



2025/26 Business Plan and Budget

Dog and Cat Management Board

2025-2030 Strategic Plan

The Dog and Cat Management Board's (Board) five year strategic plan sets out their strategic directions and priority actions. The strategic plan supports the Board to execute its functions under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.

2025/26 Business Plan

The annual business plan and budget describes the Board's proposed operation plan and associated budgets for the financial year, that deliver on the Dog and Cat Management Board's five year strategic plan.

In addition to fulfilling statutory obligations, the Board are focused on the delivery of significant projects to the state, relating to effective dog and cat management during the 2025/26 financial year:

1. Implementation of new Breeder licencing regulatory operations
2. Transition from DACO 1.0 to DACO 2.0
3. Supporting implementation of a statewide cat management strategy

Fulfill objects of the Act

Encourage

Encourage responsible dog and cat ownership

Success looks like:

- Increased dog and cat owner compliance, particularly in relation to microchipping, desexing and registering.
- Implementation of a new, cost-recovery, breeder regulatory framework.

- Implementation to a new Dogs and Cats Online system.
- Increased number of cats recorded on Dogs and Cats Online.
- Continued facilitation of appropriate community educational programs.

Reduce

Reduce public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats.

Success looks like:

- Decreased number of dog attacks.
- Reduced number of unwanted dogs and cats.
- Greater consistency for cat management across council areas.
- Support statewide cat management strategies and actions.

Promote

Promote the effective management of dogs and cats.

Success looks like:

- Improving relationships with stakeholders.
- Increasing collaboration on dog and cat matters at a national level.
- Being financial sustainable.
- Applying evidence based dog and cat management principles.
- Reviewing the Dog and Cat Management Act and Regulations and making recommendations to the Minister.

Partnership & collaboration	Evidence based decision-making	Simpler regulation	Organisational excellence
Engaging and Investing in relationships to promote responsible dog and cat management.	Focussed on Informed strategies to reduce: • dog attacks • nuisance cats • unchecked breeding • euthanasia rates	Consult with stakeholders to ensure future reviews of the Act, regulations, Board policies and frameworks have less red tape.	Foster a culture that promotes effective governance and industry leadership.



Dog and Cat Management Board Budget 2025/26

The Board's budget is funded by the Dog and Cat Management Fund (fund). A percentage of dog registration fees collected by councils, as set the *Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2017*, and breeder registration fees are payable to the fund.

The fund is managed by the South Australian Treasury, and the Board may expend money from the fund in accordance with a budget approved by the Minister.

The Board anticipates the running costs of the new Dogs and Cats Online System to reduce following implementation in 2025/26. The Board also anticipates ongoing costs for implementing and running the new breeder licencing requirements, in support of the government election commitment of banning puppy factories. Staffing and operational costs are based on a cost recovery model from 2026/2027.

REVENUE		
DCMB Metro Revenue		2,283
DCMB Regional Revenue		591
Breeders Registration		447
Interest Income		328
Other income		-
TOTAL REVENUE		3,649
EXPENSES		
P1 - Responsible ownership and effective management of dogs and cats projects	P1	525
P2 - Effective Board and organisational performance operations	P2	255
DCM Unit General Administration		91
Total approved Operational Costs and Projects		871
Breeder regulation	1.3	265
DACO system operations	2.1	985
Total approved Programs		1250
Total Projects and Programs		2,121
Board sitting Fees and oncosts		58
DCM Unit staffing	11.8	1367
	<i>Projects/Operations</i>	823
	<i>Breeder program</i>	237
	<i>DACO program</i>	375
SLA DEW	11.8	391
Total approved Admin		1,816
TOTAL EXPENSES		3,936
FINANCING THE BUDGET		
Cash Reserves At the commencement of the year		2,487
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		-287
	<i>Projects/Operations</i>	-232
	<i>Breeder program</i>	-55
Add back: noncash depreciation/amortisation		150
Less: Capital Expenditure (Dogs and Cats Online)		964
Anticipated cash reserves at year end*		1,386

*The Dog and Cat Management Fund may be applied by the Board is making payments towards the cost of establishing or maintaining facilities used for the detention of dogs under the Act. Access to fund cash reserves may be considered by the Board following release of the LGA's paper addressing dog and cat detention facility capacity.

Program 1 –

Responsible ownership and effective management of dogs and cats

Strategic directions

- Take responsibility to identify practical solutions on dog and cat management matters
- Be bold and trial new approaches to drive community behaviour change
- Invest in relationships and lead partnering to add value to outcomes
- Improve cat management to the same level as dog management
- Value the importance of research, evidence collection and information sharing

Strategic Plan Priority Actions		Proposed '000
Projects		
1.1	Deliver communication and education programs that promote dog and cat ownership responsibilities	
	General owner compliance promotion (Registration, Mchip, Desex, Leash)	30
	Desired behaviour change (Roam to Home, Home Alone)	10
	Printing / Website / Videos	80
		120
1.2	Facilitate management strategies for nuisance and unwanted dogs and cats	
	Cat Management Strategy - DCMB actions	50
	Cat desexing (and microchip) programs	150
	Detention facilities planning (dogs and cats)	10
		210
1.3	Implement a breeder regulatory framework	
	Breeder reform education and promotion	80
	Licencing operations	185
		265
1.4	Deliver programs that aim to reduce the instances of dog bite	
	Dog bite prevention (Good Dogs Bad Days campaign)	70
	Dog bite research	25
		95
1.5	Collaborate and partner with others to achieve shared outcomes	
	Partnership program support	100
		100

Program 2 – Effective Board and organisational performance

Strategic directions

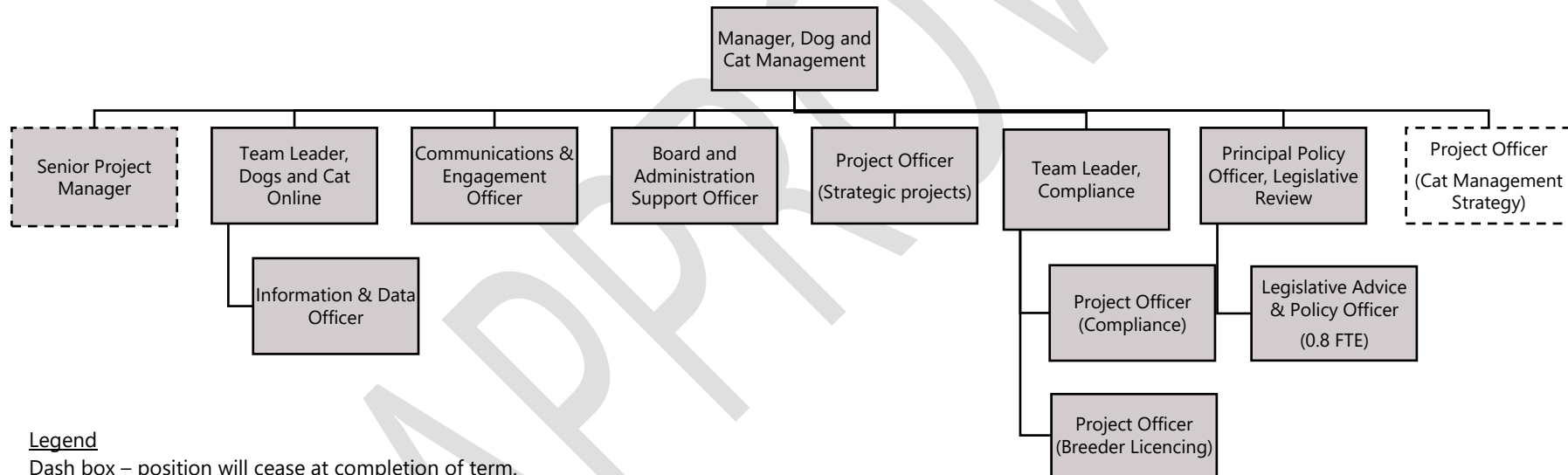
- Build community capacity to fulfill the requirements of the Act
- Community has confidence in the Board as leaders for dog and cat matters
- Address legislative, policy and process gaps
- Ensure the Board and unit operate at a high level
- Effective financial management

Strategic Plan Priority Actions		Proposed '000
Projects		
2.1	Maintain long term viability and sustainability Dogs and Cats Online	
	System operational costs	335
	Registration operational costs	375
	DACO 2.0 project (non-capital costs)	125
	Amortisation	150
		985
2.2	Support local councils administer the Act	
	Authorised training programs	110
	Training travel grants	10
	Small grants	100
		220
2.3	Advise the Minister on the Dog and Cat Management Act	
	Support legislative amendments	0
	Legal advice	15
		15
2.4	Maintain long-term financial sustainability and viability of the Dog and Cat Management Board	
	Board financial governance and auditing	15
		15
2.5	Ensure the Board's operations and performance are of a high standard	
	Annual evaluation	5
	Consultation and reporting to Minister/LGA	
		5

Dog and Cat Management unit staffing 2025/26

DEW Organisational structure of staff that deliver the Board's functions and strategic projects, including:

- Deliver the strategic plan and priorities including monitoring and reporting on progress.
- Develop and deliver an annual business plan and budget that supports achieving the Board's strategic priorities.
- Support the Board to meet its regulatory and governance responsibilities (including, accredit assistance dogs and training programs, consider by-laws and plans of management relating to dogs and cats, greyhound muzzle exemptions, etc.).
- Support the Board in evaluating its strategic and operational achievements and determining future strategic priorities and activities.
- Management of the state-wide registration, microchip and breeder registration database - Dogs and Cats Online (DACO).
- Provision of policy, compliance and operational support to councils.
- Development and implementation of guidance and policy documents to assist with the implementation of the Act by councils.

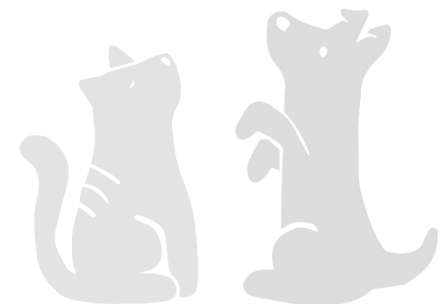


Legend

Dash box – position will cease at completion of term.

Purple box – Staff salaries from the DCMB budget

White box – Not funded from the Board budget



Resources

<https://dogandcatboard.com.au>

<https://council.dogandcatboard.com.au/login>

<https://www.youtube.com/> @dogandcatboard

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/organization/dept-for-environment-and-water>

Dogs and Cats Online

<https://dogsandcatsonline.com.au/>

**Approved by the Dog and Cat
Management Board:**

25 February 2025

**Approved by the Minister for Climate,
Environment and Water:**

12 June 2025

Dog and Cat Management Board

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A copy of this publication is available online

www.dogandcatboard.com.au