



DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

11th September 2007

DSDS6	COMPANION ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN	
	FILE: 975 and 976 JGR	{Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting that the Draft Companion Animal Management Plan has been exhibited and is referred to Council for adoption.

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Report

The Plan was exhibited from 24th July to 21st August 2007 with a public meeting held on the 8th August 2007.

One (1) submission was received during the exhibition period which supported the need for more leash free areas within the Kempsey Area.

The Committee identified this as a high priority issue which will be addressed should Council adopt the plan.

The draft plan was supported by those in attendance at the public meeting on 8th August 2007 and some pertinent points were raised which addressed specific locations within Kempsey that had alleged issues with unrestrained roaming animals and dog faeces. These will be followed up by Council's Rangers as an immediate priority.

It is envisaged that if the Management Plan is adopted by Council, the Committee will reconvene to work on the high priority Key Issues Areas of the Management Plan being: -

1. Off Leash Free Areas and Signage
2. Dog Faeces Management
3. Excessive Barking
4. Funding and Grants

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 Key Issues of the Companion Animal Management Plan.

- *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 Companion Animals Advisory Committee 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 Council approve of the Companion Animal Management Plan.

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R B Pitt
DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES