

Feedback Sought for Domestic Animal Management Plan

South Gippsland Shire Council is seeking community feedback on the Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-2021 after it was endorsed at its meeting yesterday.

The plan reflects what Council does and intends to do in relation to animal management and explores ways to improve current practices and future directions.

Some of the intentions within the plan include to:

- introduce an online animal registration application system for new registrations
- investigate the introduction of a 'leash order' to reduce the incidence of wandering dogs
- provide advice and guidance to dog owners regarding restricted breed dogs and dangerous dogs
- expand Council's cat trapping program to reduce feral and stray cat numbers
- provide Domestic Animal Businesses with education material to ensure they are kept informed of all new developments and changes to legislation that may affect the operation of their business
- undertake a review of pound service to determine the direction of Council's pound service post 30 June 2018

South Gippsland Shire Council's Manager Regulatory Services Matthew Patterson welcomed feedback from the community on the plan.

"There are currently 5559 registered dogs and 1419 registered cats in South Gippsland. The Draft Domestic Annual Management Plan not only ensures compliance with registration but includes educational and preventative programs.

"We encourage everyone to have a read of the draft plan and let us know if they have any further suggestions or feedback," said Mr Patterson.

The draft plan is now open for public comment until Wednesday 28 June 2017.

Copies of the plan are available on Council's website, Council offices and at libraries across South Gippsland.

Submissions can be made to council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au or in writing to Regulatory Services, Private Bag 4, Leongatha 3953.

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