

# Dog and Cat Management Plan 2022 - 2027

March 2023



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## **Production acknowledgment**

This document was produced by the City of West Torrens, with assistance from members of the West Torrens community who contributed during public consultation.

## **Kaurna Acknowledgement**

The City of West Torrens is located on the Traditional Homelands of the Kaurna Nation of People, the first Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Adelaide Region.

It is important to recognise that, while colonisation has resulted in the dispossession and dislocation of the Kaurna Meyunna, their Spiritual, Cultural Heritage and relationship with their Country is enduring. Kaurna's Connection and obligation to their Ancestral Lands the (Yarta ) is still as important to the living Kaurna people today. The Kaurna people have lived on their lands for more than 50,000 years and developed strong and enduring spiritual, social, economic and governance systems that are still relevant for Aboriginal Title and are recognised within the 1836 Letters Patent.



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Version 2	Review and approved by Executive for public consultation - October 2022
Version 3	Draft plan approved by Dog and Cat Management Board - November 2022
Version 4	Plan approved by Council - February 2023
Version 5	Plan approved by the Dog and Cat Management Board - March 2023

## Message from the Mayor

Our dogs and cats are valued in the West Torrens region as they provide a sense of enjoyment and companionship for owners, families, friends and, sometimes, even complete strangers.



Since the advent of COVID-19, many people have decided to include a furry friend in their family. As such, the onus is on owners, the general community and councils to ensure that pets are managed and controlled in order to safeguard the wellness and safety of local people, as well as the pet.

We all know that wandering dogs and cats, barking, attacks and harassment to people and other animals presents issues that need addressing. In the City of West Torrens there are more than 7,000 registered dogs recorded on Dogs and Cats Online (DACO), and our residents have registered more than 2,500 feline friends, reflecting people's commitment to being responsible pet owners.

*The Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* requires all South Australian councils to prepare a 5 year Dog and Cat Management Plan for their area. Our previous plan, which expired in 2022, needed reviewing and updating, and I'm pleased to present to you our Dog and Cat Management Plan for the next 5 years.

Our new Dog and Cat Management Plan summarises how we have been progressing the control and wellbeing of domestic animals in West Torrens, not just from a regulatory perspective but from an educational perspective as well. It is also a plan for the future which outlines how we will further educate, communicate and improve dog and cat management in our city.

Council is guided by the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* and Council By-laws to address noncompliance in our area and address concerns from our residents promptly and efficiently.

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

Our vision is to be the best place to live, work and enjoy life and we understand that pets can enhance a person's wellbeing and make life more enjoyable. We trust you share our vision.

Michael S. Coxon

Mayor, City of West Torrens.

## Our City

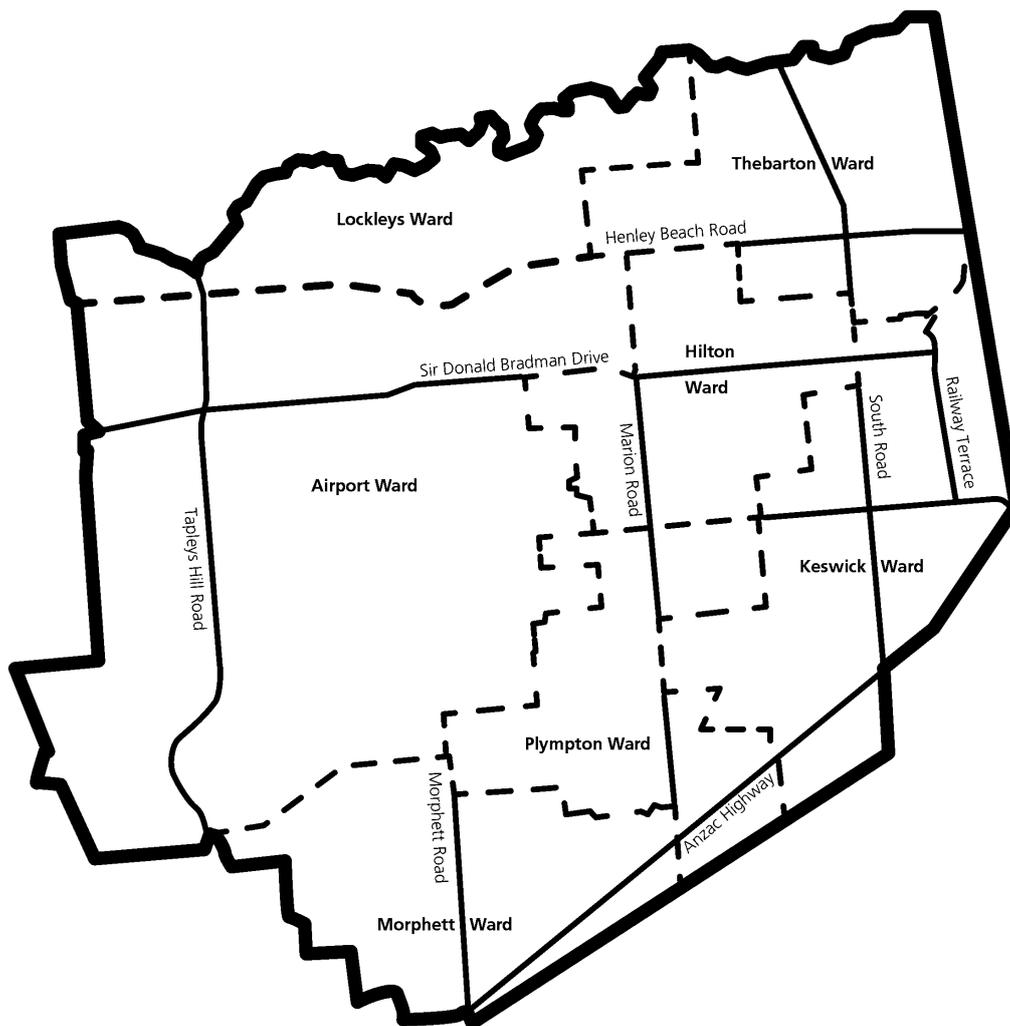
The City of West Torrens comprises 37 square kilometres of Adelaide's western metropolitan area and is situated between the Adelaide Central Business District and Gulf St Vincent. Its location makes it a desirable place to live and in recent decades we have seen an increase in housing and population, meaning that the demand for services, communal spaces and public amenities has increased.

The city, its plants, animals and waterways, including the River Torrens (Karrawirra Pari), have continuing cultural and spiritual significance to Kaurna people. The river is not only a special place for Kaurna, but is also valued for its natural landscape appeal, biodiversity and open space and recreation activities.

Around 62,000 residents live in the City of West Torrens and we have a community with a vibrant mix of nationalities. People from Greece, Italy, the United Kingdom, India, China and Vietnam all help make up our cultural richness.

The City of West Torrens is well-known for its shopping facilities including Harbour Town, Ikea, Brickworks Marketplace and Mile End Homemaker Centre. Adelaide Airport is a central part of our city and with 5,000 individually owned businesses in the area, West Torrens is often a hub of traffic and people.

### Wards in West Torrens



## Why do we need a Dog and Cat Management Plan

### ... and what will it do?

The Dog and Cat Management Plan is a requirement under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*. All councils are required to prepare a 5-year plan relating to the management of dogs and cats within its council area.

The Plan will replace our 2017 - 2022 Dog and Cat Management Plan and will focus on our community's priorities, our Community Plan 2030 objectives and our Dog By-law 5, while incorporating legislative responsibilities for dog and cat ownership.

In line with Council's vision of 'Committed to being the best place to live, work and enjoy life', the main focus of this Plan is to continue to address the immediate safety of our community and promote responsible pet ownership, while ensuring legislation is adhered to and in alignment with the strategic objectives of our Community Plan.

The objectives contained in this Plan have been informed by Council's dog and cat management feedback data, the requirements of the Act and feedback received from community consultation.

These objectives will guide the direction for the management of dogs and cats during the next 5 years and address issues including:

- Community education and compliance.
- Responsible pet ownership.
- Dogs off-lead.
- Dog faeces management.
- Dog parks.
- Dog socialisation.
- Greyhound events.
- Mandatory microchipping and desexing of dogs and cats.
- Feral or unowned cat control.
- Cat containment.

### **Development of our Plan**

The Dog and Cat Management Plan 2023 - 2028 builds upon the success of our previous Plan and is informed by:

- Local complaints data on dog attacks and harassment, dogs wandering at large and barking dogs etc.
- DACO data on registrations, desexing and microchipping of dogs.
- Local complaints of cats causing a nuisance.
- The *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* and *Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2017*.
- The City of West Torrens By-law 5 - Dogs.
- Community consultation (as detailed below).

### **Community consultation**

To assist with the development of this Plan, community consultation was undertaken via Council's Your Say platform from 9 March to 1 April 2022. This valuable feedback has provided us with an overview of our local community's main concerns, which we can address long-term. Consultation findings can be found later in this document.



# City of West Torrens Community Plan



## Our Vision

Committed to being the best place to live, work and enjoy life

The five focus areas for the delivery of our vision are:



Community life

We support diversity, health and well-being, community cohesion and connections, and create opportunities to learn and enjoy the local area.

We ensure housing, urban development and infrastructure contribute to attractive and safe neighbourhoods, and how we travel in and beyond our area.



Built environment



Organisational strength

Council ensures its services lead to quality outcomes and exceptional experiences for our community.

We protect and conserve the natural environment, reuse and recycle resources, support biodiversity and respond to climate change.



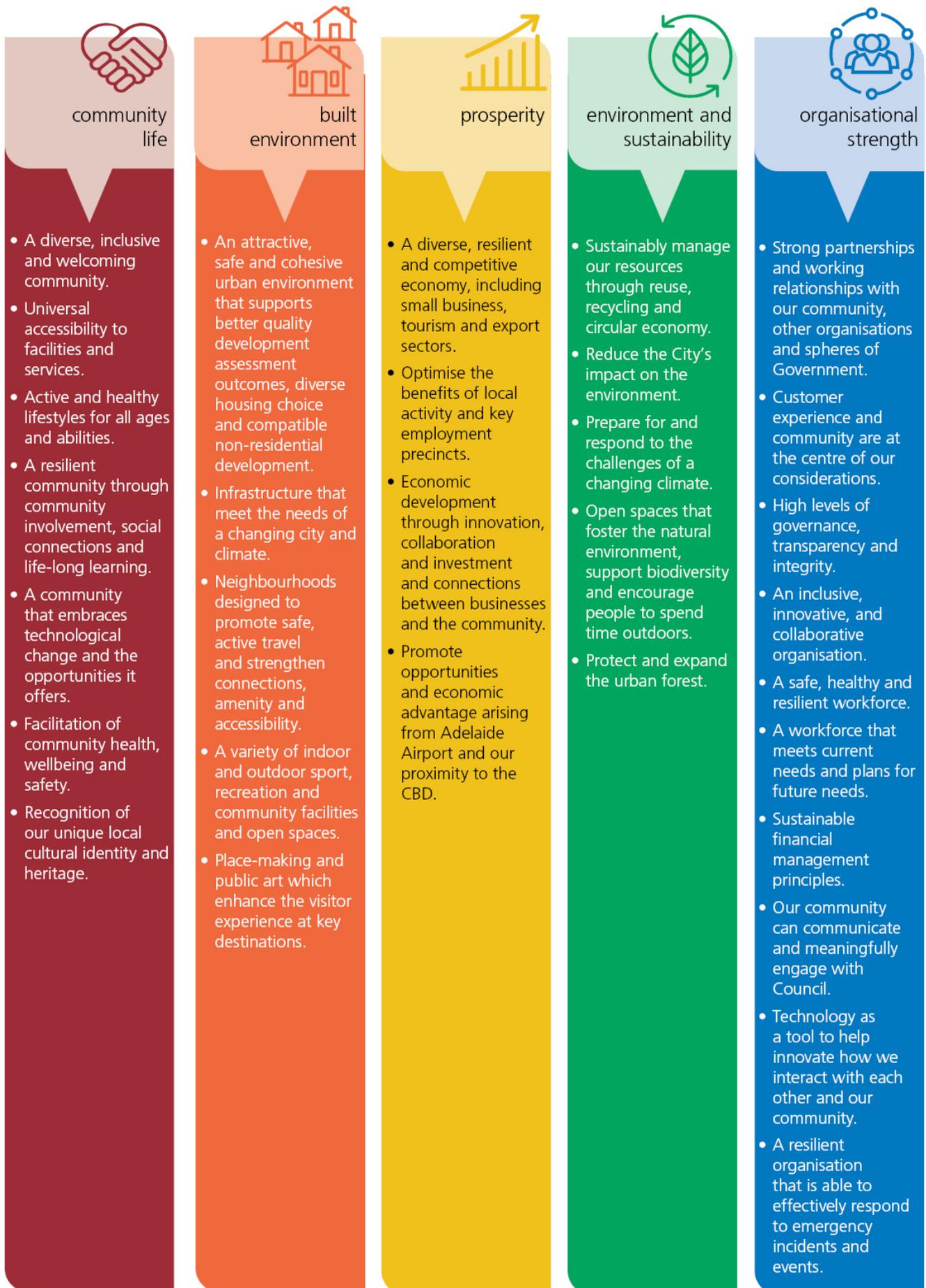
Environment and sustainability



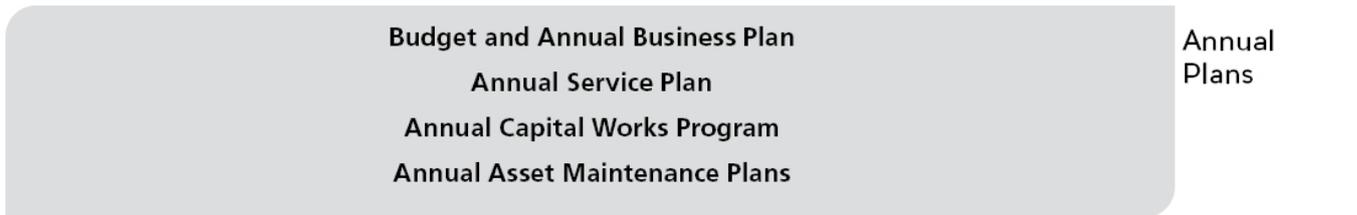
Prosperity

We support jobs, businesses and industries to generate local economic growth and activity.

## Our Strategic Objectives



# West Torrens Community Plan



## Strategic alignment

Council's Community Plan 2030 is the lead document in our suite of strategic management plans and contains 5 focus areas for the delivery of our vision 'Committed to being the best place to live, work and enjoy life'. The Dog and Cat Management Plan will contribute to the attainment of a number of the strategic objectives contained within the Community Plan, namely:

### Community life:

- Active and healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities.
- Facilitation of community health, wellbeing and safety.
- Universal accessibility to facilities and services.

### Built environment:

- A variety of indoor and outdoor sport, recreation and community facilities and open spaces.
- Infrastructure that meets the needs of a changing city and climate.

### Environment and sustainability

- Open spaces that foster the natural environment, support biodiversity and encourage people to spend time outdoors.

### Organisational strength:

- Strong partnerships and working relationships with our community, other organisations and spheres of government.
- Customer experience and community are at the centre of our considerations.

## The Dog and Cat Management Board and Council

The Dog and Cat Management Board (the Board) oversees the administration and enforcement of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*. The Board ensures that South Australia's regulatory and legislative framework is reviewed and amended to improve the management of dogs and cats in South Australia. The Board draws on a range of expertise represented by 9 members appointed by the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water.

The Board's Strategic Plan 2020 - 25, identifies strategic directions that are divided into 2 programs. Program 1 addresses responsible ownership and effective management of dogs and cats, while program 2 addresses effective Board and organisational performance; as such, Program 1 is applicable to Council.

Many of the objectives and strategies detailed in Council's Dog and Cat Management Plan align with a number of the strategic directions contained in Program 1 of the Board's Strategic Plan (2020-2025).

### Dog and Cat Management Board Strategic Directions

#### Responsible ownership and management of dogs and cats program

Board's Strategic Direction	Council objectives
Inform and educate the community about dog and cat management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandatory microchipping.</li> <li>• Desexing and identification for dogs and cats.</li> <li>• Feral or unowned cat control and confinement.</li> <li>• Responsible dog ownership.</li> </ul>
Equal focus on cat management to the same level as dog management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandatory microchipping.</li> <li>• Desexing and identification.</li> </ul>
Reduce the incidence of dog attacks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible dog ownership.</li> <li>• Socialisation of dogs.</li> </ul>
Reduce numbers of unwanted dogs and cats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandatory microchipping.</li> <li>• Desexing and identification for dogs and cats.</li> </ul>
Develop capacity to fulfil the requirements of the Act.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandatory microchipping.</li> <li>• Desexing and identification for dogs and cats.</li> </ul>



## Legislative background

The *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* states that:

- (1) Each council must, in accordance with this section, prepare a plan relating to the management of dogs and cats within its area.
- (2) A plan of management must include provisions for parks where dogs may be exercised off-leash and for parks where dogs must be under effective control by means of physical restraint, and may include provisions for parks where dogs are prohibited.
- (3) A plan of management must cover 5 year periods and each plan must be prepared and presented to the Board at least 6 months before it is to take effect.
- (4) A plan of management must be approved by the Board before it takes effect.
- (5) A council may, with the approval of the Board, amend a plan of management at any time during the course of the 5 year period covered by the plan.

Under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*, councils are responsible to administer and enforce the provisions of the Act. Key legislative requirements include:

- Microchipping – all dogs and cats that are over 3 months of age and born after 1 July 2018 are required to be microchipped.
- Desexing - all dogs and cats that are over 6 months of age and born after 1 July 2018 are required to be desexed.
- Breeders - a person must not sell a dog or cat they have bred unless they are registered as a breeder with the Dog and Cat Management Board on Dogs and Cats Online.
- Sellers - certain information to be provided to the buyer.
- Dog registration - every dog of or over 3 months of age or after 14 days of ownership must be registered.

## Council By-law:

By-laws are local laws made by a local council under an enabling power such as *the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* and the *Local Government Act 1999*. Councils have the ability to establish by-laws for the management of dogs and cats. The City of West Torrens By-law 5 Dogs establishes a policy on the following requirements:

- Limits of dogs in private premises.
- Dog exercise areas.
- Dog on leash areas.
- Dog prohibited areas.
- Dog faeces.

By-law 5 will be reviewed in the 2023 calendar year.

## Community consultation

This Dog and Cat Management Plan builds on direct feedback from 664 people during the initial community engagement stages in early 2022.

We gathered community feedback through a general survey, which garnered community sentiment around a number of dog and cat related subjects including: ownership, dog parks, off-lead areas, safety, trials and restrictions.

While workshops and events were initially planned to reach a wider group of the community, the consultation schedule was cut short due to the implementation of COVID-19 restrictions. To ensure the Plan does accurately reflect community views, it will be subject to further consultation before being finalised and adopted by Council.



**664**  
community  
members  
completed  
surveys

**732**

community members  
visited the initial  
survey page



**24**  
West Torrens suburbs  
were represented in  
survey results

**1050**

community  
members visited  
the Dog and Cat  
Management Plan  
consultation page



**212**

cat owners  
participated in surveys

**542**

Dog owners  
participated in  
surveys



## Dog and cat statistics - West Torrens

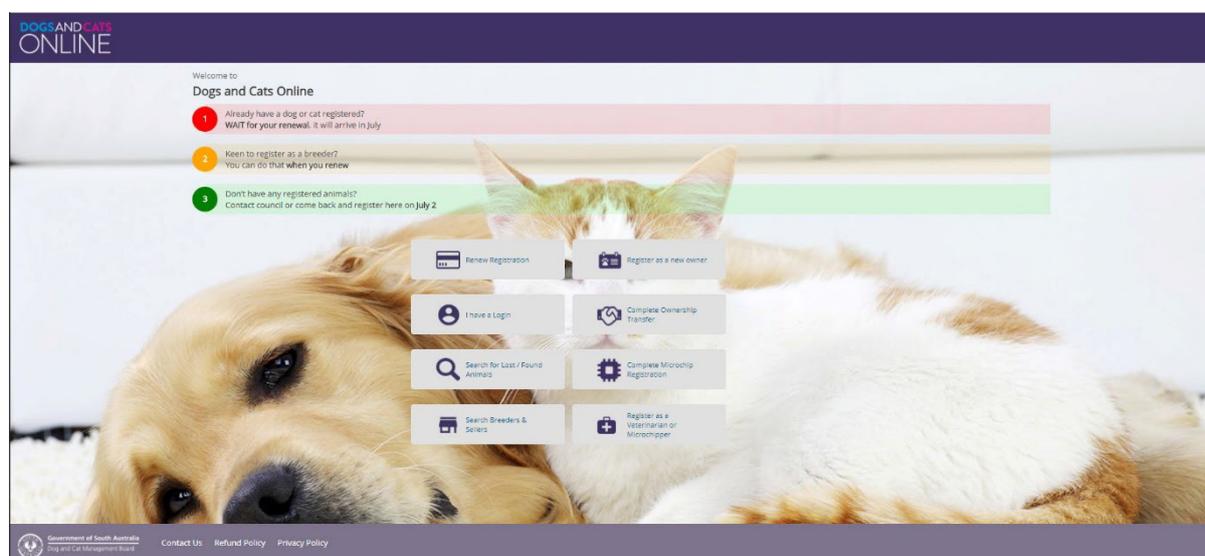
Issue	2016-17	2021-22
Expiations issued	225	619
Official barking dog complaints	114	117
Official wandering dog	406	166
Dogs collected and returned to owner before impounded	66	110
Reports of dog harassment to humans	6	7
Reports of dog attacks on humans	18	20
Reports of dog harassment to animals	4	4
Reports of dog attacks on animals	21	34
Cat complaints	21	19

### Dogs and Cats Online website (DACO)

Since 1 July 2018, all dog and cat owners are required to register their dogs and cats online via the Dogs and Cats Online website (DACO).

DACO is a central database for all microchipped, desexed, registered dogs and cats in South Australia and used for breeder registrations.

All revenue derived from dog registration is used for the administration and enforcement of the Act.



## Achievements

The achievements from our previous Dog and Cat Management Plan 2017 - 2022, can be summarised as follows:

- Successfully held a 6-month greyhound off-leash trial at West Torrens Dog Park. Every event was booked to capacity and supported by greyhound owners from all over South Australia.
- Employed a dedicated Animal Management Officer, who won South Australia's Animal Management Officer of the Year 2022.
- Obtained a custom vehicle for the Animal Management Officer, which allows the officer to safely secure larger dogs and dogs with health issues into the vehicle.
- Revamped educational signage in dog parks. This new signage is being used as a model for other councils.

An increase in dog registrations due to DACO, reduction in dogs Wandering at Large in 2017 - 2018 (349) and in 2021 - 2022 (166).

- 110 dogs returned as a result of DACO information, tags and microchip scanning. 2021 - 22.
- Management of Control Orders - 63 orders were issued; this helps reduce the risk of further dog attacks and ensures that dogs that pose a risk to the community are monitored.
- Promotion of the off-leash area at West Beach, including through Council's website, social media and signage.
- Three chipblitz events held on the 2 June 2018, 25 August 2018 and 16 March 2019 where approximately 1,326 animals were microchipped.
- A new Council impound holding facility was opened on May 2021, which contains 6 modern holding cells with 24 hour camera surveillance.
- Obtained a grant from the Dog and Cat Management Board to further develop breeder education.



## What is the role of an Animal Management Officer?

The City of West Torrens has a team of 5 Community Safety Officers and one dedicated Animal Management Officer, responsible for the administration and enforcement of the provisions of the Acts.

The role of our Animal Management Officer is broad and busy as they manage all aspects of animal control from dogs and cats to pigeons, roosters and more.

Every day is different and can change in an instant. Below is a list of some of the duties our Animal Management Officer undertakes:

- Investigating dog attacks, harassments and barking issues.
- Investigating cat and other animal nuisances.
- Seizing dogs that are wandering at large.
- Seizing dangerous dogs.
- Ensuring found dogs are registered.
- Ensuring found dogs and cats are microchipped and desexed.
- Monitoring dog off-lead parks and local beaches.
- Administering additional dog permits.
- Undertaking Dog Control Order inspections
- Providing education to pet owners and our general community about responsible pet ownership.



Image: Dog and Cat Management Board

## Cat Management: Objectives and Strategies

In South Australia, cat details, including microchip numbers, must be registered with Dogs and Cats Online (DACO). Not all councils charge cat registration fees. All cats must be microchipped before sale and those born after 1 July 2018 must be desexed before 6 months of age.

### What we found

#### Survey data showed:

- 31.9% of respondents owned cats in the City of West Torrens.
- 70.6% of cat and non-cat owners would like to see cat restrictions within the City of West Torrens.

Cats can wander onto neighbouring properties and may cause a nuisance to others. Cat management issues are currently investigated under the *Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*. No animal is allowed to cause an adverse effect on an amenity value or unreasonably with the enjoyment of the area.

To continue to address cat management issues, the following objectives and strategies have been developed.

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES
<p><b>Mandatory microchipping, desexing and identification</b></p> <p>Educate cat owners on mandatory microchipping, desexing and identification requirements for cats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use DACO data to identify non-compliant cat owners in the City of West Torrens and send information to inform of and encourage compliance with the legislation.</li> <li>• Provide microchipping days at a reduce fee for residents, potentially in partnership with neighbouring councils.</li> <li>• Promote local clinics that offer desexing and microchipping.</li> <li>• Use Council's website and social media to educate the community on mandatory requirements.</li> </ul>
<p>Enforce compliance with mandatory microchipping, desexing and identification requirements for cats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake appropriate enforcement with cat owners whose animals are not microchipped, desexed and/or suitably identified.</li> </ul>



<b>Feral or unowned cat control</b>	
Minimise the number of feral or unowned cats in the local area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to offer a cat cage hire service to assist with the trapping of unidentified cats.</li> <li>• Continue the agreement with the Animal Welfare League (AWL) to ensure that captured cats are assessed for rehoming.</li> </ul>
<b>Cat confinement</b>	
Promote to cat owners the benefits of keeping cats indoors or in a properly designed outdoor cat enclosure, consistent with the Dog and Cat Management Board's information on their website and resources for owners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide information to the community on the benefits of and correct way to contain cats at home via Council's website, social media and direct mail out to cat owners.</li> <li>• Disseminate up-to-date information from the Dog and Cat Management Board on keeping cats indoors as it becomes available.</li> </ul>
Minimise cats causing a nuisance in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use DACO to record alleged complaints of cats causing a nuisance.</li> <li>• Educate owners on any changes to legislation relevant to cat confinement.</li> <li>• Promote the availability and use of catteries.</li> <li>• Investigate the potential for Council to introduce a cat curfew via a by-law.</li> </ul>



## Dog Management: Objectives and Strategies

Key legislative requirements of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* include desexing, microchipping and registration. A number of other rules and by-laws are also in place to ensure dogs are not a nuisance or danger to the community. The City of West Torrens currently has 7 appointed authorised persons under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* who have powers to issue expiations, request certificates, records or dogs for inspection, request someone to provide their name, address or identification, seize or detain dogs, collect evidence, give directions and investigate nuisance complaints. The City of West Torrens By-law 5 - Dogs establishes a policy on limits of dogs in private premises, dog exercise areas, dog on-leash areas, dog prohibited areas and dog faeces removal.

### What we found

#### Survey data showed:

- 61.3% of residents were unaware the City of West Torrens had an off-leash beach.
- 61.9% said our signage was clear.
- Only 51.1% of residents feel comfortable attending off-leash beaches - mainly because of other beach users; no effective control of animals; dog fights; dog aggression; dogs running up to residents; and reactive dogs.
- What people like about off-leash beaches - dog owners; fun; time socialising; owners showing effective control; happy dogs; freedom; exercise; and a way to meet new people.
- Other issues about off-lead areas in general.
- Only 29.2% of residents take their dog regularly to a dog park.
- 70% of dog owners have a dog park within an easy distance from home.
- 33.9% residents felt we do not have enough dog parks, while 28.6% thought we did.
- Council can help dog owners by providing: training (either free or reduced cost); dog parks; a lead beach; puppy school; dog-friendly activities and community events; and a local dog club.
- Only 1.5% residents own greyhounds, however 49.8% supported greyhound off-leash sessions.

To continue to address dog management issues, the following objectives and strategies have been developed.



OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES
<b>Off-lead exercise areas</b>	
Educate residents on off-lead dog exercise areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use Council's website, social media and 'Talking Points' to proactively promote off-lead dog exercise areas located in the City of West Torrens.</li> <li>• Update and consolidate signage located within off-lead dog exercise areas.</li> <li>• Our Animal Management Officer will regularly visit off-lead dog exercise areas and engage with dog owners to encourage and enforce effective control.</li> </ul>
<b>West Beach off-lead area</b>	
Facilitate the safety of and enjoyment for dog owners and other beach users at the West Beach off-lead dog exercise area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review compliance signage at West Beach and review, update, and consolidate old signage.</li> <li>• Our Animal Management Officer will regularly visit West Beach off-lead dog exercise area and engage with dog owners to encourage and enforce effective control.</li> <li>• Create new signage which clearly stipulates off and on lead dog areas.</li> <li>• Use Council's website, social media and 'Talking Points' to educate residents, visitors and dog owners on the West Beach off-lead dog exercise area.</li> </ul>
<b>Dog faeces management</b>	
Educate dog owners on their obligations to pick up after their dog.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review current signage around the Council area on owners' obligations to pick up dog faeces.</li> <li>• Install new signage outlining owners' obligations to pick up dog faeces at high dog traffic areas within the City of West Torrens.</li> <li>• Use Council's website, social media and 'Talking Points' to educate dog owners on their obligations to carry a dog bag and pick up faeces.</li> <li>• Enlist volunteers to help Council refill dog bag dispensers.</li> <li>• Review the adequacy of the number and placement of dog bag dispensers in the City of West Torrens area.</li> <li>• Provide free dog bags to the community.</li> <li>• Educate and encourage dog owners to place collected dog faeces in organics bins.</li> </ul>
Enforce compliance with Council's by-law on dog faeces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Animal Management Officer to regularly visit reserves and beaches and enforce Council's dog faeces by-law.</li> </ul>





<b>Dog parks</b>	
To provide and promote designated dog parks and encourage their safe enjoyment for all users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to maintain current dog parks.</li> <li>• Use educational signage to educate and promote our dog parks.</li> <li>• Investigate staging community 'dog owner' events at local dog parks.</li> <li>• Organise greyhound events at a local dog park.</li> <li>• Seek community feedback on updates to dog parks.</li> <li>• Evaluate the need for, and suitable location of, an additional dog park.</li> <li>• Encourage small and big dog areas be used for their designated purpose.</li> <li>• Our Animal Management Officer to regularly visit dog parks and engage with dog owners to encourage effective control.</li> </ul>
<b>Socialisation of dogs</b>	
Support appropriate and safe socialisation of dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage dog owners to use the dog parks safely, including encouraging small and big dog areas be used for their designated purpose.</li> <li>• Educate and enforce effective control of dogs.</li> <li>• Investigate the opportunity to have a presence at Council-staged events (i.e. Summer Festival) to provide information to pet owners.</li> <li>• Investigate the use of Council's website and social media to promote local dog clubs</li> <li>• Investigate the use of Council's website and social media to promote local puppy and dog training schools</li> </ul>
<b>Greyhounds</b>	
Provide opportunities for owners to exercise their greyhounds off-leash and to socialise safely.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan, promote and hold greyhound-specific events, including receiving Dog and Cat Management Board approval.</li> <li>• Provide other residents with notice of greyhound-specific events to facilitate safety.</li> </ul>



<b>Mandatory microchipping</b>	
Increase the microchipping rate in dogs in our Council area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use DACO data to identify non-compliant dog owners in the City of West Torrens.</li> <li>• Send letters and information pamphlets to dog owners to encourage compliance with the legislation.</li> <li>• Provide microchipping days at a reduce fee for residents.</li> <li>• Promote local clinics that offer microchipping.</li> <li>• Use Council's website, social media and 'Talking Points' to educate the community on mandatory requirements for microchipping of dogs.</li> <li>• Use SMS, emails and letters to update and educate residents on mandatory requirements for microchipping of dogs.</li> <li>• Undertake appropriate enforcement with owners of dogs found to not be microchipped.</li> <li>• Pursue un-microchipped dogs and cats on DACO</li> </ul>
<b>Mandatory Desexing</b>	
Increase the desexing rate in dogs in our council area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use DACO data to identify non-compliant dog owners in our area.</li> <li>• Send letters and information pamphlets to dog owners to inform of and encourage compliance with the legislation.</li> <li>• Promote local clinics that offer desexing.</li> <li>• Use Council's website and social media to educate the community on mandatory requirements for desexing of dogs.</li> <li>• Use SMS, emails and letters to update and educate residents on mandatory requirements for desexing of dogs.</li> <li>• Undertake appropriate enforcement with dog owners whose animals are not microchipped, desexed and/or suitably identified.</li> </ul>



<b>Responsible dog ownership</b>	
Educate dog owners on responsible dog ownership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote microchipping and desexing as above.</li> <li>• Provide information booklets on Barking Dogs to residents and dog owners as needed.</li> <li>• Educate people via our website, social media and 'Talking Points' about barking dogs and what steps owners and neighbours can take to rectify issues.</li> <li>• Educate dog owners and enforce legislative requirements regarding dog breeders.</li> <li>• Educate dog owners and enforce legislative requirements regarding seller requirements.</li> <li>• Where possible, educate before expiating dog owners who are first time offenders.</li> <li>• Promote and encourage dog owners on appropriate and safe dog containment.</li> </ul>
Enforce compliance with duties relating to dogs under <i>the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate complaints and undertake appropriate enforcement relating to dog attacks, chase and harassments.</li> <li>• Investigate complaints and undertake appropriate enforcement relating to dogs barking.</li> <li>• Investigate complaints and undertake appropriate enforcement relating to dog wandering at large.</li> </ul>



## Dog controls

### 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 and reserves)
- on any park or reserve during times when organised sport is being played.

### Dog off-leash areas

Provided your dog is under effective control, you can exercise your dog off-leash in the following areas:

- West Torrens beach
- Public parks and reserves (unless sign posted)
- River Torrens Linear Park (unless sign posted)
- Pooch Park, Rowells Road Flinders Park
- West Torrens Dog Park, Moss Avenue Marleston
- Clifford Street Dog Park, Torrensville.

### Dog prohibited areas

- Clifford Street Community Garden and Playground.
- Fenced playgrounds.

Dogs must always be under effective control.

Effective control means:

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

**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 West Torrens  
Between the City and the Sea



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