



**WEST  
WIMMERA  
SHIRE COUNCIL**



# **Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-2021**

*The best of country living*

# Domestic Animal Management Plan

Under Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act, 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 (of the Department of 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 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—*
    - (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.*

# INDEX

Executive Summary	3
Introduction	3
The West Wimmera Shire – Demographic and People	3
Domestic animal statistics and data	4
Training of Authorized Officers	5
Registration and Identification	7
Nuisance	9
Dog attacks	11
Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed Dogs	13
Overpopulation and High Euthanasia	15
Domestic Animal Businesses	17
Other Matters	19
Annual Review of Plan and Annual Reporting	20

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) Domestic Animal Management Plan (the Plan) has been developed to comply with the legal requirement of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (the Act) that all Councils in Victoria have a Plan in place. This Plan aims to provide harmonious and responsible pet ownership within the Shire focusing on the registration, microchipping and desexing of dogs and cats, effective control of dogs in public areas, the behaviour of dogs and cats, and minimizing the social and environmental impact of dogs and cats in our community.

## **INTRODUCTION**

This document will guide domestic animal management by the Council for the next four years. The plan identifies strategies and actions to implement the vision, aims and objectives for animal management and contains recommendations for a wide range of actions to be undertaken by the Council in a programmed approach. These actions will enable Council to maintain a balance between the competing interests of animal management and to accommodate new requirements.

Council provides services that maximize the social, economic & environmental benefits to the residents of and visitors to the West Wimmera Shire. Animal management and responsible pet ownership are key functions of Council's Animal Management Officer (AMO).

There have been substantial amendments to the Act. Knowledge of the Act and an understanding of animal and human behaviour are a requirement for those working in this field. Enforcement of legislation will not, on its own, result in long-term voluntary changes in behaviour and it needs to be supplemented by a range of non-regulatory approaches such as public education programs.

There is considerable evidence to support the benefits of pet ownership. However, along with pet ownership comes responsibility, not only in the care of the animals owned but in considering impacts on neighbours' and the community, other domestic animals and livestock. The State Government has provided a framework in the Act which is the responsibility of Local Government to apply and enforce. Application of the requirements of the Act provide for Council to take a strategic approach in the management of animals and pets in its community. This strategy provides Council with a sound basis and direction from which it can plan, co-ordinate and make future decisions to meet the needs of the community for the years to come.

This Plan was produced by the AMO applying appropriate changes in review of the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013.

On completion of the first draft of the Plan, it was submitted for an in principle endorsement by the Council's Senior Management team and the Council prior to being made available for a one month public consultation.

Submissions received during this period were collated and considered. The final draft with any amendments made following the public consultation period was then submitted to Council for adoption.

The Plan was then submitted to the Secretary, Department of Primary Industries – Bureau of Animal Welfare.

## **THE WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL – DEMOGRAPHIC AND PEOPLE**

The Council is located in the West of Victoria encompassing an area of 9200 square kilometres joining the South Australian Border to the West, along the Glenelg River to the South and the Big Desert to the North. The Council has a rural community of 3879 people\* centered in the townships of Edenhope, Kaniva, Apsley, Goroke and Harrow. The majority of the municipality consists of agriculture related industries, broad acre grazing and cropping rural farming properties and community services. Extensive timber industry plantations have taken back land from farming in recent years.

*\*Australian Bureau of Statistics, LGA Population Statistics 2015*

## DOMESTIC ANIMAL STATISTICS AND DATA

In a report produced by the Australian Companion Animal Council, *Contribution of the Pet Care Industry to the Australian Economy, 7th Edition, 2010*, figures were provided that enable the Australian Companion Animal Council to estimate the number of pets owned by its residents.

Calculations undertaken by Charles Sturt University on statistics obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2008 determined that Victorian dog and cat ownership statistics are equal to the Australian average figures of 16 dogs and 11 cats per 100 head of population. This information demonstrates that the Council would appear to have retained ownership numbers that are above the national average for Dogs, however below average for Cats.

2016/17 Council registered 922 dogs and 208 cats, impounded 26 dogs and 59 cats. In addition Council investigated a number of dog attack reports and maintained a register of dogs declared as menacing or dangerous and investigated reports of restricted breed dog ownership.

The 2016/17 registered animals numbers compared to the registered animals in 2011/12 has declined. There are currently 1 registered Domestic Animal Businesses and it is anticipated this number will increase in accordance with the Act's *requirements* to control suspected puppy farms.

Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-2021 <b>WEST WIMMERA SHIRE – KEY STATISTICS</b>	2011/2012	2016/2017
<b>Council Information</b>		
Population	4251	3879
Area	9200 sq.km.	9200 sq.km.
Ratable Properties	2296	2334
No. Authorized Officers (EFT)	1	1
<b>Dogs</b>		
Estimated No.	680*	621*
No. Registered	1026	922
No. Impounded	47	26
No. Returned to owner	39	23
No. Rehoused	2	1
No. Euthanized	8	2
No. Declared Menacing	0	0
No. Declared Dangerous	0	2
No. Registered Restricted Breed	0	0
<b>Cats</b>		
Estimated No.	467*	427*
No. Registered	222	208
No. Impounded	52	59
No. Returned to owner	2	4
No. Rehoused	2	0
No. Euthanized	48	55

*\*SOURCE: These figures obtained by applying formula (16/100 x population = estimated dogs, 11/100 x population = estimated cats) from calculations undertaken by Charles Sturt University, 2009 based on information supplied by: ABS, 2008. Australian Companion Animal Council, Contribution of the Pet Care Industry to the Australian Economy, 7th Edition, 2010, p.14.*

## TRAINING OF AUTHORISED OFFICERS

*Domestic Animals Act 1994, S.68(A)(2)(b) Outline programs for the training of authorized officers to ensure that they can properly administer and enforce the requirements of this Act in the Council's municipal district*

The AMO is employed full time.

As is the case in most rural Councils, the AMO multi-tasks across a range of duties, Local Laws, Municipal Fire Prevention, Prevention to Cruelty to Animals, Domestic Animals Act, Impounding of livestock, Roadside Weed and Pest Program and Corella management.

<b>Authorised Officer Training - Basic</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Planned</b>
Certificate IV in Animal Control and Regulation.	Officer 1 – Yes	As required
Certificate IV in Animal Welfare (Regulation).	Officer 1 – No	As required
Industry training – animal handling, animal assessment, statement taking, prosecution, computer skills.	Officer 1 – Yes	As required
OH&S training – dealing with aggressive customers.	Officer 1 – Yes	As required
Customer service training conflict resolution, communication skills.	Officer 1 – Yes	As required
Bureau of Animal Welfare training and information days.	Officer 1 – Yes	As required
Induction program for new staff.	Officer 1 – Yes	As required
Other e.g. firearms training.	Officer 1 – Yes	As required
Certificate IV Government (Statutory Compliance).	Officer 1 – Yes	As required
Industry training – time management.	Officer 1 – No	As required
OH&S training – defensive driver training.	Officer 1 – No	As required

Customer service training – public speaking.	Officer 1 – Yes	As required
Australian Institute of Animal Management Annual Conference.	Officer 1 – No	Requests to attend will be considered
Microchipping on the job training, Data works document management.	Officer 1 – Yes	As required

## OUR PLANS

Review and update current induction and job specific qualifications or role as an AMO.

Objective 1: Develop training plan and ensure minimum training is completed in required timeline.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Identify minimum training requirements by consultation with management and staff	By Nov 2018	Documentation to be finalised and incorporated into an approved council training policy.
Identify additional training opportunities in consultation with management and employees.	By Nov 2018	Evaluation of training benefits during employee Annual Review process.
Establish a database recording individual officers qualifications and training courses attended.	By Nov 2018	Updated as required and reference made for Annual Review process and training requests.

Objective 2: Review induction program for new officers.

Activity	When	Evaluation
For new, inexperienced officers, develop the buddy system to establish a base of experience level to be further consolidated with industry training.	By Nov 2018	Review feedback from Officer and buddy on a weekly basis to ensure effective development.
Provide early opportunity for undertaking studies to gain minimum level qualifications if not already obtained.	As required by new officers	Monitor progress throughout officer's studies. Provide study time during working hours.

## REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION

*Domestic Animals Act 1994, 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

It is a requirement of the Act that all dogs and cats over the age of three (3) months kept at a residence in this Municipality must be registered with the Council with the mandatory requirement that all newly registered animals are microchipped prior to registration.

Applications for new dog and cat registrations can be made at Council's Customer Service Centres at the following locations:

- 49 Elizabeth St Edenhope VIC 3318
- 25 Baker St Kaniva VIC 3419

The Council's pound for domestic animals is operated by the Council and is located at 51 Coleraine-Harrow Rd Edenhope VIC 3318. Dogs and Cats that have been impounded and are not currently registered with the Council in the municipality where they reside are required to be microchipped and registered prior to being released.

Under the Act, animal registrations expire on 10 April each year. Animal registration renewal notices are sent out in the preceding months and payment of registration renewals are received in person. Council will conduct an audit of registration renewal process each year to ensure current registrations are renewed.

The registration of dogs and cats provides Council with an indication of the number of animals kept which in turn assists Council to plan for services and programs associated with pet ownership in towns within the municipality.

Registration fees help Council fund services and facilities related to animal management and participate in responsible pet ownership initiatives in partnership with the DPI bureau of Animal Welfare.

### Our current data

Registration Type	2011/2012	Actual 2016/2017
Dog	1026	922
Cat	222	208

The Council maintains a registration database complying with its obligations under the Act section 18(1). Within this database, microchip number are recorded for reference and identification of dogs and cats. This information provides a means of evaluating the effectiveness of past promotions of microchipping, identification of stray animals, for identification of dog attacks and more recently as a means of assisting in the identification of breeding establishments.

### Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

The AMO functions are regulated by State Legislation, Council policy and procedure. In addition to applying the relevant sections on the Act, the AMO and administration support staff follow procedure for their functions, i.e. dogs/cats at large for initial and subsequent offences, registration



and renewals of dogs and cats, issuing of Notices to Comply, dog attacks and processes to follow or declaration of menacing or dangerous dogs.

### **Our current Education/Promotion Activities**

The Council promotes animal registration renewals, microchipping and animal related events in the local media, Council website and facebook at certain times of the year. The use of print media and collaboration with veterinarians are traditional information outlets. Other options are considered and taken up as they present from time-to-time.

### **Our current Compliance Activities**

Council's AMO actively patrols and responds to complaints on a daily basis. At random times throughout the year, Council's AMO will undertake door-knocking activities to identify the numbers of animals being kept and registrations together with an audit of registration renewals against the previous year registrations.

## **OUR PLANS**

Objective 1: To increase and maintain the number of dog and cat registrations of Council.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Target pet owners by various means, i.e. letter drop/door knock/signage.	As required	Increase in registration numbers from targeted pet owners.
Issue Notice to Comply in respect of unregistered animals requiring application or registration.	As required	Comparison of compliance with notices against infringement issued.
Identify unpaid registrations	Annually	Comparison of registration renewals received against previous years registrations.
Reduced Animal Registration fees from the 1 <sup>st</sup> of December (by 50%).	Annually	Comparison of new registration received against previous years registration.

Objective 2: Promote registration and microchipping.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Conduct Microchipping Days at reduced fees.	March/April	Comparison of number of microchips implanted and registration applications taken.
Conduct Primary school competition regarding responsible pet ownership.	As required	Comparison of number of microchips implanted to competition vouchers issued to students.
Advertise pet registration renewals on Council webpage.	Annually	Comparison of figures against previous year.
Consider or develop a reduced microchipping incentive scheme – vouchers for concession holders.	Annually	Comparison of number of microchips implanted to vouchers issued to concession holders.

## **NUISANCE**

*Domestic Animals Act 1994, 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**

The Council encourages people to manage their pets in a way that protects the health and welfare of the animal, maximise the companion benefits of their pet and minimizes potential for nuisances or harm to others.

### **Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures**

#### *42 Power of Councils to make local laws*

*A Council may make a local law for or with respect to all or any of the following—*

*(a) regulating the number of dogs or cats which may be kept on premises situated in the municipal district of the Council.*

The Council's - Community Local Law 1st October 2012 Sec 11(1) provides a restriction of not more than two dogs and two cats that may be kept without a permit in the areas less than .4ha. For areas greater than .4ha, the limit is raised to not more than 4 dogs and 4 cats to be kept without a permit.

### **Council Policies/Procedures**

#### Nuisance dogs and cats

- Advice to complainant
- Notice provisions in Domestic Animals Act 1994
- Barking Dog diary, mediation, enforcement
- Issue of permits to keep excess animal numbers
- Notice to Comply/Enforcement

### **Our current Education/Promotion Activities**

- Barking Dog Information Package
- Pro-active patrols/Speaking with public
- Dog Poo dispensers/Voluntary use
- Notice to Comply before enforcement
- Desexing Cat Information Package
- Responsible Ownership of working dog Brochure
- Responsible Ownership of dog Brochure
- Responsible Ownership of cat Brochure
- How to build cat proof fencing and cat enclosures Information Package

### **Our current Compliance Activities**

- Patrols
- Notice to comply/Enforcement policy/strategy
- Cat trapping programs
- Infringements
- Prosecutions

## OUR PLANS

Objective 1: Review of dog off lead areas.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Evaluate the requirement to legislate cleaning up after your dog.	Annually	Review written complaints relating to voluntary compliance and use of dog poo bags in areas provided.
Evaluate the requirement for orders to be established at other locations.	Annually	Review written complaints relating to public reserves received during year.
Provide dog poo bag dispensers in parks and at public toilets.	As required	Review written complaints relating to voluntary compliance and use of dog poo bags in areas provided.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Review information provided through the media.	Annually	Review the number of complaints received, number of enquiries.
Review information on Council website.	Ongoing and review June - Annually	Review number of hits on the website (Local Laws). Review enquiries received.
Primary School Program.	Annually	Review to ensure current program implemented. The Program is externally delivered.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Promote containment to cat owners property.	Ongoing	Review number of complaints received. Compliance with any notices issued as result of complaints.
Promote cat desexing program "information packs".	Ongoing	Evaluate on the registration data and impounded cats.
Provide cat enclosure and cat proof fencing booklets to repeat offenders.	As required	Review the numbers of re-issued infringements received.

## **DOG ATTACKS**

Domestic Animals Act 1994, 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**

Increasing number of dogs attacking in part due to increased awareness and encouragement to report; Also due to a rural community with livestock, dogs attacks are more frequent on killing sheep than harming the community.

### **Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures**

- Keeping of Animals
- Enforcement policy
- After-hours Policy
- Domestic Animal Act 1994 – Section 30

### **Our current Education/Promotion Activities**

- Responsible pet ownership program: living safely with dogs: kinder - grade 1
- Pets in the community: grade 2-6
- Use of Council website
- Media reporting of Court prosecutions
- Distribution of working dog brochures to properties in the rural area

### **Our current Compliance Activities**

- Patrols
- Prosecutions
- Enforce Menacing/Dangerous dog provisions
- Dog attack investigation and enforcement policy/procedure
- Consultation with Police on Crimes Act 1958 provisions

For Dangerous/restricted breed/menacing dogs which are found at large  
Or have attacked someone needs to be reported to the police

## **Summary**

Objective 1: Reduce the number of dog attacks.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Patrol.	Daily	Review of database information for incidents.
Media promotion of responsible dog ownership.	October – annually	Review annual figures in June with Plan review and report in Annual Report. Compare year to year.
Develop an online reporting of dog attacks, rushes on Council website.	Ongoing	Review of database information for incidents.

Raising community awareness between dog at large and dog attack.	Annually	Review of database information for incidents.
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Objective 2: Decrease dog attacks on livestock.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Distribute Bureau of Animal Welfare booklet Responsible ownership of a working dog by direct mail.	Annually	Review registration figures on working dog breeds. Review dog at large reports in rural areas.
AMO visits to farms promoting responsible ownership and registration.	June- July	This activity will be run in conjunction with above activity as a follow up.
Encourage reporting of dogs at large and dog attacks on stock in rural areas.	Promote in May-July visits and ongoing monitoring	Record reported incidents and trends. Liaise with DSE to compare if incidents of wild dog attacks occurring in similar areas.
Advise the farming community of Section 30 of the Domestic Animal Act 1994: <b>30 Owner of livestock able to destroy dog or cat found at large near livestock</b> <i>(1) The owner of any animals or birds kept for farming purposes, any person authorised by the owner or an authorised officer may destroy any dog or cat found at large—</i> <i>(a) in the place where the animals or birds are confined; or</i> <i>(b) if the animals or birds are tethered, in the vicinity of the animals or birds.</i> <i>(2) The owner, a person authorised by the owner or authorised officer does not incur any civil or criminal liability for acting under subsection (1)</i>	As requested	Community feedback and CRM on dog attacks on livestock

Objective 3: Improve communication with Police for reports of dog attacks.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Establish Local Laws/Police liaison or reports of serious dog attack incidents including awareness of Crimes Act 1958 offences relating to restricted breed and declared dogs.	Annually	Protocols provided to all municipal Police Stations. Meet with all Officers in charge. Review following reported incidents.

## **DANGEROUS, MENACING AND RESTRICTED BREED DOGS**

*Domestic Animals Act 1994, 68A(2)(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**

Within the provisions of the Act, Council has made declarations and identified the following dogs:

- 0 x Restricted Breed Dog registered
- 0 x Menacing dogs
- 2 x Dangerous dogs

As required in Part 3A of the Act, dogs are listed on the declared dog register and monitored for ongoing compliance by their owners for the keeping of these animals in accordance with the legislation.

### **Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures**

- Strict adherence to the provisions of the Act
- Enforcement Policy
- Dog attack investigation and enforcement policy/procedure

### **Our current Education/Promotion Activities**

- Public awareness of restricted breed dogs

### **Our current Compliance Activities**

- Patrolling
- Prompt response to reports of suspected restricted breed dogs
- Enforcement policy/procedure
- Audit of registration database for similar breeds to restricted breed dogs

### **OUR PLANS**

Objective 1: Identification of Restricted Breed Dogs.

Activity	When	Evaluation
To identify and enforce the Act's provisions in respect of restricted breed dogs.	Ongoing	Successful identification of dogs on registration database listed as other breeds. Identification of unregistered restricted breed dogs.
Ensure all declared dogs are recorded on the VDDR	Annually	Yearly audit

Objective 2: Police liaison for Crimes Act 1958 provisions in respect of dangerous menacing and restricted breed dogs.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Establish communication with local police in respect of Crimes Act 1958 provisions or death of a person caused by menacing, dangerous and restricted breed dogs.	Annually	Contact made with all the Police Stations within the Shire.

Objective 3: Identification of menacing and dangerous dogs.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Proactive patrolling to minimize occurrence of dogs at large.	Ongoing	Comparison of numbers of impoundments/infringements for dogs at large from year to year.
Identification of dogs that meet criteria for declaration.	Ongoing	Compliance with the Act.
Conduct random, unannounced inspections of declared dogs to ensure compliance with the Act and Regulations.	As required	Yearly Audit
Annual audits of properties housing dangerous dogs	As required	Compliance with the Act.

## **OVERPOPULATION AND HIGH EUTHANASIA**

*Domestic Animals Act 1994, 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**

- Complaints recorded in document management system and auctioned accordingly
- Pound euthanasia numbers – the number of impounded dogs/cats has remained constant and the euthanasia rate of dogs/cats is expected to remain at similar rates as previous years.
- Reclaim rates – higher ration with change in social media to locate owners.

#### **Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures**

- Local aw for Keepinf of Animal – Animal numbers
- Animal loss or relocation procedure
- Animal transfer of ownership procedure

#### **Our current Education/Promotion Activities**

- Responsible pet ownership program

## Our current Compliance Activities

- Cat trapping program
- Permits and conditions for keeping of animals – numbers
- Timely investigation of complaints and reports of breeding establishments
- Proactive patrolling

## Summary

Objective 1: Reduction of tray/feral animals in residential areas.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Promoting availability of cat traps.	Ongoing	Review of trap usage and numbers of cats trapped. Ratio of feral vs. domesticated.
Promote the benefits of desexing, via media, social media, website	Annually	Review of impounding records

Objective 2: Collate data to research and determine any over population.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Review of impounding records.	Annually	Comparison of numbers year to year.
Audit Council's registration database for numbers of animal owned by one entity.	June annually	Identification of excessive animal owned. Identification of suspected puppy/kitten farms/unregistered Domestic Animal Businesses

Objective 3: Rehoming program

Activity	When	Evaluation
Establish a foster care program to increase the number of rehomed animals	Ongoing	Review number of rehomed animal

## DOMESTIC ANIMAL BUSINESSES

*Domestic Animals Act 1994, 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

- 1 x registered boarding facility
- 0 x pet shops selling animals
- 1 x breeding enterprises
- 1 x Pound facility



## Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Local Law for Keeping of Animals – numbers

Type of animal	Land 0.4ha or less	Land greater than 0.4ha
Dog	2	4
Cat	2	4

## Our current Education/Promotion Activities

Proactive patrols

## Our current Compliance Activities

Patrols

Timely investigation of complaints/reports for keeping numbers of animals

Audit of registration database/transfer of ownership forms

Visits to premises of suspected animal breeders

## OUR PLANS

Objective 1: To identify unregistered dog and cat breeding establishments.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Audit of registration database.	June annually	Identification and registration of Domestic Animal Businesses applying provisions of Part 4 of the Act.
Monitor advertising media for sales of dogs and cats.	Ongoing	Identification of suspected breeding establishments.
Ensure compliance with relevant Code of Practice relating to business type.	Ongoing	Continued compliance and registration of Domestic Animal Businesses.

Objective 2: Ensure compliance of registered Domestic Animal Businesses with regards to identification, appropriate notification and registration requirements of dogs and cats.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Visit/contact sellers of animals to ensure compliance with microchipping requirements.	Ongoing	All dogs and cats advertised for sale have microchip details included in advertising.
Follow up notifications from Domestic Animal Businesses for animals sold to residents of Council.	Ongoing	Applications to register newly purchased animals compared to notifications received.

## OTHER MATTERS

Domestic Animals Act 1994, 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*

## CURRENT SITUATION

The West Wimmera Shire Council Emergency Management Plan.

### **Our current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures**

West Wimmera Shire Emergency Animal Welfare Plan or domestic animals relocated to an evacuation/relief centre in an emergency.

### **Our current Education/Promotion Activities**

Owners are encouraged to make arrangements for their domestic animals in the event of an emergency; however council has catered for animals in the Emergency Welfare Plan.

## OUR PLANS

Objective 1: Develop an Animal Emergency Management Plan, policies and procedure for domestic animals in emergencies.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Review of policies, procedures and Animal Management Plan	Annually	To be reviewed together with the Emergency Management Plan and evaluate in debrief following an emergency incident.
Training for officers in Evacuation/relief centre operations.	Annually	Staff performances evaluated in debrief following an emergency incident.

## ANNUAL REVIEW OF PLAN AND ANNUAL REPORTING

Domestic Animals Act 1994, 68A(3) *Every Council must—*

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

## OUR PLANS

Objective 1: Conduct annual review of Domestic Animal management Plan in accordance with Part 5A – Domestic Animals Act 1994

Activity	When	Evaluation
Conduct Annual Review of current Domestic Animal Management Plan and make minor amendments.	By June Annually	Comparison of figures against previous year.
Develop new Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021 – 2025.	By June 2021	Comparison of figures against previous Domestic Animal Management Plan.
Publish an evaluation of is implementation of the plan in its annual report.	Annually	Comparison of figures against previous Domestic Animal Management Plan.