



DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

10th July 2007

DSDS5	COMPANION ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN
FILE: 975 and 976 JGR	{ Folio No. * }

SUMMARY:

Reporting that the review of the Companion Animal Management Plan has been completed and is referred to Council for endorsement.

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DESCRIPTION:

The Department of Local Government Review Report requested that Kempsey Shire Council establish a Companion Animal Management Advisory Committee to develop a new Companion Animal Management Plan.

The Companion Animal Management Advisory Committee was selected by Council at its meeting of the 13th March 2007.

The Committee met on four (4) separate occasions, the level of information, professionalism and enthusiasm provided by the public representatives is to be commended.

The Committee, when finalising and tailoring the draft management policy to our Shire, were mindful that there are limitations such as budgetary constraints.

The Committee identified ten (10) Key Action areas which have been prioritised and which will be addressed over the three (3) years of the plan.

Key Issue Areas

- 6.1.1** Off leash Free Areas and Signage
- 6.1.2** Dog Faeces Management
- 6.1.3** Feral Cat / Wild Dog Management
- 6.1.4** Excessive Barking
- 6.1.5** Funding and Grants
- 6.1.6** Keeping of Domestic Animal other than Dogs and Cats
- 6.1.7** Pound Procedures
- 6.1.8** Problem Pet Owners
- 6.1.9** Cat / Dog Registration / Micro-chipping
- 6.1.10** Dangerous Dogs and Restricted Breeds

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

In making a commitment to the Companion Animal Management Plan Council would be taking a more active role in promoting and overcoming current environmental issues associated with Companion Animals within the Shire.

- *Social*

In making a Commitment to the Companion Animal Management Plan that will include, but not be limited to providing Public Education and promoting the CAAP.

- *Economic (Financial)*

In the long term, Council could expect cost saving in the areas of Animal Management, for instance issues concerning noise, impoundment, Council registration microchip systems, and pollution will all be addressed by the CAAP with view of improving the current procedures.

- *Policy or Statutory*

The plan will become the relevant Council policy applying to the management of companion animals throughout the Shire. Other specific policies related to the Key Issues are likely to be developed as a consequence of implementing the Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the draft Animal Management Plan referred to in this report be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least twenty eight (28) days.

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R B Pitt
DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES