Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025 - 2030

Mid Murray Council

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

May 2025

Adopted by Council:
Approved by Dog and Cat Management Board:
Review Date: August 2030

49 Adelaide Road, Mannum SA 5238
PO Box 28, Mannum SA 5238

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgement of Country iii
Introduction 1
What is a Dog and Cat Management Plan? 1
How was this plan developed? 1
Strategic Links 1
Our Region 2
Legislation 2
Objectives of the Act 2
Council's Responsibilities 2
By-Laws 3
Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) 3
Registration Fees 3
Community Education 3
Animal Management Services 3
Funding 3
The Team 4
Service Levels 4
Pet Ownership 4
Owner Responsibilities 4
Breeders and Sellers 5
Promoting Responsible Dog Management 7
Overview of Dogs in Mid Murray Council 7
Dogs in Public Places 7
Minimising Dog Incidents 8
Dogs and Livestock 8
All Dogs Can Bite 8
Dog Control Services 9
Reuniting Dogs and Owners 9
Excessive Barking 9
Dog Holding Facility 9
Promoting Responsible Cat Management 10
Overview of Cats in Mid Murray 10
Responsible Cat Ownership 10
A Cat is Happiest at Home 10
Cat Control Services 10
Stray Cats 10
Cat Nuisance 11

Local Perspective 11
Objectives and Strategies 11
Reference Material 18
Appendix A: Dog Park Locations 19
Blanchetown 19
Cadell 19
Cambrai 20
Greenways 20
Mannum 21
Morgan 22
Palmer 22
Swan Reach 23
Truro 23

Acknowledgement of Country

Mid Murray Council would like to acknowledge and pay respect to the Traditional Custodians of the land: the Ngadjuri, Ngaiawang, Ngangaruku, Ngarkat, Ngarrindjeri and Peramangk Peoples of the Mid Murray lands and waters.

It is upon their ancestral lands and waters that the Mid Murray Council operates, and Council pays respect to Elders, past and present, and their spiritual beliefs that are of continuing importance to those First Nations Peoples of today.

Council further acknowledges the contributions and important role that First Nations Peoples continue to play within the community

Mission

To Promote Responsible Pet Ownership while Respecting the Rights of other members of the Community and Protecting the Environment.

Introduction

The *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* (the Act) provides the framework for dog and cat management in South Australia. The Act requires all Councils to develop a Plan for the management of dogs and cats within their area. The Plan is required to be reviewed every five years.

What is a Dog and Cat Management Plan?

In fulfilling Council's obligations under Section 26A of the Act, this Plan will guide Council's approach to dog and cat management over the next five years.

The Plan provides the framework for Council's priorities and services delivered to its community. It identifies objectives and strategies to implement the mission, which relates directly to the objects of the Act.

How was this Plan developed?

The Plan was developed by Mid Murray Council officers, who have many years of experience in animal management within Local Government. Consideration was given to Council's existing 2024-2028 Strategic Plan, Community Development Strategy, dog and cat management services, and By-Law 5 Dogs and By-Law 6 Cats.

Strategic Links

The Plan will contribute to achieving the vision in the Mid Murray Council Strategic Plan 2024-2028.

Our Sustainability

Our unique environment is valued, preserved and protected for future generations.

Strategic Goal

Our natural environment and assets are preserved, protected and enhanced to ensure enjoyment by future generations

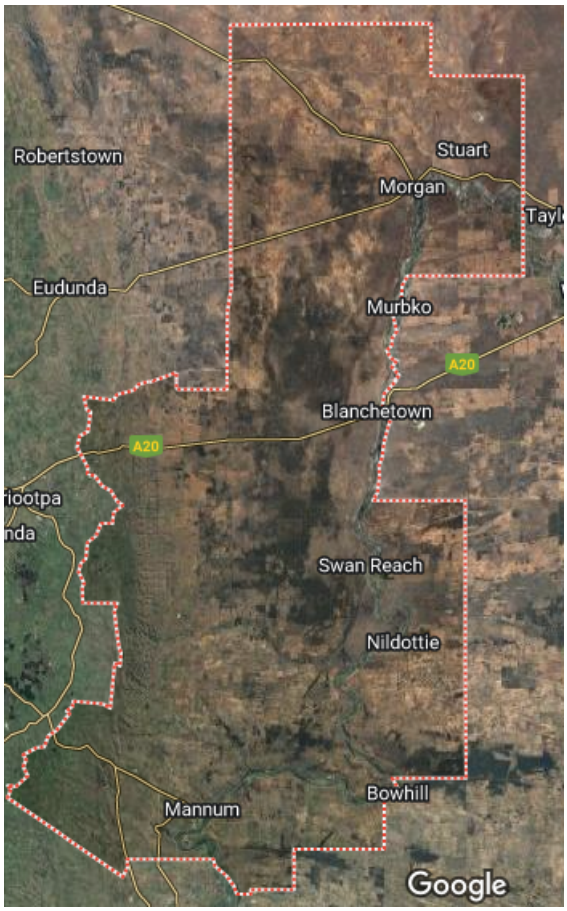
Key Activity

Strengthen sustainable domestic animal management practices within the region.

Council's Community Development Strategy places a strong focus on ensuring that the Mid Murray 'community has opportunities, is healthy and safe and is inclusive and supportive. Balancing environmental protection and management with growth and development' and Council's Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan incorporates strategies for increasing options for connecting people to nature through recreation and trails.

Our Region

Mid Murray Council area comprises land within regions generally known as the Murraylands, Riverland and the eastern slopes of the Mount Lofty Ranges. The Mid Murray Council covers an area of 6,273 square kilometres.



Legislation

The Act provides the framework for dog and cat management in South Australia. The Act's objectives are focused on promoting responsible ownership. Councils are conferred legislative responsibilities for the management of dogs and cats within their communities.

Objectives of the Act

The Act provides the framework for the management of dogs and cats in the community. Its purpose is to:

- Encourage responsible dog and cat ownership.
- Reduce public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats.
- Promote the effective management of dogs and cats.

Council's Responsibilities

Mid Murray Council is responsible for the implementation of the Act within the Council area, in accordance with Section 26 and 26A of the Act.

Mid Murray Council administers and enforces the provisions of the Act within its area, and for that purpose it must:

- maintain a register of dogs containing the information required by the Dog and Cat Management Board;
- appoint a suitable person to be Registrar;
- make satisfactory arrangements for issuing and replacing certificates of registration and registration discs;
- appoint at least one full-time authorised person or make other satisfactory arrangements for the exercise of the functions and powers of authorised persons;
- make satisfactory arrangements for the detention of dogs seized (and may, but need not, make such arrangements for cats seized);
- make satisfactory arrangements for fulfilling other obligations under the Act.

Council is required to prepare a management plan relating to dogs and cats within their local area and review and update this plan every five years. This Plan guides Council activities and aims to achieve the following strategic priorities:

1. Provide and promote the effective management of dogs and cats.
2. Promote and encourage responsible dog ownership.
3. Minimise public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs.
4. Encourage responsible cat ownership to minimise public and environmental nuisances.

This updated Plan provides Council with the opportunity to address management priorities

at a strategic level and implement initiatives to address requirements of the Act.

By-Laws

Legislation allows Councils to make By-laws for the management of dogs and cats at a local level. Council has By-laws for both dogs and cats which enables Council to limit the number of dogs and cats kept at a premise, as well as defining on and off leash activity areas for dogs. The By-laws can be found on the Council's website.

Dogs and Cats Online (DACO)

The State-wide online database for dogs and cats provides a valuable centralised system for dog registration and the registration of cat microchips. Council will continue to promote the use of DACO with dog and cat owners and encourage greater online use.

Registration Fees

The Act requires all dogs and cats to be microchipped by the age of three (3) months and desexed by the age of six (6) months with this information recorded within the DACO registration database.

These animals are referred to as a 'Standard Dog' or 'Standard Cat'. Dogs or cats that are not both desexed and microchipped or have been provided with an exemption from the mandatory requirements relating to desexing or microchipping in accordance with the Act are referred to as 'Non-Standard'.

Council sets fees and charges for the management of dogs annually, it must provide for a percentage rebate for a Standard Dog which is both desexed and microchipped. Currently Council does not charge a cat registration fee.

Dog registration income received by Council is spent on dog and cat management and Council complies with annual reporting and auditing requirements of the Act.

The Minister, via the DACO system, retains 12% of dog registration fees received by Council for administration purposes. The fee structure is available within Council's Fees and Charges Register and is available on Council's website.

Community Education

Legislative controls need to be supplemented by a range of non-regulatory approaches such as education, communication and increased awareness of dog and cat matters to achieve lasting, voluntary changes in behaviour.

Animal Management Services

Funding

Council's animal management services are funded through the following resources:

- applicable registration fees received from DACO;
- budgeted funds due to mandatory Government responsibilities;
- project funds allocated by Council for annual improvements to local infrastructure;

- expenditure from Council's operational budgets.

Annual financial reporting to the Dog and Cat Management Board (the DCM Board), combined with financial policies and practices ensure that income and expenditure is monitored and managed effectively, with income generated by dog registrations being invested into the administration and enforcement of the Act.

The Team

Council's Regulatory Services Team is tasked with the management of dogs and cats in the community.

The team consists of one Compliance Officer, one General Inspector, the Regulatory Services Coordinator and Manager - Development and Regulation. The team reports to the Director - Development and Community Services. The team is supported by various teams and directorates throughout Council.

Service Levels

Council is in the process of preparing a Service Provision Policy that will define services levels for the services that it provides the community. This Policy will outline the service standards for general and reactive activities associated with dog and cat control.

Other Animals

Whilst animals other than dogs and cats are not considered by this Plan, Council has powers under the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016* to control animals on a property causing a hazard or nuisance including the keeping of excessive numbers of animals.

Pet Ownership

Owner Responsibilities

Pet ownership is a long-term responsibility that lasts for the lifetime of the animal. It involves important considerations such as desexing, microchipping, Council registration, and the ongoing financial commitment required for adequate food, veterinary care, and suitable secure containment.

Registration

Pursuant to the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*, all dogs over the age of three (3) months must be registered.

Microchipping and Desexing

In 2018, the Act was amended which introduced compulsory microchipping and compulsory desexing of dogs and cats, unless the animal is eligible for an exemption.

Microchipping

Owners of dogs and cats in the Mid Murray Council must have their pets microchipped and this information recorded within the DACO system.

Pursuant to Section 42A of the Act, all dogs and cats must be microchipped by 12 weeks of age or at the point of sale.

Council staff are equipped to scan stray or lost animals for microchips, so we can re-unite owners with lost pets as quickly as possible. Owners are reminded to review and update their contact details regularly.

A high percentage of dogs within the Council area are microchipped, which provides

valuable identification and opportunities to reunite lost dogs and owners.

Desexing

In 2018, the Act mandated the desexing of all dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018. Pursuant to Section 42E of the Act, dogs and cats must be desexed before the age of six (6) months, or within 28 days of possession.

Puppies

To assist with the requirements, and encourage timely registration of puppies, Council sets a puppy registration fee at the same rate as a Standard Dog so that owners of a new puppy are not financially disadvantaged during the three (3) month gap between the dog needing to be registered and it needing to be desexed.

Exemptions

The Act and Regulations do provide some exemptions to mandatory desexing for the following:

- working livestock dogs;
- breeding Dogs registered with Dogs SA;
- breeding Cats belonging to a Feline Association of South Australia or Cat Fancy of SA members;
- greyhounds currently registered to Greyhound Racing SA (retired not exempt).

Any exemption is to be recorded directly into DACO on the animal's record. Veterinary Surgeons may also exempt a dog or cat from microchipping or desexing if satisfied the procedure would:

- pose an undue risk to the health of the dog or cat; or
- adversely affect the growth, development or wellbeing of the dog or cat.

In every case where an exemption is provided by a Veterinary Surgeon, a certificate of exemption must be provided to the pet owner, and proof provided to Council and recorded on DACO.

Minimising Nuisance

Minimising public and environmental nuisance caused by dogs and cats is a key component of Mid Murray Council's approach for the life of this Plan. Encouraging responsible ownership and providing the community with an understanding of their responsibilities, will contribute to a community that benefits from reduced public and environmental nuisance caused by owned dogs and cats.

Children and Pets

Anecdotally, there are benefits for children growing up with pets. Ranging from health and exercise, to care, compassion and responsibility. It is critical that children are supervised around dogs.

Breeders and Sellers

The management of the breeder registration scheme is undertaken by the DCM Board. All associated registration fees are retained by the DCM Board. The scheme was introduced to

regulate the breeding and selling of dogs and cats with the aim to reduce the number of animals ending up in shelters, to reduce unwanted litters and reduce the instances of puppy farms.

In November 2022 the DCM Board advised that new rules and processes to meet the government's commitment to ban puppy factories and introduce stricter standards for breeding would be progressively implemented. The *Dog and Cat Management (Breeder Reforms) Amendment Act 2024* has been presented to Parliament and is anticipated to be implemented in late 2025. Council will ensure that it is taking steps to fulfil its obligations under the Act in relation to breeders.

Promoting Responsible Dog Management

Overview of Dogs in Mid Murray Council

The data below shows steady increases in dog registration and microchipping rates, alongside a gradual decline in desexing and fewer dogs being impounded over time.

Category	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
Dogs registered	2,766	2,945	3,041	3,114	3,143	3,019
Microchipped (%)	93%	95%	95%	96%	97%	97%
Desexed (%)	70%	70%	69%	66%	65%	63%
Dogs collected and RTO*	31	21	25	10	13	
Dogs impounded	56	24	30	8	9	
Dogs impounded and RTO*	41	16	22	5	6	

*RTO = returned to owner

Dogs in Public Places

Dog ownership promotes regular physical activity and fosters social interaction, offering numerous benefits for both pets and their owners. However, dogs must be kept under effective control whether off-leash in designated areas or on-leash in public spaces such as streets and roads. Council supports off-leash exercise in suitable locations but emphasises the importance of educating owners to use a lead if their dog cannot be reliably controlled when off-leash.

Dog Parks

Council is committed to dog-free areas, dog-on-leash areas, and dog exercise areas under Council's care and control.

Control	Description
Dog on Leash	Where dogs must be exercised on leash
Dog Free	Where dogs are not permitted - on or off leash
Dog Exercise	Where dogs can be exercised off leash and under effective control

Council presently has the following Dog Parks where dogs may be exercised off the leash and under effective control.

A number of off leash reserves and enclosed dog parks are provided for the enjoyment of dogs and their owners within the Council District. The locations of each area and a brief description of the parks is provided below.

Blanchetown

The unfenced Blanchetown Off Leash area is known as the old football oval and located in close proximity to the River Murray.

Cadell

The Cadell Oval Off Leash area is located on the outskirts of Cadell on Dalzell Road, and provides a fenced exercise area, shared by campers and other recreational users. The area provides a great open space area and is extremely popular with visitors to the area.

Cambrai

Rhine Villa Reserve Dog Exercise Area is located on the outskirts of town on Ridley Road, approximately 800 metres south of the township. The area is unfenced, and only trained dogs are encouraged to be exercised off the lead here.

Greenways

The Greenways Off-Leash exercise area is located at the Greenways Oval on Bakara Road, Greenways.

Mannum

Gass Reserve Off Leash area is located on Purnong Road, Mannum. This park is not enclosed and is not suitable for untrained dogs.

The Mannum Enclosed Off Leash Park is a fully enclosed dog park. The Park is located at the main oval precinct on North Terrace, between the football oval and netball/tennis courts.

Morgan

The Morgan Off Leash area is located on Oval Road, Morgan, immediately downstream from the Morgan Caravan Park.

Palmer

Collier Park Off Leash area is located in Palmer within the oval precinct. The oval entrance is located on the corner of Randell Road and Olive Grove Avenue, Palmer.

Swan Reach

The Swan Reach Off Leash Area is located on the river's edge immediately upstream of the Swan Reach ferry, on Victoria Street.

Truro

The Truro Enclosed Off Leash Park is located at Pioneer Park on Moorundie Street.

There are no parks or reserves in the Council area where dogs are prohibited however restrictions are in place for enclosed playgrounds. In all other public places dogs must be under effective control by means of physical restraint.

Minimising Dog Incidents

One of the main causes of dog incidents or unwanted approaches is a result of inadequate fencing to secure the dog to a property; or not having the dog under effective control in public places. Dogs that wander can be a threat to livestock, other animals and the community, particularly children and the elderly. Council places a high priority on ensuring effective containment and control over dogs and encourages matters to be reported to Council.

Council will work with owners to ensure adequate confinement. However, in situations of regular or persistent wandering, a sterner approach may be applied in accordance with Council's *Enforcement Policy*.

Dogs and Livestock

Confining dogs to a property is critical to reducing instances of dogs impacting on livestock. It is important that dog owners are aware of their legal obligations and potential consequences when dogs are involved in chasing, harassing or attacking livestock. A dog chasing livestock or being in a livestock enclosure can cause distress and injury to the other animals.

All Dogs Can Bite

Dog bites can occur for various reasons, including fear, anxiety, guarding food or possessions, territorial behaviour, or reacting instinctively to a situation. These incidents may happen in both public and private settings. To address this, Council will promote resources from the DCM Board and explore education initiatives aimed at raising awareness. This may include engaging with local dog behaviourists to support early socialisation, training, and understanding of canine body language.

Dog Control Services

Reuniting Dogs and Owners

Council strives to ensure that dogs found wandering are returned to their owners as soon as possible. This reduces stress on both the dog and owner. A high percentage of dogs found wandering are reunited with their owners the same day due to up-to-date accurate information in DACO.

Excessive Barking

Whilst barking is a natural behaviour in dogs, excessive barking is a commonly reported problem and can be a source of frustration for neighbours. Owners are often unaware of their dog's behaviour and the nuisance it is causing.

Excessive barking is an unwanted behaviour which can be caused by a range of factors. Identifying the cause is important. Council officers will assist residents and work to resolve nuisance barking as soon as possible, by providing education and advice to dog owners based on data collected by affected neighbours. For more prolonged or severe cases, legislation allows for a more formal approach which can include issuing Control Orders or expiations notices if supported by evidence.

Dog Holding Facility

Council operates a purpose-built facility to accommodate dogs on a short-term basis locally, until owners are found. This assists in reuniting dogs and owners as soon as possible.

Promoting Responsible Cat Management

Overview of Cats in Mid Murray

With the legislative reforms in 2018 came an increased focus on cat management. The changes to the Act provided mandatory microchipping and desexing requirements, and in association with the introduction of DACO, provided a central location to record cat microchip registration data.

The following table outlines the number of cats registered, micro-chipped and desexed in DACO. However, many owners do not update or renew their registration each year, so the data below does not reflect the true number of pet cats within the Council area.

Category	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Cats Registered	107	202	374	421	384	388
Microchipped	96%	97%	97%	94%	96%	95%
Desexed	93%	90%	89%	91%	89%	89%

Responsible Cat Ownership

Council provides a range of education information to the community in various forms including electronic and printed material as well as advice in person. Educating the community on responsible cat ownership will be a key focus. Particularly in relation to desexing, microchipping, identification, and registration on DACO.

A Cat is Happiest at Home

Cats that are allowed to wander are a source of nuisance and can impact both the community and the environment. Cats prefer the safety, warmth and comfort of home. Council will continue to encourage responsible cat ownership to reduce negative impacts associated with wandering cats.

Cat Control Services

Stray Cats

Well-intentioned people may contribute to increases in the homeless cat populations by feeding unidentified or unowned cats. This can attract other cats to the area and encourages breeding which increases the problem.

Council will discourage residents feeding cats that they do not own. Instead, residents will be encouraged to take the cat to a vet or rescue organisation for scanning, or in the case of an unidentified cat, take full responsibility for the cat by desexing, microchipping and confining the cat.

Cat Nuisance

Council officers respond to nuisances caused by various animals, including owned cats. Compared to dogs, Council receives low numbers of complaints annually.

Local Perspective

Council has been educating the community for many years on responsible cat ownership. Issues of nuisance caused by owned cats is currently managed under the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016* however Council is actively engaged with the State Government's Cat Management Strategy to develop a Statewide approach to the management of both owned and unowned cat within the community.

Objectives and Strategies

The following Objectives and Strategies are proposed to be conducted by the team for 2025-2030.

THEME ONE: PROVIDE AND PROMOTE THE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF DOGS AND CATS		
OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITY MEASURE
Ensure compliance with legislative requirements of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*. **Ensure** that all income generated by registrations is expended in the administration and enforcement of the Act. **Maximise** the use of contemporary ICT systems and processes. **Provide** services that meet the needs of the community based on available data. **Ensure** that staff are trained and have the appropriate skills and knowledge.	**Undertake** annual reporting in accordance with DCM Board requirements. **Undertake** annual reviews to ensure that registration fees remain as affordable as possible, whilst balancing the resources required to meet the needs of the community. **Undertake** regular reviews of income and expenditure as part of Council's budgeting processes. **Ensure** all staff follow legislative requirements and set procedures that reflect legislation, best practices and industry standards. **Investigate** matters in line with Council's *Enforcement Policy*. **Provide** for training opportunities and upskilling of staff, to ensure best practice approaches are used. **Undertake** regular reviews of resourcing required to meet the needs of the community. **Undertake** a review of after-hours service levels based on data, community needs and WHS requirements. **Review** data annually to determine trends. **Encourage** the use of Dogs and Cats Online by dog and cat owners. **Investigate** and implement initiatives to increase convenience and communication with dog owners including SMS Messaging, Online Reporting and expanding use of social media. **Ensure** that Council's capital assets remain fit for purpose	**Annual** reports provided to DCM Board by required timeframe. **Legislative** compliance. **Number** of training opportunities attended by officers. **Number** of after-hours requests requiring attendance. **Increase** usage of Dogs and Cats Online. **Number** of Dog and Cat related requests received.

THEME ONE: PROVIDE AND PROMOTE THE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF DOGS AND CATS		
OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITY MEASURE
	and meet legislative requirements. **Encourage** matters to be reported to Council for investigation.	

THEME TWO: PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP		
OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITY MEASURE
Foster and encourage voluntary compliance in the community. **Maximise** desexing and microchipping of dogs and cats. **Maximise** Dog Registration. **Encourage** obedience training and early socialisation of dogs. **Minimise** the number of dogs transferred to rescue organisations.	**Provide** for an education-first approach to promote voluntary compliance within the community. **Be** visible in the community and promote Council's role in Animal Management, including success stories, to educate the community on important issues. **Be** a reference for information & advice for the community. **Promote** important messaging and information through social and printed media. **Investigate** opportunities to educate the community. **Increase** number of online registrations to maximise identification of dogs and cats and revenue. **Encourage** and promote physical identification of dogs and cats, in addition to Microchipping to reunite pets and owners promptly. **Provide** information on the benefits of desexing, microchipping and registration. **Enforce** legislative requirements for unregistered dogs. **Utilise** roadside signage to promote key messaging, including dog registration. **Regularly** review online content such as websites and the use of social media to engage with the community.	**Number** of website visits and online engagements. **Minimal** number of animals being transferred to shelters and rescue organisations. **Maximise** return to owner rate of dogs and cats - and minimise time spent missing. **Maximise** compliance rate of dog registrations. **Display** signage annually across Council region at key times. **Number** of social media and online engagements.

THEME THREE: MINIMISE PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCE CAUSED BY DOGS		
OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	MEASURE
Address and minimise nuisance issues including wandering at large, excessive barking and dog incidents. **Provide** suitable areas for off-leash and on-leash exercise and ensure such areas are being used appropriately by dog owners.	**Encourage** the community to report dog wandering to Council for investigation. **Encourage** the community to report all dog harassment or attack incidents to Council for investigation. **Limit** numbers of dogs that can be kept in applicable properties via by-laws. **Investigate** and manage dog incidents in line with best practice, legal advice and DCM Board Guidelines. **Review** data annually for trends or opportunities. **Provide** a regulatory focus for ongoing, repeat or serious matters. **Regularly** review the use of public reserves for suitability for on-leash or off-leash exercise ensure they meet the needs of the whole community, including non-dog owners. **Review** and update signage at relevant Council reserves and shared use trails. **Undertake** proactive and reactive patrols of public areas including dog parks, off leash areas and shared used trails to educate the community on responsibilities and requirements. **Ensure** dog bag dispensers are appropriately placed and refilled to maximise use by owners. **Educate** and increase the awareness of requirements for on-leash areas, including roads and footpaths. **Encourage** and promote the requirement for dogs to be kept	**Number** of requests relating to nuisance dog issues. **Number** of barking inquiries that proceed to investigation. **Reduction** in serious or repeat incidents. **Signage** is relevant, current and meets the needs of the community. **Maintain** roll out of dog bag dispensers in parks, reserves and open spaces. **Reduction** in reports of owners not picking up after their dogs. **Minimal** instances of dogs being exercised off leash on roads and footpaths. **Increased** public awareness of effective control and reduction in associated issues.

THEME THREE: MINIMISE PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCE CAUSED BY DOGS		
OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	MEASURE
	on leash if they cannot be kept under effective control. **Ensure** incident data is recorded on Dogs and Cats Online. **Ensure** signage is current, visible and easily understood. **Promote** the DCM Board's education material in printed, online and social media formats.	

THEME FOUR: ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE CAT OWNERSHIP TO MINIMISE PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCE		
OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITY MEASURE
Promote and encourage responsible cat ownership. **Minimise** nuisances associated with wandering cats.	**Encourage** the use and uptake of Dogs and Cats Online by cat owners. **Educate** owners on microchipping and desexing requirements. **Provide** and regularly review online content encouraging responsible cat ownership. **Promote** discounted microchipping opportunities or organisations. **Distribute** DCM Board printed educational material in Council offices **Enforce** mandatory desexing and microchipping requirements. **Encourage** confinement of cats. **Utilise** nuisance legislation where required. **Discourage** the feeding of stray, unowned or semi-owned cats. **Use** and promote education material on Council's website and social media platforms.	**Increased** number of cats registered on Dogs and Cats Online annually. **Increase** uptake of online registrations. **Number** of requests relating to nuisance cat issues. **Number** of online page views, visits and engagements. **Increased** number of cats returned to owner via microchip. **Increased** number of cats on DACO desexed and microchipped.

Reference Material

Government of South Australia, Dog and Cat Management Board	Dog and Cat Management Act 1995
Government of South Australia, Dog and Cat Management Board	Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2017
Government of South Australia, Dog and Cat Management Board	Dog and Cat Management Guideline Plan of Management relating to Dogs and Cats
Government of South Australia	Expiation of Offences Act 1996
Government of South Australia	Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016
Mid Murray Council	Community Development Strategy
Mid Murray Council	Strategic Plan 2024-2028
Mid Murray Council	Council's Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan
Mid Murray Council	Dog By-law Number 5 2018
Mid Murray Council	Cat By-Law Number 6 2018

Appendix A: Dog Park Locations

Blanchetown

Old Football Oval, McPhee Avenue

Cadell

Cadell Oval

Cambrai

Rhine Villa Reserve, Ridley Road

Greenways

Greenways Oval

Mannum

Mannum Oval Enclosed Off-leash Park

Gass Reserve, Purnong Road

Morgan

Morgan Off-leash Park, Oval Road

Palmer

Collier Park, Adelaide Road

Swan Reach

Hotel Waterfront Reserve

Truro

Pioneer Park Enclosed Off-leash Park