

The Dog and Cat Management Board

2012 - 2015

STRATEGIC PLAN

June 2012

Description: A plan developed by the Dog and Cat Management Board to address priorities and objectives for the period 1 July 2012 – 30 June 2015.



Government of South Australia

Dog and Cat Management Board

Dog and Cat Management Board Strategic Plan 2012 - 2015

1. Context

Pets are very important to South Australians. Over 60% of SA families have a pet, and most of these are dogs and cats.

Dogs and cats add value to our lives in many ways, including: as companions to provide comfort and connections for those who live alone or who are unwell; as the eyes and ears of some citizens needing additional help to get around; as the targets for affection and common interests all over our neighbourhoods and as working animals that assist agricultural and security businesses.

We support the Premier's goal of safe and vibrant neighbourhoods, and believe dogs and cats play a vital role in this pursuit. *Our vision is to see children and adults safely enjoying a relationship with dogs and cats across every community and neighbourhood because of the positive role these animals play in our lives.*

Our role is to plan for, promote and provide advice needed by governments and individuals about the effective management of dogs and cats. We will use reliable and accurate evidence to underpin our work and will share what we know with policy makers and the community to achieve our goals.

2. Governance

The Dog and Cat Management Board (the Board) is established under *Section 10* of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* (the Act) as a body corporate. The Board is an instrumentality of the Crown and is the only statutory authority of its kind in Australia.

The functions of the Board are to:

- a) Plan for, promote and provide advice about, the effective management of dogs and cats throughout South Australia;
- b) Oversee the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this Act relating to dogs;
- c) Inquire into and consider all proposed by-laws referred to it under this Act, with a view to promoting the effective management of dogs and cats, and, to the extent that the Board considers it appropriate, the consistent application of by-laws throughout South Australia;
- d) Advise the Minister or the LGA, either on its own initiative or at the request of the Minister or the LGA, on the operation of this Act or issues directly relating to dog or cat management in South Australia;
- e) Undertake or facilitate research relating to dog or cat management;
- f) Undertake or facilitate educational programs relating to dog or cat management;
- g) Keep this Act under review and make recommendations to the Minister with respect to the Act and regulations made under the Act; and
- h) Carry out any other function assigned to the Board by the Minister or by or under this Act.

In accordance with *Section 12* of the Act, the Board has the following membership and structure:

Chair:

Ms Jan Connolly	Jointly nominated by the Minister and the Local Government Association
-----------------	--

Members:

Mr Chris Button	Nominated by the Local Government Association
Cr Rosemary Clancy	Nominated by the Local Government Association
Mr John Darzanos	Nominated by the Local Government Association
Cr Rosalie Haese	Nominated by the Local Government Association
Dr Katina D'Onise	Nominated by the Minister
Dr Ian McBryde	Nominated by the Minister
Ms Helen Radoslovich	Nominated by the Minister
Ms Ann McLean	Nominated by the Minister

The Board is supported by staff provided through a service level agreement with the Department for Environment and Natural Resources.

3. Mission

'Leadership and initiative in Dog and Cat Management'

4. Values

We will:

1. Base decisions on factual, reliable and accurate data and research
2. Work in partnership with others
3. Deliver what we promise
4. Focus on outcomes, not just activity
5. Work to an ethical code that includes service, respect and courtesy
6. Value and support our own staff.

5. Strategy

The Board sets a strategic direction, periodically reviews strategies and establishes a set of priorities and performance indicators against which to measure progress. Many of the Board's initiatives are longer term in nature and a rolling strategic plan allows for programs and projects to be scheduled beyond the usual three year planning cycle.

The Board recently reviewed the previous strategic plan and continued several of the priority areas into the new planning period. This document reflects the strategic priorities as identified by the Board for the period 2012 – 2015.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Organization:	Dog and Cat Management Board	Period:	July 2012 – June 2015
----------------------	------------------------------	----------------	-----------------------

CURRENT SITUATION:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dog bite related injury in the community has remained unchanged for more than 10 years. 2. SA has a significant population of unowned cats, unsuitable as domestic pets. 3. Compliance with the Dog and Cat Management Act varies considerably. 4. Formal relationships with stakeholders are not yet fully developed. 5. The support systems and services to the Board are still being developed. 		DESIRED SITUATION:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduction in risk and recorded dog bite related injury in the SA community as measured through appropriate independently managed surveillance systems. 2. Increased responsible cat ownership and a reduction in the number of homeless cats. 3. There is 100% compliance with the Dog and Cat Management Act, 1995. 4. We work in partnership with the organizations that will help achieve our mutual goals. 5. The business of the Board is well serviced.
OBJECTIVES:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a population of both sociable and safe dogs in our community. 2. Improve the management and care of owned and unowned cats 3. Review the performance of the Dog and Cat Management Act and establish systems and processes which ensure 100% compliance with the Legislation. 4. Maximise the benefits from new and existing partnerships and articulate our collaborative actions. 5. Implement systems and processes which deliver the Boards priorities. 			

STRATEGIES PLANNED TO FILL THE GAP (2012 – 2015)

Objective	Strategy	Key Performance Indicators
Establish a population of both sociable and safe dogs in our community.		
1A	We will influence community and government perception regarding the desexing of dogs and the breeding of only amicability assessed dogs.	Reduction in dog bite incidents. (TARGET: 20% Reduction)
1B	We will educate, inform and influence behaviour across the community, including new parents and young children to ensure safe relationships with our household pets.	
1C	We will research and investigate regulatory frameworks and tools which assist breeders and dog owners to own amicable dogs.	
Improve the management and care of owned and unowned cats.		
2A	We will communicate and monitor the issue of homeless cats in our community and encourage involvement in identification of solutions.	An improvement in community attitude towards the management of cats. (TARGET: 10% Improvement)
2B	We will inform and support our local government stakeholders in the development of local management strategies for cats.	
2C	We will influence public opinion on the acceptance of statewide strategies for the management of cats.	
Review the performance of the Dog and Cat Management Act and establish systems and processes which ensure 100% compliance with the Legislation.		
3A	We will influence, inform and advise regarding appropriate administration, enforcement and compliance with the Act.	Improved compliance with the Act (TARGET: 100% Compliance)
3B	We will research and communicate improvements to the regulatory framework governing our management of dogs and cats.	
Maximise the benefits from new and existing partnerships and articulate our collaborative actions.		
4A	We will engage with our stakeholders to close policy and practice gaps.	Improvements in stakeholder satisfaction as measured by survey. (TARGET: 10% Improvement)
4B	We will embrace opportunities for building beneficial relationships with others.	
Implement systems and processes which deliver the Boards priorities.		
5A	We will deliver the Board's objectives through our service provider and appropriate corporate governance.	Achievement of Strategic Plan. (TARGET: 100% Achievement)

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

2012/13

Establish a population of both sociable and safe dogs in our community.

1A	Inform the community of the link between aggression and undesexed dogs. Influence community knowledge and expectations of amicability traits when acquiring a dog.
1A	Identify/ develop and implement surveillance indicators to accurately measure dog related harm in the community.
1B	Deliver a Program for Responsible and Safe Pet Owners targeting 5-9 year olds in schools.
1C	Research and investigate tools to assist with measuring the canine trait of amicability.

Improve the management and care of owned and unowned cats.

2A	Monitor shelter statistics to establish trend data.
2B	Assist in the development and monitor performance of by-laws for management of cats.
2C	Inform and influence community behaviour regarding responsible ownership of cats.

Review the performance of the Dog and Cat Management Act and establish systems and processes which ensure 100% compliance with the Legislation.

3A	Audit Councils compliance with the legislation.
3B	Keep the Act under review and continue to inform government as to the practical application of the legislation.

Maximise the benefits from new and existing partnerships and articulate our collaborative actions.

4A&B	Develop and implement a stakeholder engagement program and assess its effectiveness.
------	--

Implement systems and processes which deliver the Boards priorities.

5A	Develop a financial modeling program for long and short term financial goal setting.
5A	Conduct an independent audit of the Boards statutory performance.