dog and cat owners, as well as to those who do not have pets. The City of West Torrens' Regulatory Services staff provide a broad range of dog and cat management services including:

- community education around responsible pet ownership
- recreational areas for the safe exercise of dogs
- dog faeces disposal bags throughout the area
- collection and return of dogs found wandering at large
- funding, sponsorship or 'in kind' resourcing of community projects
- investigation of reported dog harassments and attacks
- investigation and mediation of barking dog complaints
- investigation of nuisance cat complaints
- enforcing and administering clauses of By-Law 5 - Dogs
- registration of dogs within the area
- collection and provision of statistics to the Dog and Cat Management Board.

Community engagement

Given the implementation of the changes to the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* throughout 2017 and 2018, Council has determined that this five year plan will serve as an interim plan to focus on supporting the community with the transition to meet new legislative requirements.

The Plan continues to focus on the priority areas set by the community of West Torrens in the 2012-2017 Animal Management Plan. The actions within this Plan address the following areas:

- Promoting the positive benefits of pet ownership within the community.
- Desexing and microchipping of dogs and cats.
- Cat owner responsibilities and reducing nuisances.
- Un-owned cat populations.
- Barking dog nuisances.
- Dog faeces management.
- Dogs under effective control.
- Dog training and socialisation.

Ongoing community engagement on dog and cat management matters will be undertaken throughout the life of the Plan, with a review scheduled in 2019 once all of the legislative changes have been implemented throughout the community.

Facts at a glance

	2009/10		2015/16
Populations			
Estimated Population of people in the City of West Torrens ³	54,000	↑	59,000
Registration			
Number of registered dogs	6,533	↑	7,033
Number of registered Assistance dogs (Guide / Hearing Dogs)	6	↑	21
Number of registered Therapeutic Dogs	7	↓	0
Number of registered Guard Dogs	3	↓	0
Percentage of registered dogs that are desexed	66%	↑	73%
Percentage of registered dogs that are microchipped	34%	↑	72%
Impounding			
Number of dogs impounded annually	291	↓	206
Percentage of registered dogs impounded	4%	↓	3%
Percentage of impounded dogs returned to owners	77%	-	77%
Number of cats impounded annually	-		168
Percentage of impounded cats returned to owners	-		1%
Investigations			
Number of dog complaints annually	423	↑	743
Percentage of wandering complaints to total complaints	65%	↓	61%
Percentage of barking complaints to total complaints	18%	↑	21%
Number of cat complaints annually	16	↓	14
Pet management services			
Number of barking collars hired per annum	17	↓	1
Number of pets microchipped at microchipping days	97	↓	15
Number of permits issued for keeping additional dogs	-		33
Number of enclosed dog off-leash parks	1	↑	2
Number of doggy bag dispensers	68	↑	88
Number of cat cages hired per annum	17	↓	16

'Registration', 'Investigation' and 'Pet management services' data extracted from the City of West Torrens Pathway system
 'Impounding' data provided by the City of West Torrens detention facility

³ ID Community, City of West Torrens Community Profile - Australian Bureau of Statistics Census data

The directions for dog and cat management in our city

Key result areas:

1. Promote the community benefits of pet ownership

- Raise awareness of the benefits to the community as a whole.
- Support local programs that allow older and socially isolated residents and those with disability to have a pet.

2. Create a sustainable 'pet friendly' environment

- Incorporate the needs of pet owners in urban planning, open space planning and community development planning.
- Identify and enforce dog 'on leash' and 'off leash' areas to provide appropriate opportunities for exercising dogs.
- Minimise the amount of dog faeces in the environment.
- Provide safe detention facilities for lost and found dogs and cats.

3. Provide a strong regulatory framework

- Establish an appropriate mix of relevant laws, systems and procedures for animal management.
- Promote new requirements for local dog and cat breeders.
- Continuously improve the role, profile and capacity of authorised persons.

4. Maximise identification for life

- Maximise the registration of dogs.
- Support compliance of mandatory microchipping of dogs and cats.

5. Encourage good animal behaviours

- Educate dog and cat owners on caring for their pets.
- Support compliance of mandatory desexing of dogs and cats.
- Encourage dog owners to train and socialise their dogs.

Key result area 1: Promote the community benefits of pet ownership

Australia has one of the highest rates of pet ownership in the world, with 5.7 million of Australia's 9.2 million households being a home to a pet with dogs and cats being the most popular pet⁴.

Sadly the cost of pet ownership and the increase of high density living is reducing the ability for Australians to own a pet. These are factors that require consideration from local councils to ensure the community continue to see the health benefits of pet ownership, such as decreased risk of cardiovascular disease, higher self-esteem and social skills, higher physical activity and less visits to the doctor⁵.

The State Government's Seven Strategic Priorities includes 'safe communities, healthy neighbourhoods' which encourages the design of accessible public spaces, the promotion of physical activity and the socialisation of people. The City of West Torrens' Community Plan 'Towards 2025' sets goals to support an active, healthy community through the provision of well designed, functional open spaces that will meet the needs of our residents, pet owners included.

Council supports the recent changes to the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* that expands the definition of Assistance Dogs to include dogs that support people living with physical disabilities, autism, post-traumatic stress and dementia, as well dogs that service schools and care facilities⁶. Accredited Assistance Dogs receive free dog registration with the City of West Torrens.

Within our own city there are many anecdotal stories of the way that pets provide support to the elderly and socially isolated and how dogs and cats have acted as a social ice breakers and helped people to make friends and build support networks.

Issues and opportunities

The opportunity exists for Council to further understand and support the role pets play in the wellbeing of the community of West Torrens. This may include:

- Highlighting the way that pets and people of West Torrens live well together.
- Support programs where pet ownership contributes to healthy neighbourhoods and strengthen our sense of community.
- Support organisations that provide assistance animals and pets as therapy programs.

Objectives	Actions	Indicators of success
Raise awareness of the benefits of pet ownership to the community as a whole.	Promote responsible pet ownership, pet selection and breed selection through available media.	Benchmarking of owner transfer reasons.
Support local programs that allow older and socially isolated residents and those with disability to have a pet	Explore opportunities for volunteers to exercise dogs.	Project scope conducted.
	Encourage pet ownership where social value is identified, which should include working with community service home support officers to identify opportunities.	Greater ownership occurs.
	Support the RSPCA Safe Kennel Program.	Communication with RSPCA in relation to the program.

⁴ Animal Medicines Australia (2016) *Pet Ownership in Australia 2016* Animal Medicines Australia

⁵ RSPCA *What are the health benefits of pet ownership?* RSPCA http://kb.rspca.org.au/what-are-the-health-benefits-of-pet-ownership_408.html

⁶ Assistance Dogs Australia, <http://www.assisteddogs.org.au/>

Key result area 2: Create a sustainable 'pet friendly' environment

Pets are an important part of the family and require ongoing care and nurture. Owners have many considerations to ensure their pet is well cared for physically and mentally and that they don't develop nuisance behaviours. Both the home and public open spaces should provide opportunities for pets to play, socialise and interact safely and sustainably.

This plan adopts the principles that responsible pet owners can own pets in a variety of housing situations, including small spaces. With proper safeguards, public open space and community land provides a valuable opportunity for people and pets to come together on a larger scale to help build a sense of community.

Issues and opportunities

- Application of 'pet friendly' design principles in planning future residential development, in creating and revitalising community space.
- Off-leash areas for dogs promotion so that they are fully utilised and to seek new dog friendly 'green spaces' within the urban planning strategies.
- Increase community understanding of the requirements for dogs to be on leash on streets and under effective control in permitted off-leash areas. Promote the use of dog faeces disposal bags and receptacles throughout the city to reduce environmental impacts and maintain public confidence in owner responsibilities.
- Reduce un-owned cat populations at specific locations and educate those who are feeding stray cats, contributing to breeding cycles. Un-owned cats are a nuisance to humans and a health risk to owned domestic cats.
- Promote confinement of cats to their property, especially at night, to reduce negative environmental impacts, the social disruption caused by cat-fights and provocation of barking dogs and the damage to neighbours' property including marking of territory, damage to gardens and vehicles.

Objectives	Actions	Indicators of success
Incorporate the needs of pet owners in urban planning, open space planning, and community development planning.	Input into strategic planning processes for urban development, public open space and community development to represent the considerations of pet ownership.	Involvement in all plan/policy review processes.
Identify and enforce dog 'on leash' and 'off leash' areas to provide appropriate opportunities for exercising dogs.	Patrol dog on-leash, off-leash and prohibited areas and educate owners on responsibilities.	Reduction in complaints of dogs not under effective control.
	Strategic placement of signs that promote legislative requirements, dog etiquette and owner responsibilities.	Reduction in complaints regarding behaviour of dogs in public areas.
Minimise the amount of dog faeces in the environment.	Undertake public health education and promotion and ensure the availability of free dog faeces disposal bags from service centres.	No reported parvovirus outbreaks during life of plan.
Provide safe detention facilities for lost and found dogs and cats.	Promote approved detention facility providers for dogs and cats on Council's website.	Detention facilities used by the Council and local residents are approved by the Board.
	Provide up to date information to the community on impounded dogs and cats across mediums available to Council to help return as many animals as possible to owner within 72 hours.	Increase of number of impounded dogs and cats returned to owner.

Key result area 3: Provide a strong regulatory framework

For people and pets to live well together in a community there needs to be agreed expectations, clear structure, rules and procedures for:

- promoting responsible, community-minded behaviours
- protecting our environment and public health
- encouraging compliance with legislative and policy requirements
- dealing with any nuisance caused by dogs and cats.

The *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* sets out councils responsibilities for regulating dog and cat management, including the maintenance of a dog register, development of by-laws, appointment of Authorised Officers, enforcement of legislative responsibilities and the issuing of Dog Control Orders.

Council has recently revised its Dog By-law to complement the changes to the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*. Council does not currently have a Cat By-law, however this may be assessed throughout the Plan to help Council meet the needs of the community.

Processes for dog and cat management activities are outlined in Council's standard operating guidelines for the keeping and control of animals. Standard operating procedures are reviewed to incorporate changes to Council's legislative requirements and to have continuity with the industry's best practice approaches.

Issues and opportunities

- The 'regulatory framework' protects the rights and needs of pets, pet owners and non-pet owners alike. Council has the opportunity to promote the value and benefit of its systems and procedures to encourage and support community buy-in and compliance.
- There may be views in our community that animal problems could be solved by introducing stronger regulations, controls and penalties. Council's approach to resolving issues include setting community expectations within the regulatory framework and maintaining good communication throughout the process and transparency in decision making.
- There is an opportunity to raise the profile of authorised persons in the community and to clarify their role in providing a mix of education, prevention, encouragement and enforcement and their focus on increasing the levels of voluntary compliance and responsible animal management.

Objectives	Actions	Indicators of success
Establish an appropriate mix of relevant laws, systems and procedures for animal management.	Conduct scheduled reviews of Council policies, by-laws and standard operating guidelines to reflect legislative changes, best practice and community priorities.	Up to date policies. Up to date by-laws. Up to date standard operating guidelines.
	Contribute to stakeholder consultation conducted by the Local Government Association, the Board and the South Australian Government.	Incorporation or consideration of Council's ideas and position in new legislation, regulation, procedures and systems.
Promote new requirements for local dog and cat breeders.	Educate known breeders on legislative requirements.	Known breeders are registered with the Board within 14 days.
Continuously improve the role, profile and capacity of authorised persons.	Provide ongoing training and support to authorised persons.	Reduction in number of Work Health Safety incidents reported.

Key result area 4: Maximise identification for life

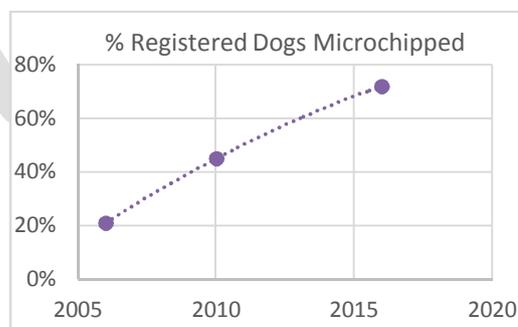
Owners of dogs are required to register their dog annually with the local council and for their dog to wear their registration disc when off the premises they are kept. Annual dog registration is a critical element to dog management in South Australia. It provides statistical information on the dog population and provides funding to facilitate strategic projects such as the location of fenced dog parks and dog faeces disposal bags, target education programs and opportunities for new initiatives. The registration data is also used to quickly reunite owners with found dogs and in investigations relating to nuisance reports and dog attacks.

From July 2018, all dogs and cats in South Australia are required to be microchipped. Microchipping also supports Council to return dogs and cats to their owners that become lost, escape or are found injured or should their registration disc or collar have come off. Owners are required to keep the contact details up to date on the microchip register.

The Dog and Cat Management Board will introduce a centralised registration system, 'Dogs and Cats Online' (DACO), during the five years of the Plan which aims to further assist Councils locate owners and to inform state-wide strategic planning initiatives.

Issues and opportunities

- Dog registration doorknocks have proven to be successful in identifying unregistered dogs and result in an increase in the number of dogs registered. They are, however, resource-intensive and the penalty for owners of un-registered dogs is significant. Establishing a better culture of voluntary compliance is an opportunity for Council.
- Exploring and utilising more 'customer-friendly' methods to register dogs and maintain contact details may combat the inability of some to register their dogs.
- Exploring the use of digital technologies to increase communication effectiveness.
- Focus on isolated instances of ongoing dog registration non-compliance
- Microchipping of dogs has increased from 34 per cent to 72 per cent during the previous 2012-2017 Animal Management Plan, consequently reducing the attendees at Council organised microchipping days from 97 to 15. Since 2015, community not-for-profit organisations have held a number of microchipping days that attract a large number of attendees throughout metropolitan and regional South Australia.



Objectives	Actions	Indicators of success
Maximise the registration of dogs.	Offer a puppy registration discount for dogs under six months of age that are microchipped but not desexed.	Increase in the number of dogs registered between three and six months of age.
	Undertake doorknocking to ensure dog registration occurs and dog owners are aware of Council requirements.	Council area covered within life of the plan.
Support compliance of mandatory microchipping of dogs and cats.	Facilitate and promote low cost microchipping opportunities for local residents for their dogs and cats.	90 per cent of registered dogs microchipped.
	Promote microchipping, including the need for contact information to be kept up to date	Reduction of the number of dogs and cats impounded.

Key result area 5: Encourage good animal behaviours

Council employs a mixture of education, participation, recognition and regulation projects to encourage responsible dog and cat management. Council promotes appropriate pet selection, training, socialising, microchipping, desexing and exercising, safe confinement to property and providing pets with an enriching environment. Responsible pet ownership information is provided on Council's website, social media, in the quarterly newsletter through the 'Living Safely with Pets' school program and the daily activities of authorised persons.

From July 2018, owners will be required to desex their dogs and cats. Exemptions will be available as prescribed in the *Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2017*. Accidental litters and roaming animals in heat can cause public nuisance, puts owned dogs and cats at risk of injury and add financial burdens to owners. From a public safety perspective, desexed dogs are also believed to be less likely to be involved in dog attacks⁷.

There are three fenced dog parks within the City of West Torrens, allowing owners to socialise and exercise their dogs safely (**Appendix A**). Owners are required to keep their dogs under effective control at all times by leash, or where permitted, off leash provided the dogs is kept close and is responsive to verbal commands. Council supports pet dog training and offers owners additional discounts on their dog registration with certification of achievement.

Issues and opportunities

- Effective control of dogs in public, dog faeces management.
- Management strategies for un-owned cats.
- Dog owners to desex, socialise, train and exercise their dogs to help prevent barking and other antisocial behaviours.
- Cat owners to desex and confine their cats to prevent them from roaming, causing a nuisance to neighbours and impacting on native wildlife.
- Desexing of dogs has slightly increased during the previous 2012-2017 Animal Management Plan from 66 per cent to 73 per cent. From 1 July 2018 it will be mandatory for dogs and cats to be desexed once they are of a certain age. Council has an opportunity to educate and support the community in meeting their legislative requirements before this law is enforced
- Legislation requires all dogs to be registered by three months of age but veterinarians recommend desexing occurs in dogs closer to six months of age. The majority of compliant owners of puppies would be charged the non-standard dog registration fee until the following registration period.

Objectives	Actions	Indicators of success
Educate dog and cat owners on the care of their pets.	In conjunction with industry, facilitate pet ownership education seminars for residents in the area.	Reduction in the number of dog and cat complaints received.
	Promote the Board's 'Living Safely with Pets' program with local schools.	Program run in local schools throughout life of plan.
Support compliance of mandatory desexing of dogs and cats.	Promote the new legislative requirements for dogs to be desexed through various communication channels.	90 per cent of registered dogs desexed or applicable exemption.
	Promote low cost desexing programs.	
Encourage dog owners to train and socialise their dogs.	Offer training discounts for registered dogs.	Increase the percentage of registered dogs trained.

⁷ D'Onise, K (2012) *Desexing: the overlooked way to reduce dog attacks*, Dog and Cat Management Board

Action implementation plan

1. Promote the community benefits of pet ownership	18	19	20	21	22	Responsible	Support	Budget
Promote responsible pet ownership, pet selection and breed selection through available media.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regulatory	Media	
Explore opportunities for volunteers to exercise dogs.					✓	Regulatory	Comm Serv	5,000
Encourage pet ownership where social value is identified, which should include working with community service home support officers to identify opportunities.		✓				Regulatory	Comm Serv	
Support the RSPCA Safe Kennel Program.			✓			Regulatory		2,000

2. Create a sustainable 'pet friendly' environment	18	19	20	21	22	Responsible	Support	Budget
Input into strategic planning processes for urban development, public open space and community development to represent the considerations of pet ownership.	When applicable					Regulatory	Strategy	
Patrol dog on-leash, off-leash and prohibited areas and educate owners on responsibilities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regulatory		
Strategic placement of signs that promote legislative requirements, dog etiquette and owner responsibilities.		✓				Regulatory	Works	1,500
Undertake public health education and promotion and ensure the availability of free dog faeces disposal bags from service centres.			✓			Regulatory	Service Cen	2,500
Promote approved detention facility providers for dogs and cats on Council's website.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regulatory	Media	
Provide up to date information to the community on impounded dogs and cats across mediums available to Council to help return as many animals as possible to owner within 72 hours.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regulatory	Media	

3. Provide a strong regulatory framework	18	19	20	21	22	Responsible	Support	Budget
Conduct scheduled reviews of Council policies, by-laws and standard operating guidelines to reflect legislative changes, best practice and community priorities.	When applicable					Regulatory	Governance	
Contribute to stakeholder consultation conducted by the Local Government Association, the Board and the South Australian Government.	When applicable					Regulatory	Governance	
Educate known breeders on legislative requirements.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regulatory	Media	
Provide ongoing training and support to authorised persons.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regulatory	HR	

4. Maximise identification for life: 4. Maximise identification for life	18	19	20	21	22	Responsible	Support	Budget
Offer a puppy registration discount for dogs under six months of age that are microchipped but not desexed.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regulatory	Finance	
Undertake doorknocking to ensure dog registration occurs and dog owners are aware of Council requirements.	✓		✓		✓	Regulatory		25,600pa
Facilitate and promote low cost microchipping opportunities for local residents for their dogs and cats.	✓					Regulatory	Finance	4,050
Promote microchipping, including the need for contact information to be kept up to date	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regulatory	Service Cen	

5. Encourage good animal behaviours	18	19	20	21	22	Responsible	Support	Budget
In conjunction with industry, facilitate pet ownership education seminars for residents in the area.				✓		Regulatory	Comm Serv	
Promote the Board's 'Living Safely with Pets' program with local schools.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regulatory		
Promote the new legislative requirements for dogs to be desexed through various communication channels.	✓	✓	✓			Regulatory	Media	
Promote low cost desexing programs.	✓					Regulatory	Media	29,600
Offer training discounts for registered dogs.	✓					Regulatory	Finance	

Appendix A: On-leash, off-leash and prohibited areas

Dog on-leash areas

Your dog must be kept on a leash when being walked:

- on roads and streets
- in public places (other than parks/reserves)
- on any park or reserve during times when organised sport is being played
- Reedbeds Community Centre, Fulham.

The lead can be a leash, chain or cord up to two metres in length.

Dog off-leash areas

Provided your dog is under effective control, you can exercise your dog off-leash:

- on the beach within the City of West Torrens area at any time of the day
- following fenced dog parks:
 - Pooch Park, Rowells Road Flinders Park
 - West Torrens Dog Park, Moss Avenue Marlestone
 - Clifford Street Dog Park, Torrensville.

Effective control means your dog:

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

If you don't have effective control of your dog, your dog may be deemed wandering at large, which is an offence.



Pooch Park



West Torrens Dog Park

Dog prohibited areas

Dogs are not permitted within the following areas in the City of West Torrens:

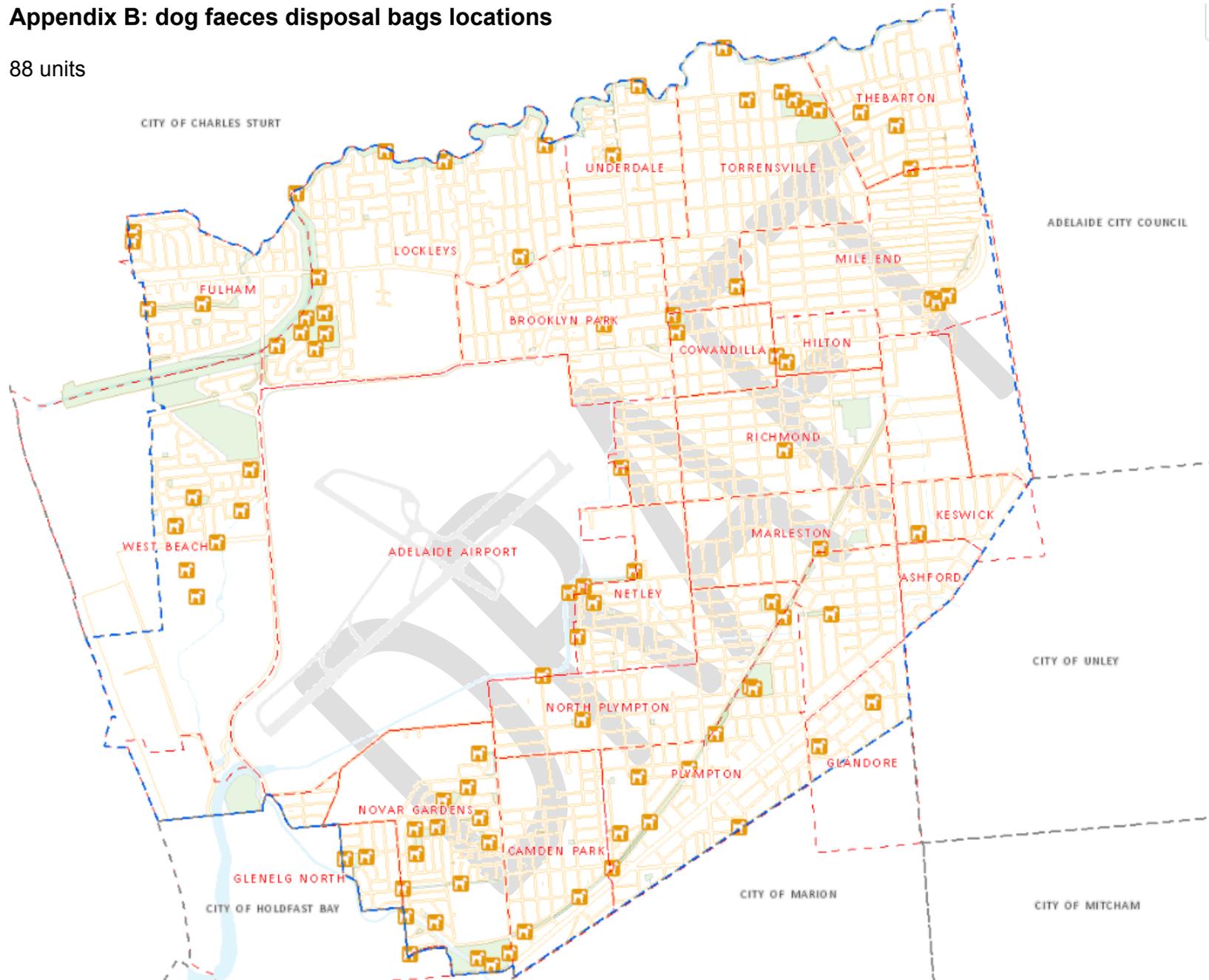
- fenced playgrounds
- Clifford Street Reserve, Torrensville.⁸

The *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* prohibits dogs from all South Australian school grounds, kindergartens, child care centres and preschools without the permission of the person in charge of the site.

⁸ South Australia Government Gazette, Featured Notices, Application of Dogs By-law, Thursday 16 February 2017

Appendix B: dog faeces disposal bags locations

88 units



Appendix C: Relevant legislation and documents

Relevant legislation

- Dog and Cat Management Act 1995
- Environmental Health Act 1986
- Local Government Act 1999

- Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2010
- Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2017
- Development Regulations 1993

- City of West Torrens By-Law No 3 – Local Government Land
- City of West Torrens By-Law No 5 – Dogs.

Related Council documents

- Standard Operating Procedure 1: Enforcement Framework
- Standard Operating Procedure 2: Evidence Collection
- Standard Operating Procedure 3: Expiation of Offences
- Standard Operating Procedure 4: Keeping of Dogs on Residential Premises*
- Standard Operating Procedure 5 Control of Dogs in Public Places #
- Community Land Management Plans.

* Standard Operating Procedure 4 contains Council procedures for:

- Barking dogs
- Unregistered dogs on a property
- Extra dogs on a property
- Dogs causing a menace to adjacent properties
- Dogs injuring a person entering a property.

Standard Operating Procedure 5 contains procedures for:

- Wandering dogs
- Seizing and impounding dogs
- Dog attack and harassment
- Dog control / destruction orders.

Appendix D: References consulted

Dog and Cat Management Board

Dog and Cat Management Board 2017 *Policy for Approving Plans of Management (Dogs and Cats)*, Government of South Australia

Websites

www.animalwelfare.com.au Animal Welfare League website

www.assisteddogs.org.au Assistance Dogs Australia

www.chipblitz.com Great Aussie Microchip Blitz website

www.gooddogssa.com website produced by DCMB on responsible pet management

www.livingsafelywithpets.com.au Victor and Victoria's Pet Town interactive learning website

www.ndn.org.au National Desexing Program website

www.petpep.ava.com.au website of AVA's Pets and People Education Program

<http://profile.id.com.au/west-torrens> ID Community

www.rspca.org.au Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals website

Industry / Stakeholder Publications

Jackson, V 2010 *Four legs // Four Walls Design Guidelines: A comprehensive guide to housing design with pets in mind*, Harlock Jackson Pty Ltd. A publication of the Petcare Information and Advisory Service.

Australian Veterinary Association Ltd *AVA Policies* South Australian Division of the Australian Veterinary Association

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Citizen's Jury 'Reducing Unwanted Dogs and Cats' (2015) *Final Report to the Government of South Australia*, DemocracyCo

Parliament of South Australia (2013) *Final Report of the Select Committee on Dogs and Cats as Companion Animals*, Second Session, Fifty Second Parliament

Animal Medicines Australia (2016) *Pet Ownership in Australia 2016*, Animal Medicines Australia

D'Onise, K (2012) *Desexing: the overlooked way to reduce dog attacks*, Dog and Cat Management Board