



Domestic Animal Management Plan

2026 - 2029

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1. Introduction & Context

1.1 Purpose of Domestic Animal Management Plan

Under Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994, every Council must prepare a Domestic Animal Management (DAM) plan every four years.

68A Councils to prepare Domestic Animal Management plans.

1. Every Council must, in consultation with the Secretary, 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 adequate to give effect to the requirements of this 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—
 - iv. to promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats; and
 - v. to ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations, and any related legislation; and
 - vi. to minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals; and
 - vii. to address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats; and
 - viii. to encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats; and
 - ix. to minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance; and
 - x. 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.

Strategic alignment

This DAM plan supports Council's community vision of creating a thriving, connected regional community and aligns with our Community pillar of providing healthy, safe, well serviced and connected communities.

1.2 Process applied in developing the Plan

This DAM Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Domestic Animal Act 1994.

Council looks to balance the needs of animal owners and the community with the needs of the animals that share people's lives. Council understands the positive health benefits of having pets within households and strives to protect the community whilst maintaining animal's wellbeing.

This DAM plan was developed by Council after reviewing its existing DAM Plan (2021-2025), and analysing Council statistics, policies and procedures whilst also reviewing relevant Government legislations and Code of Practices. The review also included consultation between Animal Management and Local laws officers and relevant shareholders.

Community consultation on animal management issues was obtained via a survey. The survey gave the community an opportunity to voice their view on domestic animal issues. The survey was conducted over a four week period with 139 residents and 2 non residents completing the survey.

Community survey summary

- 10% participants were cat owners, 39% were dog owners, 28% owned both cats and dogs and 23% did not own an animal.
- 89% had registered their animals.
- 88% were aware that animal registration is due on 10th April every year.
- 75% would consider adopting an animal from our pound.
- 100% would reclaim their pet from the pound.
- 64% were aware of Council's Cat trap hire program, off and on leash areas within Council and the local laws relating to the number of cats and dogs that may be kept in a residential area.
- 34% were not aware of Council's programs.
- Main dog issues - dog owner not collecting dog excrement (50%) and stray dogs (49%).
- Main cat issue – stray cats (60%).
- Only 19% reported the cat or dog issues to Council.

The Domestic Animals Act 1994 (the Act), Domestic Animals Regulations 2015 (the Regulations), relevant Codes of Practice, Moira Shire Council Plan 2025-2029; DAM Plan template, Moira Shire Council's Community Amenity Local Law 2023, pound register, Customer Request Management system and other Councils' DAM Plans were key in developing this plan.

The Animal Management and Local Laws team developed the strategic framework to guide Council's animal management services into the future. Team workshops determined the numerous objectives,

activities and evaluation techniques that were used to address each legislative requirement.

Community consultation and comment was obtained to ensure that the needs of the community are reflected throughout this plan.

1.3 Demographic and profile of Council

Moira Shire is located on the northeast border of Victoria, 250km north of Melbourne and covers 4,045 square kilometres with a population of 30,522.

The municipality has four main towns - Cobram, Yarrawonga, Nathalia and Numurkah. There are 22 smaller communities - Barmah, Bearii, Bundalong, Burramine, Invergordan, Kaarimba, Katamatite, Katunga, Koonoomoo, Kotupna, Lake Rowen, Peechelba, Picola, St James, Strathmerton, Tungamah, Waaia, Wilby, Wunghnu, Yabba North, Yalca and Yarroweyah.



1.4 Context and current situation

Moira Shire Council provides a broad range of programs and services to ensure that we meet our responsibilities for the management of domestic animals.

Program/Service:	Service Level:
Identification & Registration	Council manages a registration and identification scheme for dog and cats which promotes responsible pet ownership.
Identification & Registration checks	When Animal Management and Local laws officers undertake visits to properties, they check the registration status of domestic animals and check for compliance with the Act and Council's local laws.
Domestic animal complaints	Complaints and enquiries are captured electronically in Councils 'Customer Request Management' (CRM) database – Officers aim to response within a 24-hour period.
Dangerous Dogs complaints	Complaints and enquiries are captured electronically in Councils 'Customer Request Management' (CRM) database – Officers aim to response within a 24-hour period.
Street patrols	Staff conduct random patrols of the municipality
Pound	The Moira Shire pound facility is managed by a Pound Manager and two Animal Attendants. The pound operating hours are Mon-Fri 9am-5pm and Sat-Sun by appointment only
Micro-chipping and desexing programs	Council provides a reduced registration for any animal that is desexed and actively applies for discounted desexing grants
Cat trap hire program	Moira Shire offers a cat trap hire program to help resident's trap wild and uncontrollable cats
After hours emergency service	Council offers an urgent afterhours response from 5pm to 8am Mon-Fri as well as weekend and public holidays
Domestic animal adoption program	Public promotion of animals that are available for adoption assist in increasing our rehoming rates. Methods used for promotion include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moira Shire Council webpage; • Moira Shire Facebook page; and • Publication in local newspapers

Refer to Appendix 1 for Delegations

Refer to Appendix 2 for Section 26 Orders

Refer to Appendix 3 for Council's Community Amenity Local Law

Refer to Appendix 4 for current service levels

1.5 Domestic Animal statistics

The statistics and information from the past four years have been considered when determining our activities for the next four years.

Domestic Animal Statistic	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	2024 to 2025
Registered Dogs	4624	4680	4430	4367
Registered Cats	1291	1262	1175	1175
Registered Declared Dogs	2	3	2	4
Complaints Received	822	1365	1241	1415
Domestic Animal Businesses	7	7	7	6
Keeping of Surplus Animal Permits	9	8	15	24

	2021 to 2022		2022 to 2023		2023 to 2024		2024 to 2025	
	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats
Seized wandering	97	341	107	310	110	200	133	317
Surrendered	31	76	74	32	63	50	64	28
Reclaimed by owner	82	20	88	23	82	17	107	17
Rehoused	27	67	66	71	55	118	43	76

Refer to Appendix 6 for Impounded animal statistics

Refer to Appendix 7 for Domestic animal complaints received

Refer to Appendix 8 for Infringements and Prosecutions



2. Training of Authorised Officers

2.1 Context and current situation

Council's Animal Management and Local Laws team consists of one Coordinator, one Technical Officer and three Animal Management and Local Laws Officers. Council also has two Animal Attendants with numerous years' experience in the animal welfare field.

Animal Management and Local laws team	Years of service
Coordinator	12
Technical Officer	3
Animal Management officers (3)	25, 20 and 3
Support Officer	7
Animal Attendants (2)	numerous

The Animal Management and Local Law team administrate and enforce:

- Domestic animal management;
- Livestock management under the Impounding of Livestock Act;
- Fire Prevention duties under the Country Fire Authority Act;
- School Crossing supervision;
- Local Laws;
- Parking; and
- Footpath trading guidelines.

Council is committed to ensuring that our Authorised Officers are equipped with the necessary training and skills to perform their role effectively and efficiently. Our officers will be skilled to deliver a strong customer focus in educating the public, enforcing the relevant legislation and building positive relationships with the community. Standing Operating Procedures for the officers have been devised to ensure a consistent approach to their duties.

2.2 Our planned training for Authorised Officers

Authorised Officer Training	Officer 1	Officer 2	Officer 3	Technical Officer
Certificate IV in Animal Control and Regulation				2025/26
DEECA training and information seminars	As offered	As offered	As offered	As offered
Animal Rehousing Assessment			2026	2026
Restricted Breed and General Dog Identification			2026	2026
First Aid	Annually	Annually	Annually	Annually
Dog/Cat Behaviour Management training	2026	2026	2026	2026
Managing Conflict and Difficult Situations	As offered	As offered	As offered	As offered
Council's computer courses	As required	As required	As required	As required
DAB Audit training	When available	When available	When available	When available
Conflict Management training	As offered	As offered	As offered	As offered
Customer service training	Annually	Annually	Annually	Annually

2.3 Our plan

Activity	When	Evaluation
Training requirements		
Identify minimum training requirements and additional training opportunities for staff	Ongoing	Training requirements are assessed by the Coordinator and discussed with officers as a part of their annual performance reviews
On the job training for new employees with an experienced officer who provides real time, situational advice	Upon induction of new staff	Feedback provided by both officers as to effectiveness
Ensure all officers attend audit training	When offered	Training attended when available
Procedures		
Officers adhere to Standing Operating Procedures	Ongoing	Update as required

3. Programs to promote and encourage responsible pet ownership and compliance with legislation

3.1 Context and current situation

Council understands the positive health benefits of having pets within households. Owning a pet offers numerous health, physical and social benefits and they are incredible companions.

Council acknowledges the importance of pets in our community and encourages all owners to act responsibly and provide the time, commitment and resources for their pet to thrive.

Council encourages all pet owners to keep their animal registration and microchipping details up to date. This assists in the animal being returned quicker to the owners, as well as reducing the stress on all parties. Council encourages owners to socialise their pets and provide them with the necessary skills to minimise any behavioural issues.

Council will promote responsible pet ownership to enhance the welfare of pets within our community and will engage the community through various educational campaigns and information on our website.

Over the past 4 years animal registrations have dropped, and complaints have risen.

Stray cats continue to be an issue for Council with 341 cats seized wandering in 2024/25. Council will look at addressing this through targeted patrols, cat population management and community education for wandering cats as well as continuing to offer a Cat trap hire scheme.

Domestic Animal Statistics	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	2024 to 2025
Registered Dogs	4624	4680	4430	4367
Registered Cats	1291	1262	1175	1175
Complaints Received	822	1365	1241	1415

Council acknowledges that educating pet owners about responsible pet ownership is essential. Council delivers online services for the information of every pet owner and promotes this information via social media, Council’s website, and other digital avenues. Council also provides education and written communication to pet owners to ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities.

Impounded Animals

Animals are impounded in accordance with the Act.

Keeping of excess animals

Council issued 18 Keeping of excess animal permits in 2024/25.

Infringements

Council issued 51 infringements issued in 2024/25. Refer to Appendix 8.

Cat trap hire program

34 cat traps were hired by community members during 2024/25.

3.2 Our Orders, Local laws, Council policies and procedures

Current Orders:

Council's Section 26 Order addresses the presence of dogs in public places. Refer to Appendix 2.

Current Local laws:

Refer to Appendix 3 for Council's local laws relating to the keeping of domestic animals.

Current policies and procedures:

Moirā Shire Council currently undertakes the following education and promotion activities:

- Provides a cat trap hire scheme to the public;
- Operates a Council Pound facility with 12 dog and 16 cat pens;
- Provide information on Council's website and issues media releases relating to responsible pet ownership.
- Online registration;
- Annual registration renewal and overdue notices are sent to pet owners; and
- First ride home free for registered pets that are impounded.



3.3 Our plan

Activity	When	Evaluation
Reduce nuisance complaints		
Maintain cat trap program to assist residents with cat trespassing and nuisance problems	Ongoing	Monitor program including the number of traps hired and the number of impounded cats
Provide information relating to responsible cat ownership	Ongoing	Monitor and review.
Provide adequate signs within Municipality for dog parks (on lead / off lead, requirements and pick up after your dog)	Ongoing	Monitor signage at Council parks, enforcement data and compliance rates
Media releases regarding nuisance animal issues	Ongoing	Monitor the number of media articles published
Patrol Council areas in response to complaints	Ongoing	Monitor enforcement action and compliance rates
Explore new programs offered by government to help reduce desexing costs.	December 2026	Date program implemented Annual comparison of the number of desexed cats
Media releases relating to cat trap program, off leash dog areas, animal adoption and foster care programs.	Ongoing	Information developed within timeframe Review number of visits to website
Provide strategies to dog owners with noisy animals.	Ongoing	Monitor to ensure correct and up to date information is provided
Barking dog letters and factsheets to be provided to dog owners, as required	Ongoing	Monitor to ensure correct information is listed
Provide education material about cat enclosures and nuisance issues to cat owners as required	Ongoing	Monitor to ensure correct information is listed Number of booklets distributed and when

4. Programs to address over-population and any high euthanasia rates

4.1 Context and current situation

Moirā Shire is committed to addressing the overpopulation of cats and dogs within the municipality and the euthanasia rate of animals at our pound. To address the overpopulation and promote responsible pet ownership, Council will investigate implementing low cost desexing programs and desexing vouchers for low income earners and focus on educating owners on the responsible ownership.

There has been an increase in the number of animals being surrendered to Council in the past three years. In 2021/22 there were 31 dogs however this increased to 64 dogs in 2024/25. The cost of living and the end of working from home (COVID restrictions) appear to be the main attributors to this.

All unclaimed impounded and surrendered animals are assessed for their temperament. Animals that pose a risk to public safety are deemed unsuitable for rehoming and dealt with in accordance with the Act.

Council continues to rehome suitable animals via our adoption program and via various rescue groups. The rescue groups have also experienced an increase in surrenders and at times are at capacity and unable to assist with rehoming of our animals. Council will look at increasing the number of available rescue groups which will assist in allowing the animals to be rehomed quicker.

Council's animal adoption program has been instrumental in lowering the euthanasia rate of impounded animals that have been deemed suitable for rehoming and Council will endeavour to further increase the amount of local adoptions from our pound.

Impounded Animals	2021 to 2022		2022 to 2023		2023 to 2024		2024 to 2025	
	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats
Rehoused	27	67	66	71	55	118	43	76
Surrenders	31	76	74	32	63	50	64	28

4.1 Our Orders, Local laws, Council policies and procedures

Current Orders:

Desexing

Councils' registration fees are half price for desexed animals. This aims to encourage desexing and increase the number of desexed animals within Council thereby reducing overpopulation.

Domestic Animal Pound Release Fee

The pound release fee is \$138.30 (2025/26), with pensioners receiving a reduced rate. A daily sustenance fee of \$10 per day may also apply. All fees are subject to change as per Council's annual review of fees and charges through budget processes.

Animal Adoption Policy

Animals deemed suitable for adoption are available from our pound. The cost of adopting an animal is determined by the cost of all veterinary requirements (microchipping, vaccination, worming, desexing) in addition to the cost of registration.

Current Local Laws:

Council's local laws address the number of dogs and cats that can be kept on residential and commercial properties without a permit. Refer to Appendix 3.

The Moira Shire Council Website contains:

- Information about impounded and lost animals, including Council's contact number to report their pet as lost;
- The Pound Release Fees; and
- Pound Pet of the Week'. This is also published in local newspapers and on Council's Facebook page.

Current Compliance Activities:

Moira Shire Council currently undertakes the following compliance activities:

- Attend to complaints regarding cats and dogs trespassing on private property;
- Collect and impound stray and wandering dogs and cats;
- Accept any surrendered dog or cat;
- Animal Adoption and foster care program;
- Euthanase any wild or uncontrollable cat; and
- Euthanase any unclaimed (within 8 day statutory period) dog or cat which is assessed as not suitable for rehousing.



4.2 Our plan

Activity	When	Evaluation
Provide information to public regarding overpopulation and high euthanasia rates		
Media releases regarding domestic animals' businesses	Ongoing	Monitor number of media releases issued
Media releases educating the community about the risks of overpopulation and how they can prevent subsequent issues, such as wild cat population	Annually	Information developed within timeframe
Media releases regarding pound services, animal adoptions, promoting desexing of pets, identification, registration.	Ongoing	Review every 6 months to ensure information is up to date and correct
Educational material distributed at customer service centres	Ongoing	Information reviewed annually to ensure information is up to date
Website Information about overpopulation	Ongoing	Monitor information to ensure correct and up to date information
Reduce dog and cat euthanasia		
Engage with more adoption agencies to increase rehoming numbers	June 2026	Monitor agreements to ensure program is satisfactory and agreement complies with legislation and Code of Practice
Maintain media and education strategy to promote the pound services provided by Council including animal adoption and agreements with external community organisations	Ongoing	Monitor campaign data including number of media releases, type of publicity and pound statistics
Publish 'Pound Pet of the Week' on Council's website, Facebook page and in local newspapers	Ongoing	Procedure reviewed annually to ensure best practice
Implement a 'Lost pets' page on Council website to display impounded pets to assist with reclaiming rate	July 2026	Monitor campaign data on lost pets page
Maintain foster carers, volunteer programs, agreements with rescue groups	Ongoing	Procedure monitored to ensure best practice
Maintain a program of assessment for euthanasia or suitability for rehoming of dogs and cats	Ongoing	Maintain internal procedures and guidelines. Procedure reviewed annually to ensure best practice
Investigating low cost desexing		
Investigate support services provided by government to provide low cost desexing	December 2026	As per government subsidy allocation
Investigate Council offering desexing vouchers	December 2026	Review as Council budget allocation

5. Registration and Identification

5.1. Context and current situation

Moira Shire Council currently has 4367 registered dogs and 1175 registered cats. There has been a decline in registration numbers over the past 4 years.

This is also reflected in the low number of impounded dogs (52%) and cats (less than 1%) who have been implanted with microchips in 2024/25 and the low number of impounded dogs (13%) and cats (less than 1%) that are registered.

Council aims to increase the number of dog and cat registrations and will promote the benefits of having your pet registered. Registered animals are able to be returned more quickly to their owners if impounded.

A strong focus on the benefits of pet registration will be conducted via social media campaigns. Registration fees fund essential services such as stray animal collections and facilities such as dog parks. Registering your animal shows that you are committed to your pet's wellbeing and the community's safety.

Domestic Animal Statistics	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	2024 to 2025
Registered Dogs	4624	4680	4430	4367
Registered Cats	1291	1262	1175	1175
Impounded animals	565	550	494	554
Impounded dogs and cats who were microchipped	136	111	99	108
Impounded dogs and cats who were registered	23	27	36	28

5.1 Our Orders, Local laws, Council policies and procedures

Current Orders:

- All dogs and cats over three months of age to be registered with Council. Application for registration and renewal of registration for dogs and cats is to be completed via application form or online; and
- Registration fees are fixed by Council in the fees and charges adopted in each annual budget.

Current Local Laws:

Refer to Appendix 3 – Moira Shire Council Community Amenity Local Law 2023

Current policies and procedures:

- Annual registration renewal notices are sent to owners of all registered animals;
- Annual media release advising of their requirement to register dogs and cats;
- Annual registration overdue notices are sent out in May for all unrenewed animals. Follow up phone calls and door knocks occur if overdue registrations remain unpaid;
- Participation in DEECA Responsible Pet Ownership Program (statutory requirement); and
- State Government Levy collection for funding of DEECA Responsible Pet Ownership program (statutory requirement). This levy is included in every registration.

Current Compliance activities:

- Investigations conducted after complaint is received; and
- Warnings and Infringements issued (Fail to register / renew) as required.

5.2 Our plan

Activity	When	Evaluation
Increase dog and cat registrations		
Ensure all impounded animals are registered prior to release	Ongoing	Monitor the number of impounded dogs and cats who are not registered
Ensure all animals that are the subject of a complaint are registered	Ongoing	Monitor unregistered animals picked up during door knocks
Obtain details of dogs and cats in municipality from the microchip registries. Check if animals are listed on council's registration database and follow up on those who are not	Annually	Information obtained within timeframe Review of registration statistics to determine success
Investigate introducing first registration free or a minimal payment for all dogs and cats that are under 6 months of age	June 2026	Investigation completed within timeframe Monitor the number of animals participating in the program
Ensure the details of all impounded animals are entered onto the pound register	Ongoing	Monitor pound register records
Investigate new procedures that inform pet owners that their animal registration is due	June 2027	Investigation completed within timeframe Monitor animal registration numbers
Media and education strategy		
Media releases into the benefits of registering your pet	Every 6 months	Monitor the number of media articles published
Advertise 'Free first ride home' for stray registered animals	Ongoing	Monitor registration statistics to determine success
Provide website information that educates the community of the importance of pet registration in multiple languages	June 2026	Information developed within timeframe
Incentives to encourage registration and microchipping		
Implement registration scheme	Ongoing	Monitor registration statistics to determine success
Any animals registered with Council from January to April will receive registration until April the following year	Ongoing	Monitor registration statistics to determine success
Investigate options for discounted microchipping scheme.	July 2027	Investigation completed within timeframe Date program (if) implemented. Annual review of data
Information brochures and documents		
Brochure and information about registration and renewals included in 'new residents' kit	Ongoing	Review information to ensure correct and up to date
Website Information about the benefits of registering your pets	Ongoing	Annual review of information to ensure it is correct and up to date
Brochures regarding responsible pet ownership available at service centres	Ongoing	Review annually to ensure correct information is listed

6. Nuisance

6.1 Context and current situation

Council's purpose is to reduce the number of nuisance dogs and cats throughout the municipality. Reducing nuisance complaints offers substantial benefits for the community, wildlife and it also helps Council efficiency.

The following table shows the number of complaints received by the Moira Shire Council regarding domestic animals.

Domestic Animal complaints received	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	2024 to 2025
Total	822	1365	1241	1415

Over the past 4 years domestic animal complaints have steadily risen. A third of these complaints are dog related.

Council aims to reduce the number of nuisance and wandering dog complaints by providing the owners with information and strategies to responsibly manage their pets. In regard to barking dog complaints, Council recommends that complainants speak to the owners of the animal first, if comfortable. Most of the time the animal owner does not know that the animal is being a nuisance, and it will likely lead to the owner rectifying the issue. Council will educate owners about maintaining adequate fencing and enclosures for their animals as this keeps their animals on their property and not wandering into neighbour's yards or onto the streets.

The Animal Management and Local Laws team will maintain proactive patrols of towns and will assist in Council's endeavor to establish dedicated off leash dog parks in each of the major towns.

6.2 Our Orders, Local laws, Council policies and procedures

Current Orders:

Council's Section 26 Order regulates dogs in public places including prohibiting dogs in some public areas, requiring dogs in public places to be on a leash and allowing some off lead areas throughout the municipality at certain times. Refer to Appendix 2.

Current Local Laws:

Council's local law addresses the number of cats and dogs that can be kept at a property without a permit, as well as requirements regarding animal shelters and animal excrement. Refer to Appendix 3.

Current policies and procedures:

Council has a cat trap hire program in which residents can hire a cat trap for a seven day period. The cost of hiring a cat trap is fully refunded upon the return of the trap to Council.

Upon receiving a complaint for barking dog issues:

- Provide verbal one on one information to both parties;
- Letter sent to both parties advising of their options;

- Barking dog diary provided to complainant;
- Dispute Settlement Centre brochure provided to both parties; and
- A barking dog recorder can be utilised to verify the barking dog diary.

Upon receiving a complaint regarding cat wandering issues:

- Cat trap application form provided to complainant; and
- Information given to cat owners if their cat is wandering.

Dog wandering:

- Patrol area when the complaint is received; and
- Information given to dog owners if their dog is wandering.

Council website:

- Information about the number of animals that can be kept at a property without a permit.

Current Compliance activities:

Moirā Shire Council currently undertakes the following compliance activities when complaint received:

- Attend property;
- Conduct investigation - review barking dog dairies and issue a Notice to Comply;
- Impound wandering cats and dogs;
- Issue warnings and infringement notices; and
- Patrols of area.



6.3 Our plan

Activity	When	Evaluation
Endeavour to reduce cat nuisance complaints		
Maintain Cat Trap Program to assist residents to deal with cat trespassing and nuisance problems	Ongoing	Monitor program including the number of traps hired and the number of impounded cats
Provide information relating to responsible cat ownership	Ongoing	Monitor and review data.
Create new Section 26 Order to include dog parks	July 2026	Order to be completed within timeframe
Increase education about responsible cat ownership to ensure cats remain owners property	July 2026	Information provided within timeframe
Check registration records for residential homes that have more than 2 cats to determine if Keeping of Animal permit is required	September Annually	Check conducted within timeframe Monitor registration statistics to determine success
Endeavour to reduce dog nuisance complaints		
Provide adequate signs at Council parks (on lead / off lead, requirements, pick up after your dog)	Annually	Review signage at Council parks as well as enforcement data and compliance rates
Patrol Council parks (including dog park) for dogs in 'No dogs allowed' areas and owners not picking up after their dogs	Ongoing	Monitor enforcement action and compliance rates
Check registration records for residential homes that have more than 2 dogs to determine if Keeping of Animal permit is required	September Annually	Check conducted within timeframe Monitor registration statistics to determine success
Cooperate with other agencies as required		
Liaise with other agencies as required	Ongoing	Assess assistance provided by Councils Authorised Officers
Media and education strategy		
Media releases regarding nuisance animal issues	Ongoing	Monitor the number of media articles published
Provide strategies and information sheets to dog owners with noisy animals. List the link to relevant information.	As required	Information provided as required
Information brochures and documents		
Barking dog factsheets to be provided to dog owners as required	Ongoing	Monitor to ensure correct information is listed
Provide education material about cat enclosures and nuisance issues to cat owners as required	Ongoing	Monitor to ensure correct information is listed
Update of website Information relating to Nuisance animals.	Ongoing	Annual review of information to ensure it is correct and up to date

7. Dog Attacks

7.1 Context and current situation

Dog attacks are a high priority for Council with 93 reports received in 2024/25.

Council also acknowledges that many attacks may not be reported and encourages the community to report any attack to Council to enable our officers an opportunity to investigate. The community has a right to be safe from dog attacks.

Council aims at reducing the number of dog attacks and dog rushes within the community by implementing various prevention activities. This includes educating the community on how to prevent dog attacks and warn dog owners about the serious consequences of a dog attack. Council’s Authorised Officers will provide a strong visible presence by patrolling hot spot areas. Council will also publish the results of successful dog attack prosecutions as a deterrent for dog owners.

Domestic Animal Complaints Received	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	2024 to 2025
Dog Attack (Livestock)	10	9	11	18
Dog Attack (Other)	10	47	21	38
Dog Attack (Person)	5	19	8	12
Dog Rush	12	12	18	25
Dog Attack / Rush Total	37	87	58	93

7.2 Our Orders, Local laws, Council policies and procedures

Current Orders:

Council's Section 26 Order regulates dogs in public places, including the prohibiting of dogs in some public areas, requiring that dogs in public places be on a leash and allowing some off lead areas throughout the municipality at certain times. Refer to Appendix 2.

Current Policies and procedures:

Moirā Shire Council currently undertakes the following education and promotion activities:

- Media Releases in local newspapers and social media;
- Provide information when requested; and
- Promote effective confinement and the control of dogs.

Current policies and procedures:

Moirā Shire Council currently undertakes the following compliance activities:

- Patrol township areas for wandering dogs;
- Respond urgently to complaints about dog attacks;
- Seize dog after attack / rush;
- Declare dogs that have attacked as either dangerous or menacing;
- Declare dogs as Restricted Breed dogs;
- Issue Notices to Comply;
- Issue infringements; and
- Prosecution



7.3 Our plan

Activity	When	Evaluation
Encourage the community to report dog attacks to Council		
Improve public awareness via media releases of what a dog attack is and how to report it. Include emergency services and Doctors	Ongoing	Annual review of the number of dog attacks reported to council
Education and media strategy about responsible pet ownership and preventing dog attacks		
Maintain media strategy to promote Responsible Pet Ownership within the community	Ongoing	Review the implementation of strategy
Provide adequate signs at Council public areas/parks (on lead / off lead requirements, pick up after your dog and dog behaviors in public)	Ongoing	Review signage at Council areas parks, enforcement data and compliance rates
Target specific issues, such as inadequate fencing in media campaigns	Annually	As required
Publish results of successful dog attack prosecutions	As courts determined	Information published within timeframe
Identify dog attack problem areas		
Patrols of identified dog attack hot spot areas and promote responsible pet ownership	Ongoing	Monitor as required
Undertake preventative education and enforcement initiatives		
Take enforcement action including infringements and prosecutions	Ongoing	Annual review of number of infringements issued and prosecutions undertaken
Declare dogs as menacing or dangerous after a dog attack or rush incident	Ongoing	Annual review of the number of dogs declared within the municipality
Endeavour to decrease the number of dog attacks incidents in the community		
Record details of all dog attacks and dog rush incidents	Ongoing	Annual comparison of data collected
Develop information brochures and documents		
Encourage victims to report dog attacks via targeted media	July 2029	Annual comparison of complaints received
Website Information about how to report a dog attack	Ongoing	Annual review of information to ensure it is correct and up to date

8. Dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs

8.1 Context and current situation

As of July 2025, Council has four declared dogs in the municipality.

Moirā Shire aims to identify and monitor any dangerous, menacing or restricted dog breeds within Council and manage them as per the Act to reduce the risk to the community and other animals.

Council will also conduct annual inspections of all properties that keep a declared dog, to ensure that they remain compliant with their requirements and that they are kept in a manner which keeps the community safe.

8.2 Our Council policies and procedures

Current policies and procedures:

- A restricted breed dog declaration is listed on Council's Animal Registration form;
- Impounded dogs that are destroyed in relation to Section 84TA, TB and TC are entered via the Victorian Declared Dog Registry (VDDR) website; and
- Details of Council declared dangerous and menacing dogs are entered on the VDDR website.

Current Compliance activities:

Moirā Shire Council currently undertakes the following compliance activities:

- Respond to complaints regarding alleged dangerous, menacing or restricted breed dogs;
- Maintain a register of declared dogs within the municipality;
- Declare dogs as Restricted Breed, Dangerous or Menacing; and
- Record details on the VDDR.

8.3 Our plan

Activity	When	Evaluation
Identify and register all Declared Dogs in the municipality		
Maintain Registration form to include declaration regarding declared dog status	Ongoing	Annual review of form to ensure compliance with legislation requirements
Inspect and audit all declared dog premises to ensure they are following requirements		
Inspect all properties that keep a declared dog	Annually	Inspect every property to ensure compliance with the Act
Ensure all declared dogs are entered onto the VDDR and Council's database	Ongoing	Inspect database annually to ensure database is maintained
Media and education strategy		
Media campaign to promote awareness of what a dog attack is and how to report it to Council	June 2028	Information provided within timeframe
Promote Animal Welfare Victoria education programs to raise awareness of what is a declared dog i.e. restricted breed, dangerous or menacing	June 2027	Monitor information to ensure it is correct and up to date
Website Information about how restricted, menacing and dangerous dogs must be kept	Ongoing	Monitor information to ensure it is correct and up to date
Cooperate with other agencies as required		
Cooperate with other agencies and local government bodies to monitor declared dogs	Ongoing	Monitor Council records and Declared Dog registry
Liaise with DEECA regarding media and education strategies Promote information brochures and documents	Ongoing	Annual review of Council records Promote information brochures and documents
Promote information brochures and documents		
Website Information about how restricted, menacing and dangerous dog are declared	Ongoing	Monitor information to ensure it is correct and up to date

9. Domestic Animal Businesses

9.1 Context and current situation

Domestic Animal Businesses (DAB) play a vital role in providing specific services to the community and their pets. They must comply with strict Codes of Practices to ensure that they provide healthy spaces, proper feeding and behavioural enrichment. They must provide a genuine commitment to animal welfare which is aligned with community expectations.

Council has six registered Domestic Animal Businesses:

- **Three** boarding establishments;
- **Two** pet shops; and
- **One** pound.

Council undertakes annual audits of all registered DAB's to ensure their compliance with the relevant Code of Practice. Council also investigates complaints to identify any unregistered DAB's operating within the municipality.

All Domestic Animal Businesses must register with Council and undergo an assessment before being approved as a DAB. All existing DAB registrations must be renewed by 10 April each year.

9.2 Our Council Policies and procedures

Current policies and procedures:

The registration fee for a Domestic Animal Business is \$177 (2025/26), which includes the State Government levy of \$20.

- Sends permit renewal notices to DAB's; and
- Provides Responsible Pet Ownership brochures to DAB's as requested.

Current Compliance activities:

Moira Shire Council currently undertakes the following compliance activities:

- Inspect new DAB's as required;
- Undertake annual inspections of current DAB's to ensure compliance with the relevant Code of Practice;
- Respond and investigate complaints about DAB's;
- Prosecute / close illegal DAB's;
- Participation in DEECA Responsible Pet Ownership Program (statutory requirement); and
- State Government Levy collection for funding of DEECA Responsible Pet Ownership program (statutory requirement).

9.3 Our plan

Activity	When	Evaluation
Identify and register all DAB's in the municipality		
Identify possible businesses/ individuals that may be required to register as DAB's	As required	Information obtained within timeframe
Follow up on information obtained in relation to possible unregistered DAB's	Ongoing	Monitor the number of businesses identified
Follow up registration after receiving forms required under Section 13 of the Act	Ongoing	Monitor statistical data including number of Section 13 forms received and results of follow up action
Visit and inspect all registered DAB's		
Ensure all DAB's have valid registration and visit and inspect all DAB's to ensure that they comply with the relevant Codes of Practice. Enforce compliance (if required)	Annually	Annual review of DAB's registration Visit DAB's annually to check for compliance. Results of inspections/audits to be recorded
Identify and investigate illegally operating DAB's in the municipality		
Maintain education campaign to promote awareness of DAB and Code of Practice requirements	Ongoing	Comparison of number of registered establishments before and after campaign
Develop internal procedures and guidelines		
Process for registering new DAB and initial assessment of applications	Ongoing	Procedure reviewed annually to ensure best practice
Maintain database of all visits conducted including history, audit results and work plans for each business	Ongoing	Database reviewed each inspection to information is up to date
Planning Department to advise on the potential need for a DAB when they receive an application for a Planning permit – husbandry of animals	As required	Information provided as required
Develop information brochures and documents		
Distribute information packs for potential or new DAB	Ongoing	Information reviewed annually to ensure up to date
Review of current DAB permit and development of specific conditions to be included in permits	Ongoing	Permit document reviewed annually to ensure meets current legislation and Codes of Practice

10. Other matters

Emergency Management

10.1 Context and current situation

Planning for the management of animals in an emergency helps to ensure their safety during a stressful time.

Moira Shire Council has experienced various natural disasters, with a large-scale flood throughout the municipality in 2012, a tornado in 2013, a large-scale fire in 2014 and flooding in 2016 and 2022.

The Moira Shire Emergency Animal Welfare Plan details how Council assists with animals during emergencies and was endorsed by Council on 4 February 2019. It is complimentary plan to Council's Municipal Emergency Management Plan.

10.2 Our Council policies and procedures

Current policies and procedures:

- Are listed in Moira Shire Council's Municipal Emergency Animal Welfare Plan.

Current compliance activities:

- Provide various information on Council's website and issue media releases relating to owner's responsibilities for their pets in the event of an emergency.

10.3 Our plan

Activity	When	Evaluation
Council Policies and Procedures		
Review the Emergency Management Animal Welfare Plan	June 2027 and June 2029	Plan reviewed to ensure that it meets current legislation and Codes of Practice
Media and education strategy		
Maintain a media and education strategy regarding domestic pets and emergency management including media releases on pets in emergency planning e.g.: what equipment pets require, veterinary medication, identification to help reunite pets with their owners after the emergency	Ongoing	Annual review of media and education campaign data including number of media releases and promotion activities

Pound Development

10.4 Context and current situation

Council's pound provides accommodation and care for the physical and behavioural needs of impounded dogs and cats.

The pound facility is overseen by an Operations Manager and up to two Animal Attendants.

Council's must maintain the pound infrastructure and processes to ensure compliance with the Code of Practice for the Management of Dogs and Cats in Shelters and Pounds as well as compliance with State and local government legislation.

The Operations Manager ensures that Code of Practice for the Management of Dogs and Cats in Shelters and Pounds (Revision 1) is adhered to. The Animal Attendants provide environmental enrichment, food and proper care for the animals.

Council strives to have stray animals returned to their owner at the earliest opportunity. Any unclaimed or surrendered animals that are assessed as suitable for rehoming are provided the opportunity to find a loving new home.

10.5 Our Council policies and procedures

Current policies and procedures:

Council's Pound - Health Management Plan and the Vet agreement with Cobram Veterinary Clinic lists the relevant procedures.

Current Compliance activities:

Annual pound audit in accordance with the relevant Code of Practice.

10.6 Our plan

Activity	When	Evaluation
Pound Facility		
Audit pound facility annually in accordance with the Code of Practice	Ongoing	Annual review completed within timeframe
Investigate ways of continuously improving welfare of impounded animals	Ongoing	Investigation completed as required
Pound Process and Procedures		
Review current processes, procedures and documents	Ongoing	Review completed as required
Develop and implement processes and procedures during any review	Ongoing	Procedure reviewed annually to ensure best practice and compliance with legislation and Code of Practice

11. Annual Review of Plan and Annual Reporting

Evaluation of implementation of the DAM Plan

The Animal Management and Local Laws team utilize various computer programs and databases to assist with the evaluation of the provided animal control services.

Council maintains a complaint record and animal registration management system. Excel spread sheets are used to maintain the databases of impounded animals, declared dogs and DAB's. Reports and statistics are generated from these programs.

The DAM Plan will be evaluated annually, amended where appropriate and the results will be presented to Council and published in Council's Annual Report. A copy of the amended plan and any amendments to the Plan will be forwarded to the Secretary.

Appendix 1 – Delegations

Local Government Act 2020

The Moira Shire Council 'municipal district' under the Local Government Act 2020 covers an area where the Murray River forms the northern and western border of the municipality, the Lower Goulburn River, the southwestern border, and the Ovens River, the eastern border. Councils Authorised Officers enforce Victorian legislation within these boundaries where Council is the land manager.

Domestic Animals Act 1994

The Domestic Animals Act 1994, Domestic Animals Regulations 2015 and all relevant Code of Practice are enforced within the municipal district by police officers and Council's Authorised Officers, who are authorised under Section 72 of the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 and any associated Regulations and Codes of Practice are enforced within the municipal district by members of Victoria Police, RSPCA Inspectors and DEECA.

National Parks and State Parks

There are several National Parks and State Parks, located within Moira Shire Councils that are managed by Parks Victoria. Parks Victoria Officers handle numerous animal issues including stray and uncontrollable cats and can address issues relating to dogs attacking wildlife under the Wildlife Act 1975. Council's Authorised Officers will investigate serious dog attacks on persons within these parks if requested. Police officers are also authorised to investigate these types of matters.

Wildlife Act 1975

Parks Victoria Rangers are authorised under the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987 to enforce the Wildlife Act 1975. Victoria Police can also enforce this legislation. Council's Animal Management and Local Laws Officers are not authorised under this legislation.

Section 48 Offence for dogs or cats to attack etc. wildlife

1. If a dog or cat rushes at, attacks, bites, worries or chases wildlife while at large on public land, the owner is guilty of an offence and liable, upon conviction, to a penalty of not more than 25 penalty

units.

2. Subsection (1) does not apply to dogs pursuing game birds or sambar deer in accordance with regulations made under this Act.
3. An authorised officer may destroy any dog or cat found in circumstances in which the authorised officer reasonably believes that an offence under this section is being committed.

Section 48A Seizure of dogs or cats

1. An authorised officer may seize a dog or cat which is found at large on any public land which is—
 - a. a Nature Reserve or a State Wildlife Reserve; or
 - b. a Wildlife Management Co-operative Area or a wildlife sanctuary established under Part V; or
 - c. any other area prescribed for the purposes of this section.
2. If reasonable attempts have been made to seize a dog or cat found at large in circumstances in which subsection (1) applies, and the dog or cat has not been seized, an authorised officer may destroy the dog or cat.
3. An authorised officer who seizes a dog or cat must, as soon as is reasonably possible, deliver it to an authorised officer of the Council of the municipal district in which the animal is found.

Section 48B Owner to be notified

1. If the owner of a dog or cat which has been delivered to the authorised officer of a Council under section 48A is able to be identified from a marker attached to or implanted in the animal's body, the Council must notify the owner of the seizure of the animal.
2. A notice under this section must be in writing and must be delivered either personally or by post within 4 days after the animal is seized.

Section 48C Recovery or disposal of animal

1. The owner of a dog or cat which has been seized under section 48A may recover that animal if he or she pays the amount fixed by the Council within 8 days of the seizure of that animal.
2. If the dog or cat is not recovered by its owner within 8 days of seizure, the Council may sell or destroy it.

Appendix 2 – Domestic Animal Act 1994 Section 26 Order

Local Government Act 1989

A Council may by resolution under Section 26 of the Act, make an order under this section, which may do all or any of the following—

- prohibit the presence of dogs and cats in any public place of the municipal district of the Council;
- impose all or any of the following conditions on the presence of dogs or cats in any public place of the municipal district of the Council—
- conditions as to the means of restraint of dogs or cats;
- conditions as to the times at which the presence of dogs or cats is or is not permitted; and
- any other conditions that are specified in the order.

Dogs in Public Places

On the 9 August 2001, the Victoria Government Gazette G32, published an Order made under Section 26 of the Act, regarding dogs in public places. A copy of the gazetted Order is outlined below:

“Notice is hereby given that Council at its ordinary meeting held on 23 July 2001 resolved to make the following order under the provisions of section 26 of the Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animals Act 1994:

1. That the presence of dogs shall be prohibited in the following areas:
 - School grounds throughout the municipality;
 - Municipal swimming pools and surrounds;
 - Yarrowonga foreshore between Hunt Street/Bank Street and the water's edge, between Belmore Street and Woods Road; and
 - Thompson's Beach, Cobram the area between the pine post boundary along the access track and car park to the water's edge.
2. That dogs are permitted to be present in all other municipal places and public places only while fully constrained on a leash.
3. Clause 2 does not apply to the Showgrounds of the towns of Cobram, Nathalia, Numurkah and Yarrowonga, the football ground at Tungamah and other towns where dogs may be exercised off a leash in the presence of the owner during daylight hours only. This clause does not apply when an organised sporting event or similar activity is in progress, thereby allowing the presence of a dog on a leash only. 'Owner' has the same meaning as in the Domestic Animals Act 1994.
4. That the Council order made on 16 December 1996 under the provisions of section 26 of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 be revoked.

Any person contravening this order is liable to a penalty of \$200 for the first offence and a penalty of \$400 for a second or subsequent offence.

Note: This notice replaces the order that appears on page 1712 of the Victoria Government Gazette dated 26 July 2001 whereby clause 1 was dissimilar to the Council resolution.”

The Monetary Units Act 2004 provisions introduced in 2004 overrides the penalties described above in the Gazette.

Appendix 3 – Moira Shire Council Community Amenity Local Law 2023

6.1 Animals, birds (including pigeons), and poultry.

- a. A person must not, without a permit, keep any livestock, birds (including pigeons), poultry, fowl hen or songbird on any property in a residential area.
- b. A person must not allow to remain on property any noisy animal, bird (including pigeons), or poultry which in the opinion of an authorised officer may cause or creates a nuisance to any person residing in the neighbourhood.
- c. A person must not keep pigeons on land other than in a pigeon loft constructed to Council's requirements.

- d. Except on land in a rural area, an owner or occupier of land shall not keep:
 - i. a rooster.
 - ii. a goose or gander.
 - iii. a turkey; or
 - iv. a peacock or peahen

6.2 Dogs

- a. No person may without a permit keep more than two dogs on any property in a residential area or commercial area, or on any property in a rural area which comprises less than eight hectares.
- b. No dog shall be housed or confined in an enclosure or tethered at a lesser distance than 5 metres from any dwelling on an adjoining property, and such enclosure shall comprise an area of not less than ten square metres in respect of each dog being confined.

6.3 Cats

- a. No person may without a permit keep more than two cats on any property in a residential area or commercial area, or on any property in a rural area which comprises less than eight hectares.
- b. No person shall keep or allow to be kept a cat which in the opinion of an authorised officer causes a nuisance or damage to any person, property or the environment.

6.8 Control of disease

The owner or occupier of any property on which there is kept any animal, bird, or poultry which develops any contagious or infectious disease which is or is likely to be injurious to any human being or other animal, shall cause such animal, bird, or poultry as the case may be, to receive appropriate treatment from a qualified Veterinarian or destroy the animal, bird or poultry and properly disposed of the matter to the satisfaction of an authorised officer.

6.9 Animal Excrement

- a. A person in charge of an animal must not allow any part of the animal's excrement to remain on a road or Council land.
- b. A person in charge of a domestic animal must carry a suitable receptacle for the removal of that animal's excrement from a road or Council land.

Appendix 4 – Service levels

Activities	Service Level
Cat Traps	Cat Trap available for hire for 7 days at no nett cost
Declared Dog complaints	Immediate Response
Develop and maintain relationship with Veterinary clinic	Ongoing
Dog Attacks and Investigations	Immediate Response
Domestic Animal Businesses	Maintain Domestic Animal Business registration database
Identification and registration activities	Animal to be checked for microchip upon seizure and owner to be contacted via phone within first 24 hours
Impounding of wandering, surrendered animals or feral cats	Collected same day if restrained. As negotiated, if surrendered.
Maintain registration database	Annual registration renewal notice is sent to pet owners prior to April. Overdue Registration reminder letters are sent in May
Media Releases	Council publishes press releases on various animal topics including animal registration, micro-chipping requirements as well as targeting locally identified 'hot topics' as the need arises
Pound Management	Pound is owned and operated by Council and is open during office hours by appointment only
Provide after-hours emergency service	Ongoing via Contractor - for urgent dog collection, livestock on roads and dog attacks
Provide advice on domestic animal matters	Ongoing

Appendix 5 - Domestic Animal registration statistics

Domestic Animal Statistics	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	2024 to 2025
Registered Dogs	4624	4680	4430	4367
Registered Cats	1291	1262	1175	1175
Registered Declared Dogs	2	3	2	4
Complaints Received	822	1365	1241	1415
Domestic Animal Businesses	7	7	7	6
Keeping of Surplus Animal Permits	9	8	15	24

Appendix 6 – Impounded animal statistics

	2021 to 2022		2022 to 2023		2023 to 2024		2024 to 2025	
	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats
Total Impounded	135	430	194	356	184	310	205	349
Wild / Uncontrollable		198		106		60		92
Owned Animals	135	232	194	250	184	250	205	257
Seized wandering	97	341	107	310	110	200	133	317
Seized dog attack	6		9		11		4	
Abandoned	1		9	1			4	
Surrendered	31	76	74	32	63	50	64	28
Born in pound		4		14				4
Total excluding wild	135	232	194	250	184	250	205	257
Registered	17	6	25	2	32	4	27	1
Microchipped	107	29	88	23	82	17	107	1
Reclaimed by owner	82	20	88	23	82	17	107	17
Escaped				1				1
Died in pound		1				4		7
Euthanased/ unsuitable	25	144	39	155	47	139	43	132
Rehoused	27	67	66	71	55	118	43	76
Foster care							1	2

**Statistics are from 11 April to 10 April the following year

Appendix 7 – Domestic animal complaints received

Domestic Animal Complaints Received	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	2024 to 2025
Total Complaints	822	1365	1241	1415
Cat (Lost)	70	82	71	111
Cat Issues	212	326	299	318
Cat (registration)	7	9	7	14
Cat (stray)	149	250	220	217
Cat (Surrender)	34	33	53	57
Cat (trap)	22	34	19	30
Dog (Lost)	103	146	124	128
Dog Issues	306	534	548	562
Dog Off lead	7	3	11	7
Dog (Greyhounds)	0	0	0	0
Dog (Nuisance)	97	167	181	168
Dog (Registration)	29	40	34	62
Dog (Stray)	149	238	234	244
Dog (Surrender)	24	86	88	81
Dog Attack / Rush	37	87	58	93
Dog Attack (Livestock)	10	9	11	18
Dog Attack (Other)	10	47	21	38
Dog Attack (Person)	5	19	8	12
Dog Rush	12	12	18	25
Other **	46	163	85	115
Animal business complaints	5	11	6	13
Cruelty / Welfare issues	1	7	6	0
Animal Control	36	132	64	76
Keeping of Animals	4	11	9	26
Noise (Animals)	0	2	0	0
Adoption Request	48	27	56	88

**Statistics from 11 April to 10 April the following year

Appendix 8 – Infringements and Prosecutions

	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	2024 to 2025
Total Infringements				
Dog at large during daytime	8	15	12	17
Dog at large during night time	4	3		2
Failure to apply to register dog or cat	8	6	15	19
Non-Serious Injury Caused by Dog Attack		2	1	1
Not Renewing Dog or Cat Registration	6	3	11	11
No muzzle on menacing dog			1	2
Nuisance Dog/Cat			3	

**Statistics from 11 April to 10 April the following year

Prosecutions	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	2024 to 2025
Prosecutions Undertaken	0	0	0	0

Adoption of Plan

This plan was adopted by Council on



Amendment Provisions

The following is a list of amendments made to the original Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025 – 2029.

Section	Amendment Date	Title	Amendment Adopted	Date to Secretary

Definitions

Term	Definition
Authorised Officer	A person employed by Council who is authorised under Section 224 of the Local Government Act 1989 to administer and enforce the Act and Section 72 of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 to administer and enforce the Act
DAB	A Domestic Animal Business
DEECA	Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action
DAM Plan	The Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025- 29
The Act	The Domestic Animals Act 1994
The Regulations	The Domestic Animals Regulations 2015
Codes of Practice	Specific standards for the conduct of various activities relating to dogs and cats
Desexing	In relation to a dog or cat means a surgical procedure to remove all or part of the reproductive organs of the dog or cat to prevent it breeding and to prevent or eliminate secondary sexual behaviours.
Pound	Any premises maintained for the purpose of impounding dogs or cats.