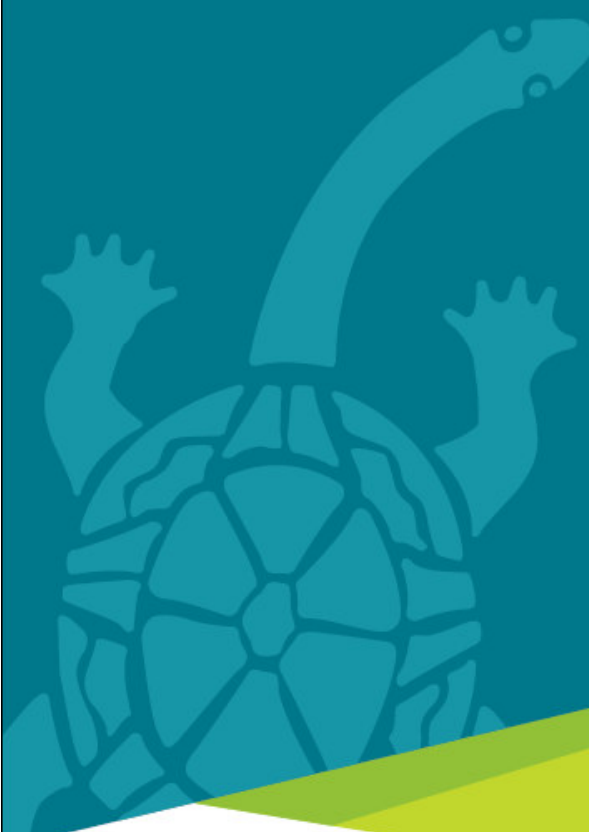




Domestic Animal Management Plan



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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT OF THIS PLAN

1.1 PURPOSE OF THIS DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Local Government has long been the level of government primarily responsible for domestic animal management issues. The Domestic (Feral and Nuisance) Animals Act 1994 definition of domestic animals as cats and dogs. This plan was developed by the Shire of Campaspe Local Laws Unit. The Local Laws Unit is vested with the responsibility of providing animal control services for the Shire of Campaspe. The purpose of the plan is to improve animal management in the Shire of Campaspe in general. The Plan is to develop and implement a range of approaches that will:

- Establish a formalised approach to domestic animal management within the Shire of Campaspe;
- Educate our community about responsible pet ownership;
- Ensure satisfactory levels of compliance within community and legislative expectations are established and maintained; and
- To raise the profile and importance of effective animal management.

1.2 PROCESS APPLIED IN DEVELOPING THIS PLAN

This plan was developed and implemented by the Shire of Campaspe Local Laws Unit through:

- Collation and analysis of existing data;
- Consultation with internal stakeholders; and
- Public comment period.

The plan was developed within the context of seeking to apply best practice procedures applicable to recognised animal management procedures.

1.3 THE SHIRE OF CAMPASPE – DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

The Shire of Campaspe is a rural community of 36,363 people centred on the townships of Echuca, Kyabram, Rochester, Tongala and Rushworth. There are another 20 townships within the Shire. The Shire covers an area of 4,525 square kilometres. The Shire's economy centres on dairy and beef cattle, sheep, fruit, agricultural production, food processing and industrial industries. The population is diverse with 11% born overseas. The majority of the population, 37.8%, are aged between 25 – 54 years of age. This being the “family” age it lends towards high domestic animal ownership.

Shire of Campaspe – Key Statistics

1.4 DOMESTIC ANIMAL STATISTICS AND DATA

In 1998, the Bureau of Animal Welfare commissioned a report with the aim of estimating the animal population within each Shire. The report is known as the BIS Shrapnel report and the conclusion from that report estimated in 1998 that:

- 40% of households owned one or more dogs at a rate of 1.44 dogs per household; and
- 26% of households owned one or more cats at a rate of 1.47 cats per household.

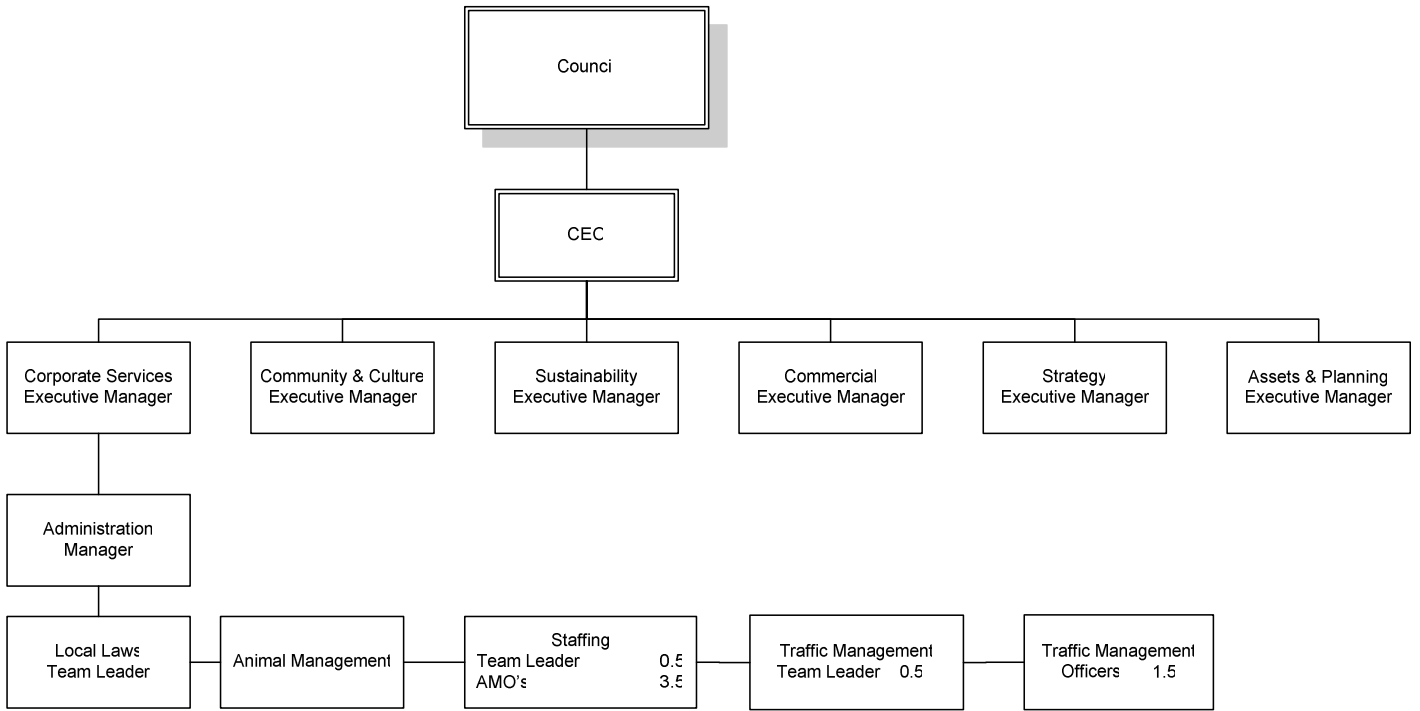
Baw Baw Council has been used as a comparison Council as statistics from Baw Baw were readily accessible.

	Shire of Campaspe	Baw Baw Shire
Population	36,209	38,500
Area	4,525km ²	4,000km ²
Number of EFT Authorised Officers (Animal Control)	3.5	2.5
Hours training per officer annually	32	26
Number of registered dogs	6,879	7,740
Estimated dog (owned) population	8,099	9,105
Number of registered cats	1,850	2,265
Estimated cat (owned) population	5,374	6,042
Number of registered declared dogs	3	5
Number of infringement issued 2006/2007	282	102
Number of successful prosecutions	0	3
Number of impoundments (dogs)	1,026	364
Number of dogs returned to owner	310	143
Number of dogs rehoused	323	29
Number of dogs euthanased	266	92
Number of impoundments (cats)	755	168
Number of cats returned to owner	48	10
Number of cats rehoused	180	0
Number of cats euthanased	383	158

Therefore the calculation for the Shire of Campaspe using the most recent population figure of 14,062 residential dwellings is:

- Estimated Dog Population: 40% of 14,062 X 1.44 dogs = 8,099
- Estimated Cat Population: 26% of 14,062 X 1.47 cats = 5,374

1.5 SHIRE OF CAMPASPE – ANIMAL MANAGEMENT STAFFING AND OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE



1.6 CURRENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES – SERVICE LEVELS

The Shire of Campaspe has set Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) for their Animal Management Officers. These are reviewed monthly by the Team Leader and Administration Manager to monitor the level of service being provided to the community.

Program/Service	Service Level
Identification and Registration	Press release Website Reactive enforcement Mobile banner display Mandatory registration and micro chipping of animals prior to release from pound Call centre – recorded reminder “On Hold Message” Ranger Services
Identification and Registration - doorknock campaigns	8 days per month
Domestic Animal Complaints	Response within 24 hours
Dangerous Dogs Complaints	Response within 45 mins
Routine Street Patrols	Conducted on daily basis
Pound Open	40 hours per week
Micro-chipping	Ongoing – in conjunction with RSPCA Pound and local vets
School Information Sessions (responsible pet ownership)	Ongoing with “Responsible Pet Ownership Program”
Barking Dog Complaints	Respond within 24 hours
Dog Attacks	Respond within 45 minutes
Cat Trapping Service	On going traps delivered and picked up by Rangers
Domestic Animal Business Inspections	Conducted Annually in accordance with the Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animals Act
Dangerous/Restricted Dog Inspections	Conducted Annually in accordance with the Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animals Act
Additional Animal Permit Inspections	Conducted annually or if complaint received
Other Services Available	Range of educational material including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barking Dog Booklet • Fact Sheets • Brochures • Website • School Visits

2.0 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Council seeks to improve the working, living and recreational environments of our municipality by providing a range of services and facilities that meet or exceed community expectations. Council's plan is to achieve a balance between meeting the needs of pet owners and the needs of others in the community so as to:

- Create an environment where people and pets can peacefully coexist within the community;
- Inform and educate the community about the needs of companion animals and promote responsible pet ownership; and
- Ensure that the needs of the wider community are reflected through Council's domestic animal management policies.

The Shire of Campaspe's 2020 Plan focuses on "building a better future". This will be achieved via our strategies:

- Serving people;
- Providing leadership;
- Enhancing environment;
- Encouraging industry; and
- Providing infrastructure.

3.0 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS FOR DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

The Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animals Act, requires Council, when setting out an Animal Management Plan, to address all of the below sections of the Act.

Specific Act Requirements	Section						
S.68A(2)(a) Method of monitoring performance and evaluating the effectiveness of services						3.6	
S.68A(2)(b) Training of authorised officers	3.1						
S.68A(2)(c)(i) Promote and encourage responsible pet ownership		3.2					
S.68A(2)(c)(ii) Ensure compliance with Act and regulations		3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	
S.68A(2)(c)(iii) Minimise risk of dog attacks		3.2	3.3	3.4		3.6	
S.68A(2)(c)(iv) Over-population and high euthanasia rates		3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5		
S.68A(2)(c)(v) Encourage Registration and Identification of cats and Dogs		3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5		
S.68A(2)(c)(vi) Minimise potential for nuisance	3.1			3.4		3.6	
S.68A(2)(c)(vii) Dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs		3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5		
S.68A(2)(d) Review of Orders and Local Laws				3.4			
S.68A(2)(e) Any other matters	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	4.0
S.68A(2)(f) Periodic Evaluation of programs services and Strategies	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	4.0
S.68A(3)(a) Review of Domestic Animal Management Plan							4.0

3.1 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER (AMO) TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Objective:

To ensure that all staff involved in animal management have the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out their work.

Current/Ongoing Activities:

The current AMO training and development activities include:

- All staff to have a minimum Certificate IV – Government Statutory Compliance;
- New staff to be enrolled to complete Certificate IV – Animal Control & Regulation;
- Staff encouraged to attend training days provided by relevant industry bodies; and
- Staff representative on relevant industry bodies – i.e.: North East Local Laws group.

Additional Planned Initiatives:

- 3.1.1 Current staff who have attained Certificate IV in Statutory compliance to be qualified to a minimum standard of Certificate IV Animal Management.
- 3.1.2 All staff required to be qualified to insert microchips.

3.2 ENCOURAGING RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP – COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Objective:

To encourage people to manage pets in a way that protects the health and welfare of the animal, maximises the companion benefits of their pet and minimises potential for nuisance or harm to others.

Current/Ongoing Activities:

The current education activities and programs aimed at promoting responsible pet ownership include:

- Barking dog brochure;
- Code of Practice for the private keeping of dogs and cats;
- Responsible dog and cat ownership booklet;
- How to prevent dog attacks in the community brochure;
- Website;
- Include relevant articles in the Shire of Campaspe weekly one page; and
- School visits to promote responsible ownership of domestic animals.

Planned Programs and Initiatives:

- 3.2.1 Review and upgrade Council website to include the latest information and online brochures.
- 3.2.2 Ensure that all service centres are up to date with latest brochures and educational material available.
- 3.2.3 Promote responsible pet ownership not only to schools and preschools but also to the general community.
- 3.2.4 Make Animal Welfare Officers available to visit schools to run education sessions.

3.3 IDENTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

Objective:

To maximise the number of registered and identifiable domestic animals.

Current/Ongoing Activities:

The current identification and registration activities include:

- Animal registration renewal mail out;
- Random door knocking conducted monthly;
- Participation in State Governments pet registration incentive scheme;
- Mandatory registration and micro chipping of animals prior to release from pound; and
- Rangers provided with microchip readers.

Planned Programs and Initiatives:

- 3.3.1 Lifetime registration tag.
- 3.3.2 Ability to download registration form from website.
- 3.3.3 Ability to pay registration "Online" or via Bpay thus reducing the need for owners to come into service centres.
- 3.3.4 Link microchip readers to hand held owner detail devices.

3.4 COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT – LOCAL LAW AND ORDER

Objective:

To maximise compliance with domestic animal laws, orders and regulations (State and Local).

Current/Ongoing Activities:

The current enforcement activities include:

- Daily patrols of residential and rural areas of the Shire;
- Monthly doorknocks checking animal registrations;
- Issuing of Infringements for animals impounded for being at large;
- Issuing of Infringements for unregistered animals that are impounded;
- Investigation of all animal complaints including dog attack, barking dogs, animal cruelty and other breaches of the relevant Acts; and
- Use of hand held microchip scanners by Animal Management Officers to identify animal ownership and registration status.

The Shire of Campaspe has the following Orders currently in place:

- S26 Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animal Act – 38 No dogs allowed areas – Shire Dog restrictions see appendices “B”;
- S26 Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animal Act – 30 Dog must be under effective control in a public place;
- S26 Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animal Act - 6 Dog must be on leads at all times;
- Local Law No 7 – 2005 No more than two dogs or cats to be kept on a residential property; and
- Local Law No 7 – 2005 Pet owners to remove faeces from road or municipal place and carry device for the removal of the faeces.

Planned Programs and Initiatives:

- 3.4.1 Review dog off lead areas to ensure they meet community needs.
- 3.4.2 Review current Preliminary Dog Attack forms to provided Animal Management Officers with an intranet based form.
- 3.4.3 Review Local Law provisions to ensure that they relate to community needs and also ensure that Animal Management Officers are provided with the correct and up to date enforcement provisions.
- 3.4.4 Provide Animal Management Officers with current animal registration lists that can be accessed via hand held PDA and used in conjunction with microchip scanners.
- 3.4.5 Review dog breed suitability for rural and residential areas.

3.5 DOMESTIC ANIMAL BUSINESSES

Objective:

To work in partnership with domestic animal businesses to achieve Council’s domestic animal management goals.

Current/Ongoing Activities:

The Shire currently has 14 registered Domestic Animal businesses. The Shire’s programs/activities working with these businesses include:

- Annual registration and renewal of the Domestic Animal Business permit;
- Conduct regular audits of the Domestic Animal Business to ensure compliance with regulations; and
- Supply and distribute information related to domestic animal business and the relevant codes of practice.

Planned Programs and Initiatives:

- 3.5.1 Possible workshops with domestic animal business owners and operators to improve compliance with the Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animals Act and regulations and promote responsible pet ownership and promote responsible pet ownership.
- 3.5.2 Review Council website in relation to Domestic Animals Business to provide “online” application forms and also the latest information available from the Bureau of Animal Welfare.

3.6 DECLARED/DANGEROUS DOGS

Objective:

To minimise the risks of dog attack to the community from dangerous dogs. For a rural Council, the frequency of dog attacks on livestock is negligible. (1 or 2 per annum) Urban area attacks amount to 15 per annum. This isn't an acceptable statistic. Rangers have embarked on strategies to reduce the frequency of attacks. Refer to Sect 3.2 for details.

Current/Ongoing Activities:

The Shire currently has 3 declared/dangerous dogs. Programs/activities aimed at minimising the risk to the broader community from declared dangerous, restricted breed and menacing dogs include:

- Site visits to residential and commercial properties where dangerous dogs are housed ensure compliance with relevant regulations;
- Record all dangerous dogs on the Victoria Declared Dog register; and
- Review breed suitability for rural and residential areas.

Planned Programs and Initiatives:

- 3.6.1 Actively patrol industrial and commercial areas after hours to identify dangerous dogs on premises.
- 3.6.2 Conduct annual audits of premises where dangerous dogs are housed.
- 3.6.3 Provide owners of dangerous dogs with up to date information regarding responsible pet ownership.

4.0 PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION

4.1 PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION PROCESS

Performance against this plan will be monitored by the frequencies set out in the table below. Through ongoing evaluation of the Domestic Animal Management Plan Council will be able to adapt its programs and actions to enable identified goals to be achieved.

4.2 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

	Type	Description	Reporting	Current	Target 2009
1	Dog registrations	Number of dogs registered	Annually	6879 (85%)	7289 (90%)
2	Cat registrations	Number of cat registered	Annually	1850 (35%)	2687 (50%)
3	Enforcements	Number of infringements issued	Monthly	15 average	<10
4	Dog complaints	Number received	Monthly	Average 50	<50
5	Cat complaints	Number received	Monthly	Average 73	<73
6	Dog attacks	Number reported	Monthly	Average 1.3	<1.3
7	Euthanasia rate – dogs	Number of impounded dogs euthanised	As per monthly report from RSPCA	266 per year	<200
8	Euthanasia rate – cats	Number of impounded cats euthanised	As per monthly report from RPCA	383 per year	<300
9	Rehousing rate – dogs	Number of impounded dogs rehoused	As per monthly report from RSPCA	323 per year	>323
10	Rehousing rate – cats	Number of impounded cats rehoused	As per monthly report from RSPCA	180 per year	>180
11	Reclaim rate – dogs	Number of impounded dogs reclaimed by owners	As per monthly report from RSPCA	310	>310
12	Reclaim rate – cats	Number of impounded cats reclaimed by owners	As per monthly report from RSPCA	48	>48
13	Door knocking	Carried out by Rangers between April and December annually	At least two days per month per Ranger (8 ranger days)	4 ranger days	8 ranger days

4.3 STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF KPI's

To increase the number of registered animals and therefore the number of micro chipped domestic animals in the Shire, Council Local Laws Officers will embark on a public education process that will include but will not be limited to, advertising in news papers generally circulating within the Shire of Campaspe, making themselves available and promoting their availability to visit schools for education purposes, reminders in the rate notices and web site information.

Increasing door knocking will provide positive reinforcement of the need to register and therefore micro chip / desex animals as well.

The number of registered dogs and cats in the Shire of Campaspe is comparable with like Councils. This indicates that ownership of dogs and cats is "normal" or we are all overpopulated. The following addresses establishing where we stand on the topic of animal population.

While the euthanasia rate for dogs is amongst the best in the KPI's available to Council, it is recognised more can be done to improve the rate for dogs and cats. The euthanasia rate for dogs is 26% and the reclaim / rehouse rate combined is 74%. This is a more than acceptable performance. The euthanasia rate for cats is 63%. Some of this can be attributed to cats with litters or having litters while in the pound. The majority of the cats coming into the shelter are either diseased or feral. These circumstances necessitate immediate euthanasia. The euthanasia rate for cats in similar sized Councils are as high as 94%.

The introduction of compulsory desexing and micro chipping of all animals being sold from pet stores, being reclaimed from shelters, and before being registered will assist in bringing down the number of euthanased animals over a period of time.

The introduction of hand held micro chip readers for the Rangers will provide a tool for the Rangers to identify the animals owners and make contact with them to reduce the possibility of the animal not being reclaimed if it was to be taken to an animal shelter. Where possible the Rangers will return the animal to the owner rather than transport the animal to a shelter. This strategy is designed to increase the number of animals being reclaimed from the shelter.

4.4 REVIEW CYCLE/DATE FOR THIS PLAN

The KPI'S within this Domestic Animal Management Plan are reviewed on a monthly basis by the Team Leader. Should any issues arise from this monthly review they will be reported to the Administration Manager.

As required by the Bureau of Animal Welfare the DAM Plan will be reviewed annually and any amendments necessary will be made. The amended version will then be forwarded to the Secretary of the Bureau as required under legislation.

APPENDICES

A: ACTION PLAN

OBJECTIVE 3.1:

To ensure that all staff involved in animal management have the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out their duties.

(NB: This Action Plan is linked to planned actions/initiatives in section 3.1 of this Plan)

Program/Service Objective	Actions	Who is Responsible	When	Resources Required
3.1.1 Initiative 1 - Conduct more staff training for AMOs.	3.1.1.1 Attend Bureau of Animal Welfare Regional Training Seminar	Team Leader	As available	Funding via training budget
	3.1.1.2 AMO to attend training in dealing with difficult customers	Team Leader	March 08	Completed
	3.1.1.3 Identify potential training providers for manual handling of animals (get quotes)	Human Resources	Ongoing	Nil
	3.1.1.4 All AMOs to attend manual handling of animals training	Human Resources	As available	Nil
3.1.2 Initiative 2 - Conduct Animal Management Officer Training/ Skills audit	3.1.2.1 Discuss approach with HR	Team Leader	Ongoing	Nil
	3.1.2.2 Document all training undertaken in past two years (what, where and who)	Human Resources	Ongoing	Nil
	3.1.2.3 Contact MAV or LG Pro for Information of industry standards i.e. training, skills, procedures, etc.	Team Leader	Ongoing	Nil

B: SHIRE DOG RESTRICTION AREAS

Shire of Campaspe has a public risk responsibility under the Domestic (Feral and Nuisance) Animals Act 1994, to clearly designate areas within the municipal region, where dogs are to be effectively controlled by way of a leash, chain, or cord, and areas where these conditions are not required.

Also, under the Domestic (Feral and Nuisance) Animals Act, owners must make dangerous dogs wear bright collars that are visible at night, and house dangerous dogs in dog and child-proof enclosures.

All residential areas and Central Business Districts within the Shire of Campaspe require dogs on leads at all times.

ECHUCA AREA

Reserves	Responsibilities & Signage
Aquatic Wildlife Reserve	Dogs to be under control at all times
Victoria Park / Scenic Drive and Boat Ramp	Dogs to be under control at all times
Apex Park – High Street	No Dogs Allowed
Echuca Recreation Reserves: - Victoria Park - East Oval - South Oval	Dogs to be on leads at all times
Rotary Park	Dogs to be under control at all times
Campaspe Esplanade	Dogs to be on leads at all times
Garden Crescent Playground	No Dogs Allowed
Leichardt Street Playground	No Dogs Allowed
McBride Place Playground	No Dogs Allowed
Pevensey Place Playground	No Dogs Allowed
Crossenvale Park	No Dogs Allowed
Apex Park Playground	No Dogs Allowed
Echuca East Playground	No Dogs Allowed
Campaspe River Reserve	No Dogs Allowed
Alton Reserve Gardens	No Dogs Allowed
Civic Centre Gardens	No Dogs Allowed
Hopwood Park	No Dogs Allowed
Library Gardens	No Dogs Allowed
Paddlewheel Park	Dogs to be under control at all times

** Note: Although we encourage you to exercise your dog, children's playgrounds are not suitable for dog droppings, therefore we have banned dogs from these reserves.

In areas such as the Aquatic Reserve, Echuca, where "dogs are to be under control at all times", the owner must:

- carry a chain, cord or leash sufficient to bring the dog under effective control if the dog behaves in a manner which threatens any person or animal;

- remain in effective voice or hand control of the dog so as to be able to promptly bring the dog under effective control by placing the dog on a chain, cord or leash if that becomes necessary;
- not allow the dog to worry or threaten any person or animal.

ROCHESTER AREA

Reserves	Responsibilities & Signage
All Rochester residential areas and Central Business District	Dogs to be on leads at all times
Lions Park – Echuca Road	Dogs to be under control at all times
Rotunda Park	Dogs to be on leads at all times
Rotary Park	Dogs to be under control at all times
Walking Track Campaspe Esplanade	Dogs to be under control at all times
Campaspe River Reserve	Dogs to be under control at all times
Apex Park	Dogs to be under control at all times
Rankin Street Park	Dogs to be on leads at all times
RSL Park	No Dogs Allowed

LOCKINGTON AREA

Reserves	Responsibilities & Signage
Apex Park	Dogs to be under control at all times
Playground – Clare Avenue	No Dogs Allowed

GUNBOWER AREA

Reserves	Responsibilities & Signage
Gunbower Toilets	Dogs to be under control at all times
Apex Park	Dogs to be under control at all times
Kow Swamp	Dogs to be under control at all times
Picnic Reserve	Dogs to be under control at all times

RUSHWORTH AREA

Reserves	Responsibilities & Signage
Main Street & High Street	Dogs to be on leads at all times
Geyles Reserve	Dogs to be under control at all times
Lions Park Frontage	Dogs to be under control at all times

COLBINABBIN AREA

Reserves	Responsibilities & Signage
Community Hall	Dogs to be under control at all times

STANHOPE AREA

Reserves	Responsibilities & Signage
Apex Park	No Dogs Allowed
McEwen Place	No Dogs Allowed
Lions Park	Dogs to be under control at all times
Ross Court Island	No Dogs Allowed
Ford Island	No Dogs Allowed
Blamey Road	No Dogs Allowed
Birdwood Avenue	No Dogs Allowed
Midland Highway	No Dogs Allowed

GIRGARRE AREA

Reserves	Responsibilities & Signage
Community Playground	No Dogs Allowed
Tree Plantations	Dogs to be under control at all times
Progress Park	Dogs to be under control at all times

TONGALA AREA

Reserves	Responsibilities & Signage
Centennial Park	Dogs to be under control at all times
Tongala Recreation Reserve	Dogs to be under control at all times
RK Brose Reserve	Dogs to be under control at all times
Lions Park	No Dogs Allowed
Apex Park	Dogs to be under control at all times

KYABRAM AREA

Reserves	Responsibilities & Signage
Memorial Gardens and Walkway	No Dogs Allowed
Recreation Reserve	Dogs to be under control at all times
Northern Oval	Dogs to be under control at all times
Racecourse Reserve	Dogs to be under control at all times
Memorial Gardens	Dogs to be under control at all times
Civic Centre	No Dogs Allowed
John Pilley Reserve	No Dogs Allowed
Edis Park	Dogs to be under control at all times
Frederick Street Park	No Dogs Allowed
Alinjarra Park	No Dogs Allowed
Glass Court Park	No Dogs Allowed
Crow Crescent Park	No Dogs Allowed
Dawes Road Reserve	No Dogs Allowed
Banyule Court Park	No Dogs Allowed
McEwan Reserve	No Dogs Allowed
Prunus Court Park	No Dogs Allowed
Bond Street Park	No Dogs Allowed
Poplar Park	No Dogs Allowed
WJ Woods Reserve	No Dogs Allowed

C: GENERAL LOCAL LAW NO. 7 2005 - PART 4 ANIMALS

Local Law No 7 enables officer to enforce the Domestic Nuisance Animals Act and the intent of the Local Law. This Local Law is reviewed annually and readopted by Council when necessary to enable the best out come for the Community and the animals within the Community.

4.1 Dogs and Cats

- (a) An owner or occupier of land must not, without a permit, keep or allow to be kept more than two dogs and / or two cats on that land;
- (b) For the purpose of calculating the maximum number of dogs or cats kept, any progeny may be lawfully kept, without a permit, for 12 weeks after birth; and
- (c) Notwithstanding Clause 4.1(a) Council may by resolution exempt any class of dog or cat from the requirement to be kept with a permit.

4.2 Keeping Animals in Residential Areas

- (a) An owner or occupier of land must not keep or allow to be kept without a permit more than four different types of animal on that land at any time or allow to be kept any more in number for each type of animal than as set out in the following table:

Type of Animal	Maximum Allowed in Residential Areas
Dogs	2
Cats	2
Poultry	8 Fowls or 2 Turkeys or 2 Geese or 2 Ducks
Pigs	None Allowed
Horses, Donkeys, Camels, Cattle, Sheep, Goats	None Allowed
Ferrets	None allowed except where otherwise determined by Council in each individual application for a permit
Guinea Pigs	6
Domestic Birds	6
Pigeons	50
Domestic Rabbits	10
Other animal types	2
Roosters	None allowed except where otherwise determined by Council in each individual application for a permit
Roosters continued	None allowed unless the person keeping the rooster(s) is a member of the Victorian Poultry Fanciers Association and complies with their Code of Practice.

- (b) Sub clause (a) does not apply where a planning permit has been obtained for land used for the purposes of animal boarding, breeding, keeping or training.

4.2.1 Keeping of Animals

1. In determining whether to grant a permit for the keeping of animals where the number exceeds that which is set out in the Table to clause (4.2), the Council must take into account:
 - (a) The zoning of the land;
 - (b) The proximity of the area to adjoining properties;
 - (c) The amenity of the area to that of adjoining properties;
 - (d) The type and additional numbers of animals to be kept;
 - (e) The area of land available for keeping the animals;
 - (f) The likely effects on adjoining owners or occupiers;
 - (g) The adequacy of animal shelters; and
 - (h) Any other matter relevant to the circumstances associated with the application.

4.2.2 Accommodation for Animals - Shelters

1. In determining what may be reasonable shelter, consideration should be given to:
 - (a) The type of animal to be kept;
 - (b) The height of the shelter;
 - (c) The distance from the street frontage of the property;
 - (d) The distance from any other street or road;
 - (e) The distance from the boundary of any adjoining property; and
 - (f) The distance from any dwelling.
2. All animal shelters must be constructed in accordance with the following standards:
 - (a) The floor area of any animal shelter must be sized to allow 0.7 square metres of floor area for each head of poultry kept or be of a size approved by Council for keeping of any other animal;
 - (b) An animal shelter must be located in a position approved by Council;
 - (c) Animal shelters must be constructed of approved materials and be roofed so as to exclude all rainwater. Roof drainage is to be connected to an approved stormwater system;
 - (d) The floor of an animal shelter shall be constructed in an approved material and the finished floor level shall be a minimum of 80mm above surrounding ground level;
 - (e) Shelters for poultry and domestic birds shall be constructed so as to be rodent proof; and
 - (f) Poultry houses shall be constructed with a minimum 200 mm plinth directly above and around the edge of the floor capable of holding a bed of litter of a minimum depth of 200 mm.
3. All animal shelters must be maintained in accordance with the following standards so that:
 - (a) All manure, litter and other waste is removed and / or treated as often as necessary so that it does not cause a nuisance or offensive condition;
 - (b) All manure, litter and other waste to be stored in a fly and vermin proof receptacle until removed from the premises or otherwise disposed of to the satisfaction of the authorised officer;
 - (c) The ground surrounding the shelter is drained to the satisfaction of the authorised officer;
 - (d) The area of land within 3 metres of the area or structure in which the animal is kept must be kept free from dry grass, weeds, refuse, rubbish or other material capable of harbouring vermin;
 - (e) All animal food, grain or chaff is kept in vermin proof receptacles; and
 - (f) The area where animals are kept must be thoroughly cleaned and maintained at all times in a clean and sanitary manner so as not to give rise to any nuisance and to the satisfaction of the authorised officer.

4.3 Keeping of Livestock

A person must not, without a permit, keep livestock on land which is less than one (1) hectare in area.

4.4 Pigeons

A person must not in a residential area exercise pigeons other than during 2 hours after sunrise or 2 hours before sunset.

4.5 Adequate Fencing

An owner or occupier of land on which an animal is kept must ensure that the land is adequately fenced so as to prevent the animal's escape from the land.

4.6 Protection of Other Animals and Native Fauna and Flora

An owner of an animal, or an owner or occupier of land on which the animal is kept, must ensure that the animal does not harm or kill, or destroy, any native fauna or flora, or any other animal, other than on the animal owner's property.

4.7 Nuisances

An owner or occupier of land must ensure that any animal or bird kept on the land does not cause a nuisance to surrounding or neighbouring landowners.

4.8 Dog Excrement

A person in charge of a dog on a road or in a municipal place must:

- (a) Not permit the excrement of the dog to remain on that road or in that municipal place;
- (b) Carry a device suitable for the removal of any excrement that may be deposited by the dog; and
- (c) Produce the device on demand by an Authorised Officer.

4.9 Horses on Reservations

- (a) A person must not, without a permit, ride or lead a horse on a footpath or nature strip in a residential area; and
- (b) Council or an Authorised Officer may exempt a person from the requirement under sub clause (a) to obtain a permit.