

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021/22





WELCOME

To our South Gippsland Community where pets are valued and treated humanely. Where pets live in harmony with people, other animals, the environment and provide us with love and companionship.

Our pets have provided a loving connection through COVID 19 as vital members of our family in difficult circumstances.

We are dedicated to supporting and valuing pets in our community by:

- *Recognising that pets are considered 'members' of most families and include species of animals other than cats and dogs;*
- *Ensuring pet owners understand they have a responsibility to care for and protect their pets and that they do not adversely impact on other pets, people or the environment;*
- *Delivering programs that work closely with our community to educate and encourage compliance with Council policy and State Government legislation relating to pets; and*
- *Delivering services within our community to address issues that relate to our pets.*

Our animals are a vital part of our community.



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1. INTRODUCTION

The Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) - 1 Year Action Plan 2021/22 sets the strategic direction for animal management within the South Gippsland Shire for the next 12 months. It will reflect what Council does or intends to do in relation to animal management for this period

This one year plan reflects South Gippsland Council's lifecycle as our Shire transitions from Administrators to the election of a new Council in October 2021. It is an exciting time for South Gippsland Shire in welcoming a new Council to oversee animal management planning into the future, embracing many issues relating to domestic animal ownership in our community.

By extending the current DAMP for 12 months, it will enable the preparation of our community for a comprehensive engagement program relating to domestic animal ownership in 2022. It will also explore ways to improve our current practices and identify potential future directions and action plans for the following 4 year DAMP cycle.

The primary objective of the DAMP is to meet the requirements of s 68A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 (the Act) *Refer to Appendix One (1).

By achieving this objective Council will be able to better administer and carry out the requirements of the Act.

Each year, Council's Local Laws team receives requests for animal management services. The most common received are:

- Dogs at large
- Barking dogs
- Stray or nuisance cats
- Dog attacks

Current Domestic Animal Services and Programs

The South Gippsland Shire Council currently provides the following Domestic Animal Management Services and programs to residents:

- Ongoing maintenance of a dog and cat registration database.
- Response to customer complaints relating to animal management issues, such as barking dogs, dog attacks, dogs at large, nuisance cats.
- Provision of an after-hours emergency service.
- Provision of dog litter bins and 'animal waste' bag dispensers at 15 locations throughout the Shire.
- Cat trapping program – supply of cat traps for trapping of feral and/or nuisance cats.
- Collection of stray or wandering dogs and cats, including surrendered animals.
- Provision of advice and information to residents relating to animal management issues.
- Promotion of responsible pet ownership through distribution of education material for all new animal registrations.
- Regular inspections of Domestic Animal Businesses to ensure compliance with the Act and relevant Codes of Practice.
- Regular inspections of restricted breed, dangerous dog and menacing dog premises to ensure compliance with the Act and relevant Codes of Practice.
- Provision of animal management training opportunities for Local Laws Officers.
- Provision of pound services through a contractual agreement.
- Quick responsiveness to dog attack complaints.
- Prosecution of offences under the Act and other regulations including Council's General Local Law 2014.



2. BACKGROUND & DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

The South Gippsland Shire Council developed the DAMP 2017-2021 in consultation with community, stakeholders and special interest groups. The plan was adopted by Council and was designed to address community expectations in a balanced manner and to reduce the negative impact pets can have on the natural environment and members of the community.

The strategic objectives identified in the DAMP 2017-2021 were addressed over the past four years. A range of activities focusing on compliance issues, policy development, education, promotion and marketing were implemented to achieve outcomes for the identified key activities.

South Gippsland Shire is located a pleasant 90 minute drive through coastal flats and rolling hills to the south east of Melbourne. It stretches from Nyora in the west, to Welshpool in the east, and Mirboo North to the north. The southern boundary is formed by the Bass Strait coastline.

As well as the main towns of Leongatha, Korumburra, Mirboo North and Foster, South Gippsland has over 20 smaller communities that are an integral part of the Shire. Its commercial, social, cultural and environmental qualities make it a wonderful environment to live, work, recreate and invest. The Shire has a population of 30,248 (estimated residential population) and covers 3,300 square kilometers which include some of the nation's most arable farming land.



3. TRAINING OF AUTHORISED OFFICERS

68(A)(2)(b) - Outline programs for the training of authorised officers to ensure that they can properly administer and enforce the requirements of this Act in the Council's municipal district

CONTEXT

Council's Local Laws Team is made up of a Coordinator (LLC), Senior Local Laws and Prosecution Officer (SLLPO), Local Laws Officers (LLO) and Administrative Support Officer (LLAO). The Officers are responsible for all Local Laws functions including fire prevention, littering, stock issues, traffic/parking management, footpath trading/dining as well as animal management. Council's objective is to ensure that all Officers involved in animal management have the knowledge and skills necessary to proactively, consistently and professionally carry out their work.

CURRENT AND PLANNED TRAINING, POLICIES:

- Staff Induction Policy
- Anti-Discrimination Bullying Harassment
- Career Development
- Code of Conduct: Staff
- Corporate Dress Uniform
- Fitness for Work – Drugs and Alcohol in the Workplace
- Learning and Development
- Telephone Management
- Staff Conflict of Interest Guidelines
- Staff Recognition

Course/Seminar	Notes	Officers	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
Dealing with difficult people	Bi-annual	All	X			X
Customer Service – Conflict management, Telephone speak	Bi-annual	All		X		X
Animal Behavior / Animal Handling	Annual	All	X	X	X	X
Bureau of Animal Welfare Animal Management Seminars	Annual	All	X	X	X	X

OUR PLANS

1. Develop and maintain a training register for individual officers.
2. Ensure officers attend at least one training/networking session each year.
3. Ensure all Officers have access to the Bureau of Animal Welfare extranet site.
4. Maximise learning and development opportunities to attract and maintain quality staff and performance.

4. REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION

68A(2)(c)(v) - Outline programs, services and strategies to encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats

- also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)

CURRENT SITUATION - Our current data 2021

Total Registered Dogs	5245
Total Registered Cats	1460

Registration fees currently set for the 2021/2022 period are as follows:

Reduced fee	\$55	<i>Pension Concession</i>	\$27.50
Microchipped only	\$162	<i>Pension Concession</i>	\$81
Restricted breed/dangerous/menacing dog	\$313		

- Pro-rata fees commence 11 October each year.
- Provision of free transfer of registration to animal owners who relocate to the South Gippsland Shire.
- Letter and registration application forms are sent to all new pet owners identified through Section 13 notifications received from pounds, shelters and pet shops. LLAO and LLO undertake processes to ensure animals are registered as required by the Act.
- Issue registration renewal notices on an annual basis with reminder notices, final notice, and text message to ensure compliance.
- Issue all Officers with a microchip scanner to determine if an animal found wandering/contained is currently registered along with owner details.

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

Council's current identification and registration activities include:

- Issuing of 'lifetime' registration identification tags.
- Door knocking various townships and rural areas in relation to registration requirements and compliance checking.
- Introduction of a 12 month Council Communication Plan
- Advertising of relevant information on Council's website, in local newspapers and information boards.
- Encourage desexing of dogs and cats in an effort to reduce wandering issues.

Our current Compliance Activities

- Conduct registration compliance campaigns across the municipal district targeting townships and rural areas each year.
- Issue infringement notices for non-compliance with legislation.
- Ensure that all information relating to Section 13 notifications from Domestic Animal Businesses is followed up to ensure compliance.
- Implement appropriate payment options for registrations including Bpay, PostBillPay and other payment options.

OUR PLANS

1. Continue to conduct registration compliance campaigns across the municipal district targeting townships and rural areas each year.
2. Introduce an online animal registration application system for new registrations.
3. Continue to distribute animal information articles on Council's website, Facebook page, telephone on-hold messages and in the local newspapers to promote the benefits of registration, microchipping and legislative compliance.
4. Continue compliance and enforcement activities to achieve greater compliance with all aspects of the Act.

5. NUISANCE

68A(2)(c)(vi) - Outline programs, services and strategies to minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance

- also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)

Current situation (All Animal Related Requests) Our Current data – 1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021

Dog & Cat - Logged Requests	Number of Requests
Dogs At Large	122
Barking Dogs	98
Dog Attacks	34
Dog Rushing	20
Dog Advice	31
Reports of Lost Dogs	46
Dog Pick Ups	151
Dog Registration Queries	172
Reports of Dog Welfare	12
Cat Trap Requests	166
Cat Pick Ups	191
Cat Nuisance	16
Reports of Lost Cats	15
Reports of Cat Welfare	10
Total	1084

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Council's General Local Law 2014 provisions relating to domestic animals are as follows:

- Clause 46(1) – “An owner or occupier of a property must not, without a permit, keep or allow to be kept any more in number for each kind of animal than as set out in the following table: 2 dogs and/or 2 cats”; and
- Clause 48(1) – “A person in charge of an animal must not allow any part of the animal's excrement to remain on or in a Public Place within a built-up area”; and
- Clause 48(2) – “A person in charge of an animal which litters in a Public Place must immediately collect and dispose of the litter in such a manner so as not to cause a nuisance to any other person”.

Council has a number of *Policies and Procedures* that relate to the administration and enforcement of the Act. These include a Barking Dog 'step-by-step' process, Wandering Dog

Process, Compliance and Enforcement Policy and Infringement Matrix.

There are well developed processes for Officers to follow and there is generally always access to guidance for Officers to assist them in their decision making.

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

- Provide Bureau of Animal Welfare responsible pet ownership brochures and other literature to owners of newly registered animals.
- Provide advice and assistance to customers in relation to animal management issues.
- Encourage desexing of dogs and cats to minimise wandering issues and issues around unwanted litters.
- Provide a cat trapping program to residents for trapping trespassing cats in an effort to reduce the number of feral/stray cats within South Gippsland.
- Provide information and advice about the requirements of trapping cats.
- Provision of dog litter bins and 'animal waste' bags in the 15 parks and reserves across the Shire as follows:
 - Baromi Park - Ridgway, Mirboo North
 - Mossvale Park – Berry's Creek
 - Poowong Recreation Reserve - Drouin Road, Poowong
 - Coleman Park - Queen Street, Korumburra
 - McIndoe Park – cnr Hassett Street and Turner Street, Leongatha
 - Tania Park – Brown Street, Leongatha
 - Horticultural Park – cnr Young Street and Bazley Street, Leongatha
 - Foster Recreation Reserve – Station Road, Foster
 - Pearl Park – Main Street, Foster
 - Sagassar Park – Station Street, Toora
 - Lewis Street, Port Welshpool
 - Gale Street, Waratah Bay
 - Sunnyside Park – Speight Street, Loch
 - R N Scott Reserve – Wonthaggi Korumburra Road, Kongwak
 - T P Taylor Reserve – Beach Parade, Sandy Point

Our current Compliance Activities

- Ensure nuisance complaints are logged on Council's Customer Request System and linked to the animal registration record to allow for resolution tracking and patterns of behavior with individual animals and owners.
- Ensure that all Notices to Comply and infringements are issued in line with Council guidelines, the Act and any relevant Codes of Practice.

- Investigate nuisance animal complaints to ensure effective resolution is achieved.

OUR PLANS

1. Continue to distribute animal information articles on Council's website, Facebook page, telephone on-hold messages and in the local newspapers to promote the issues relating to nuisance dogs and cats.
2. Investigate introduction of a 'Leash Order' pursuant to s 26 of the Act to reduce the incidence of wandering/unrestrained dogs in public places and number of dogs causing a nuisance.
3. Investigate introduction of a 'Cat Curfew Order' pursuant to s 25 and s 26 of the Act to reduce the incidence of cats causing a nuisance, attacks on native fauna and unwanted cat litters.

6. DOG ATTACKS

68A(2)(c)(iii) - Outline programs, services and strategies to minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals

- also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)

CURRENT SITUATION

Our current data – 1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021

Dog Attacks	34
Dog Rushing	20

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

- Dog attacks are considered a public safety risk and are dealt with as a matter of urgency. Undertake initial response within fifteen minutes.
- Ensure any complaint of dog attack or dog rushing is recorded in Council's Customer Request System and appropriately investigated in line with normal processes.
- Upon completion of the investigation undertake the necessary progression of the matter and finalise via infringements, prosecution or in some other appropriate manner in consultation with the LLC.
- Respond to complaints of aggressive dogs wandering by patrolling the reported location.
- Provision of an After Hours Emergency service for customers to report dog attacks.
- Encourage registration and other compliance with the Act as unregistered and/or wandering dogs are more likely to be involved in attacks as either the aggressor or the victim.

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

- Promote responsible pet ownership through use of local media and the Council website.
- Provide educational material to owners of newly registered dogs.
- Provide information and advice to owners of an attacking dog on the implications which can arise from a dog attack on a person or animal.

Our current Compliance Activities

- Issue infringement notices for non-compliance with legislation.
- Prosecute offenders for non-compliance with legislation.
- Investigate complaints ensuring all relevant evidence is gathered and considered.
- Conduct regular patrols throughout the Municipality.

OUR PLANS

Council endeavours to minimise the risk of dog attacks on people and animals through a program of education and enforcement initiatives.

1. Issue infringements and prosecute offenders for non-compliance with the Act in accordance with our normal practices.
2. Continue to educate the community regarding the broader implications of dog attacks to the community, the victim, the offending animal and the owner of that animal.
3. Continue to distribute animal information articles on Council's website, Facebook page, telephone on-hold messages and in the local newspapers to increase awareness of the incidence of dog attacks and their implications to all parties
4. Provide residents with information on how to report dog attacks and promote and encourage the reporting of all aggressive dog incidents.
5. Report outcomes of dog attack prosecutions in the local media to raise awareness within the community.

7. DANGEROUS, MENACING AND RESTRICTED BREED DOGS

68A(2)(c)(vii) - Outline programs, services and strategies to effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and to ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this Act and the regulations
- also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)

CURRENT SITUATION

Our current data

Declared Menacing Dogs	Declared Dangerous Dogs	Declared Restricted Breed
0	3	0

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

- Ensure that all declared dogs are listed on the Victorian Declared Dog Registry.
- Use of Breed standard for identifying a restricted breed dog.
- Victorian Breed Assistance Resource Kit (Vic BARK) Smart Device Application.

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

- Provide a range of educational brochures for the community.
- Ensure that owners of declared dogs are aware of their obligations under the Act.

Our current Compliance Activities

- Animal registration renewal notices are issued annually.
- Annual compliance inspections and spot-check inspections are conducted at all premises where declared dogs are kept to ensure compliance with requirements of the Act.
- Monitor non-residential areas for use of guard dogs.
- Ensure that all declared dogs are listed on the Victorian Declared Dog Registry and details are updated as soon as possible.
- Review all new dog registrations for potential restricted breed dogs.

OUR PLANS

Our aim is to minimise the risks of dog attack to the community and animals from menacing, dangerous and restricted breed dogs.

1. Proactively enforce menacing, dangerous and restricted breed dog legislation.
2. Ensure that the standards to identify restricted breed dogs are applied.

3. Conduct annual inspections of premises where declared restricted breed dogs are housed.
4. Conduct annual inspections of premises where declared dangerous and menacing dogs are housed. Promote the Department of Primary Industries' "Dangerous Dogs Hotline" on 1300101 080 between 8am and 6pm for suspected restricted breed dogs.
5. Provide advice and guidance to dog owners regarding restricted breed dogs and dangerous dogs.

8. OVERPOPULATION AND HIGH EUTHANASIA

68A(2)(c)(iv) - Outline programs, services and strategies to address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats
- also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)

CURRENT SITUATION

Our current data 2020/21 financial year

Cats and Dogs	Total
Impounded	297
Returned to Owner	181
Euthanased	65
Rehoused	101
Surrendered	50
Euthanased - feral cats	87

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

N/A

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

- Promotion of the Statewide initiative Responsible Cat Ownership program on Council's website and in local newspapers to raise awareness within the Community.
- Conduct cat specific education programs through Councils Communication Plan, promoting identification, registration and de-sexing.
- Conduct annual 'cat audits' within the community to ascertain the level of 'owned' cats. This is carried out in conjunction with the door-to-door registration compliance checks.

Our current Compliance Activities

- Promotion of the Responsible Cat Ownership program.
- Provision of cat traps to assist in the trapping of trespassing and problem cats.
- Implementation of targeted cat trapping programs.
- Implement requirements for registration of cats.
- Conduct annual 'cat audits' within the community to ascertain the level of 'owned' cats.

OUR PLANS

1. Through Council's Pound Service advertise lost and/or found dogs and cats on Council's website and in local papers.

2. Ensure that notices advertising animals for sale within South Gippsland contain the microchip number for each animal being sold.
3. Expand Council's cat trapping program to reduce feral and stray cat numbers.
4. Investigate the extended use of social media to facilitate the return of lost or impounded animals to their owners.

9. DOMESTIC ANIMAL BUSINESSES

68A(2)(c)(ii) - Outline programs, services and strategies which the Council intends to pursue in its municipal district to ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations and any related legislation

- also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(d),(f)

CURRENT SITUATION

Our current data – 2021/22 Registration Year

Business Type	Number registered
Breeding	2
Boarding	4
Pet Shop	0
Training Establishment	2
Pounds & Shelters	1

Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

- Send out annual Domestic Animal Business (DAB) registration renewal notices.
- Inspect all DAB's annually and as required throughout the year.
- Use of Bureau of Animal Welfare Audit inspection checklists when inspecting DAB.

Our current Education/Promotion Activities

- Supply and distribution of information regarding DAB's and relevant Codes of Practice.
- Provide advice and guidance as required by DAB's owners.

Our current Compliance Activities

- Inspect all DAB's annually and as required throughout the year.
- Investigate all complaints relating to a DAB.
- Follow up on any non-compliance issues or breaches of the Code of Practice or Act.
- Take any enforcement action necessary.
- Ensure that DAB's forward Section 13 documents to relevant Councils following the sale of an animal.
- Ensure that notices advertising animals for sale within South Gippsland contain the DAB's Council registration number and comply with relevant Codes of Practice and the Act.
- Liaise with other departments within Council to provide advice when an application for a DAB is received to ensure compliance with regulations and requirements under the Act and relevant Codes of Practice.

OUR PLANS

1. Undertake assessment of Council's registration database to proactively identify unregistered Domestic Animal Businesses.
2. 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.
3. Develop a procedure that will allow for all audit inspection documentation to be stored electronically against the license.

10. OTHER MATTERS

68A(2)(e) - Provide for the review of any other matters related to the management of dogs and cats in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary

POUND PROVISION AND MANAGEMENT

The South Gippsland Shire Domestic Animal Pound Services are provided and managed under a contractual agreement with the Korumburra Veterinary Clinic. This service has been provided by the Korumburra Veterinary Clinic since 1996. Following a competitive process, the contract was renewed in 1 July 2018 for a 5 year period until 30 June 2023. A review of the pound service is required to determine the direction of Council's pound service post 30 June 2023. Management would seek approval from the Chief Executive Officer for a contract extension for an additional year recurring up to five times applicable to 30 June 2028.

OUR PLANS

1. Undertake a review of pound service to determine the direction of Council's pound service post 30 June 2023; and / or.
2. Management would seek approval from the Chief Executive Officer for a contract extension for an additional year recurring up to five times applicable to 30 June 2028.

11. ANNUAL REVIEW OF PLAN AND ANNUAL REPORTING

68A(3) - Every Council must—

- (a) review its domestic animal management plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan*
- (b) provide the Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan; and*
- (c) publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.*

OUR PLANS

1. Provide the Secretary with a copy of the Domestic Animal Management Plan and any amendments to the Plan.
2. Publish an evaluation of the implementation of the Domestic Animal Management Plan in Council's Annual Report.
3. Review the Domestic Animal Management Plan annually and if appropriate, make amendments to the Plan.

APPENDIX 1 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS *

DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Pursuant to section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994, every Council must prepare a domestic animal management plan, as follows:

68A - Councils to prepare domestic animal management plans

- (1) Every Council must, in consultation with the Secretary (*Department Head of the Department of Environment and Primary Industries*), prepare at 4 year intervals a domestic animal management plan.
- (2) A domestic animal management plan prepared by a Council must—
 - (a) set out a method for evaluating whether the animal control services provided by the Council in its municipal district are effective to achieve requirements under the Act and the regulations; and
 - (b) outline programs for the training of authorised officers to ensure that they can properly administer and enforce the requirements of this Act in the Council's municipal district; and
 - (c) outline programs, services and strategies which the Council intends to pursue in its municipal district—
 - (i) to promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats; and
 - (ii) to ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations and any related legislation; and
 - (iii) to minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals; and
 - (iv) to address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats; and
 - (v) to encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats; and
 - (vi) to minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance; and
 - (vii) to effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and to ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this Act and the regulations; and
 - (d) provide for the review of existing orders made under this Act and local laws that relate to the Council's municipal district with a view to determining whether further orders or local laws dealing with the management of dogs and cats in the municipal district are desirable; and
 - (e) provide for the review of any other matters related to the management of dogs and cats in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary; and
 - (f) provide for the periodic evaluation of any program, service, strategy or review outlined under the plan.
- (3) Every Council must—
 - (a) review its domestic animal management plan annually and, if appropriate, amend

the plan; and

- (b) provide the Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan; and
- (c) publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.

APPENDIX 2 – ACTION PLAN

Activity	Who	When
Training of Authorised Officer		
1. Maintain a training register for individual officers.	Local Laws Coordinator (LLC)	Annually
2. Ensure officers attend at least one training/networking session each year.	LLC	As per training register
3. Ensure all Officers have access to the Bureau of Animal Welfare extranet site.	Local Laws Admin. Officer (LLAO)	Ongoing
4. Maximise learning and development opportunities to attract and maintain quality staff and performance.	LLC	As per training opportunities
Registration and Identification		
1. Continue to conduct registration compliance campaigns across the municipal district targeting townships and rural areas each year.	LLC	Ongoing
2. Introduce an online animal registration application system for new registrations.	LLAO	Ongoing
3. Continue to distribute animal information articles on Council's website, Facebook page, telephone on-hold messages and in the local newspapers to promote the benefits of registration, microchipping and legislative compliance.	LLAO/Communications Officer (CO)	Ongoing
4. Continue compliance and enforcement activities to achieve greater compliance with all aspects of the Act.	LLC	Ongoing
Nuisance		
1. Continue to distribute animal information articles on Council's website, Facebook page, telephone on-hold messages and in the local newspapers to promote the issues relating to nuisance dogs and cats.	LLAO/CO	Ongoing
2. Investigate introduction of a 'Leash Order' pursuant to s 26 of the Act to reduce the incidence of wandering/unrestrained dogs in public places and number of dogs causing a nuisance.	LLC	Future Plan**

Activity	Who	When
<i>Nuisance (cont.)</i> 3. Investigate introduction of a 'Cat Curfew Order' pursuant to s 25 and s 26 of the Act to reduce the incidence of cats causing a nuisance, attacks on native fauna and unwanted cat litters.	LLC	Future Plan**
<i>Dog Attacks</i> 1. Issue infringements and prosecute offenders for non-compliance with the Act in accordance with our normal practices. 2. Continue to educate the public regarding the broader implications of dog attacks to the community, the victim, the offending animal and the owner of that animal. 3. Continue to distribute animal information articles on Council's website, Facebook page, telephone messages and in local papers to promote issues relating to dog attacks. 4. Provide residents with information on how to report dog attacks and promote and encourage the reporting of any dog attack. 5. Report outcomes of dog attack prosecutions in the local media to raise awareness within the community.	LLC/LLAO LLC LLAO/CO LLAO/CO CO	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing
<i>Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed Dogs</i> 1. Proactively enforce menacing, dangerous, and restricted breed dog legislation. 2. Ensure that the standards to identify restricted breed dogs are applied. 3. Conduct annual inspections of premises, where declared restricted breed dogs are housed. 4. Conduct annual inspections of premises, where declared dangerous and menacing dogs are housed.	LLC/Local Laws Officers (LLO) LLC/LLO LLO LLO	When required When required April annually April annually

Activity	Who	When
<i>Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed Dogs (cont.)</i>		
5. Promote the Department of Primary Industries' "Dangerous Dogs Hotline" on 1300 101 080 between 8am and 6pm for suspected restricted breed dogs.	LLAO	Ongoing
6. Provide advice and guidance to dog owners regarding restricted breed dogs and dangerous dogs.	LLC/LLAO	Ongoing
<i>Overpopulation and High Euthanasia</i>		
1. Through Council's Pound Service, advertise lost and/or found dogs and cats on Council's website and in local papers.	Pound Service Provider	Ongoing
2. Ensure that notices advertising animals for sale within South Gippsland contain the microchip number for each animal being sold.	LLAO/LLO	Ongoing
3. Expand Council's cat trapping program.	LLO	2021
4. Investigate the extend use of social media to increase the return of lost or impounded animals to their owners.	LLAO/LLC/CO	Ongoing
<i>Domestic Animal Businesses</i>		
1. Assessment of Council's registration database, to proactively identify unregistered Domestic Animal Businesses.	LLAO/LLO	Ongoing
2. Provide Domestic Animal Businesses with educative material to ensure they are kept informed of all new developments and changes to legislation that may affect the operation of their business.	LLO	April annually or as required
3. Develop a procedure that will allow for all audit inspection documentation to be stored electronically against the license.	LLAO/LLO	2021
<i>Other Matters</i>		
1. Undertake a review of pound service in 30 June 2023. Management would seek approval from the Chief Executive Officer for a contract extension for an additional year recurring up to five times applicable to 30 June 2028.	Manager Community Safety	30 June 2023

Activity	Who	When
<i>Annual Review of Plan and Annual Reporting</i>		
1. Provide the Department of Primary Industries Secretary with a copy of the Domestic Animal Management Plan and any amendments to the Plan.	LLC	Upon adoption by Council
2. Publish an evaluation of the implementation of the Domestic Animal Management Plan in Council's Annual Report.	Manager Regulatory Services/CO	Annually
3. Review the Domestic Animal Management Plan annually and if appropriate, make any amendments to the Plan.	LLC/LLO	Annually

**

Future plan – A comprehensive community engagement program will commence in 2022 for this action.