

Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025-2030

Submissions Summary Report

July 2025

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Introduction

On 28 May 2025 Council publicly notified the *Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025-2030* and invited submissions (See **Appendices 1 -3**).

Seventeen (17) submissions were received at the close of the engagement period.

Council prepares a Submissions Summary Report. Council's summary essentially lists the main points made by each submitter, and what outcome they seek from Council's decisions. All non-confidential submissions are available in **Appendix 4**.

Where amendments have been sought by a submitter, red underlined text has been used to indicate recommended additions to the provision and red strikethrough to indicate recommendations for the removal of the proposed text.

It should be noted that the Response and Action columns are draft recommendations presented to Council as part of the decision-making process. Consequently, Council may resolve to accept them with or without amendments in the final document.

Privacy

Please note that only the name and location of each submitter is detailed in the report. All personal details in the original submission contained in the appendices are redacted to maintain privacy.

Any commentary that is considered defamatory or inappropriate have been redacted.

Submission Summary and Response

Carolyn O'Callaghan, Truro

Submission 1 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
1.1	General	Considers that the strategies are excellent, and would like to encourage people to get their cats and dogs desexed.	Adding information about what support there is to get reduced costs and higher fines for unnecessary puppies.	The <i>Dog and Cat Management Act</i> mandated the desexing of all dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018. Pursuant to Section 42E of the Act Council will continue to educate on responsible cat ownership and develop a strategy for enforcing mandatory desexing and microchipping.	No amendment.
1.2	Dog Parks Page 9	Existing dog park in Truro is unsuitable; suggests fencing Truro Oval.	Fence Truro Oval for off-leash dog use.	Costs associated with fencing the oval would be expensive and constrict the use of the oval. Potential for upgrades to existing dog park in future planning and budget.	No amendment.

Ann-marie Wiseman, Mannum

Submission 2 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
2.1	Cat Management	Better cat management action.	Stronger enforcement on roaming cats.	Council will continue to educate the community on responsible cat management. Encourage the confinement of cats.	No amendment.

Henny Wyman, Mannum

Submission 3 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
3.1	Cat Management	Lack of cat curfew in draft plan.	Introduce a cat curfew.	Council will continue to educate the community on responsible cat management. Encourage the confinement of cats.	No amendment.

Kendra Radford, Wongulla

Submission 4 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
4.1	Cat Management	Cats, roaming, destroying wildlife.	Make roaming illegal, impose large fines.	Council will continue to educate the community on responsible cat management. Encourage the confinement of cats.	No amendment.

Marjut Maenpaa, Mannum

Submission 5 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
5.1	General	Formatting of the document.	All tables should be numbered & preferably titled.	Agree.	Amend to include numbering and titles.
5.2	Microchipping Page 4	Statement "... a high percentage of dogs within the Council area are microchipped" linked to table statistics.	Amend to reflect that statement is linked to table on page 7.	Agree.	Amend statement to reference Table.
5.3	Minimising Nuisance Page 5	Statement "... providing the community with an understanding of their responsibilities".	It is unclear how the Council will achieve this or has previously gone about it.	Promote responsible pet ownership on Council's social media platforms to engage with the community.	No amendment.
5.4	Objectives and Strategies Page 14	Statement "Investigate opportunities to educate the community" to vague.	Make the strategy intent clear.	Disagree, strategy statement is clear within the context of the Theme.	No amendment.
5.5	Page 7	Organisation – The table going across the two columns makes the text regarding dog parks difficult to follow.	Amend formatting for ease of readability.	Agree.	Amendment formatting of page.
5.6	Dog parks Page 7	No reference is made to Appendix A the aerial images of the dog parks [as per 2020 plan].	Include reference to Appendix A	Agree.	Amend to include reference to Appendix A.
5.7	Dog parks Page 7	Aerial images in Appendix A to have outline drawn to indicate the position of the dog park as [per 2020 plan].	Include outline of Dog Park in Appendix A.	Agree.	Amend Appendix A.

5.8	Dog parks Page 7	The descriptions for the dog park are inconsistent. e.g. fenced, or unfenced and perhaps would be more readable in a table format.	Insert table for ease of reading.	Disagree, Individual dog parks indicate if off or on leash. The current format is easy to read.	No amendment.
5.9	Dogs in Public Places Page 7	The table of "Control and Descriptions" is not referred to in the text and thus appears to have no relevance.	Include a reference to Control and Description with add Table 2 so it can be identified.	Agree.	Amend to reference to Table 2 "Control and Description" under Dog Parks section. Insert Table 2 Dog and Control measures as reference.
5.10	Dog parks	I was unable to locate a list of dog parks on the MMC website is there one?	Add list to MMC website.	Agree.	Once final Plan has been adopted, it will be added to the Council website.
5.11	Council responsibilities Page 2	Why are statements numbered 2 and 3 for dogs not combined into a single statement akin to statement number 4 for cats?	Combine statements 2 and 3.	Agree.	Amend statements 2 and 3 into one statement.
5.12	All Dogs Can Bite Page 9	"This may include engaging with local dog behaviourists to support early socialisation, training, and understanding of canine body language". This statement is a little restrictive [e.g. "local" and type of support available i.e. qualified dog behaviourists are very rare].	Reword as "This may include engaging with dog behaviourists, training clubs and veterinarians to support early socialisation, training, and understanding of canine body language".	Agree.	Amend to read "This may include engaging with dog behaviourists, training clubs and veterinarians to support early socialisation, training, and understanding of canine body language".

5.13	Page 8	Will the MMC consider a discount on dog registrations for dogs reaching a certain standard of training?	Discount fees.	Dog registration fees have been set for the 2025/26 financial year. Fees are for a Standard-Dog or Non-Standard dog. A standard dog or cat is if it has been desexed and microchipped and a Non-standard dog or cat is if it has NOT been desexed or microchipped. This is not based on the behaviour of the dog or cat.	No amendment.
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Rebecca Fettke, Morgan

Submission 6 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
6.1	Cat Management	The number of cats straying at night, impacting dog behaviour and bird life.	Mandatory desexing.	The <i>Dog and Cat Management Act</i> mandated the desexing of all dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018. Pursuant to Section 42E of the Act. Council will continue to educate responsible cat ownership.	No amendment.

Merry Porter, Mannum

Submission 7 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
7.1	Dog parks	Off-leash dog park at Mary Ann Reserve.	Off-leash dog park at Mary Ann Reserve before 10am for well-behaved dogs.	It would be difficult for Council to enforce rules for dogs that are generally well-behaved. A dog park on Mary Ann Reserve would reduce area for the public use.	No amendment.

Mark Davis, Cadell

Submission 8 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
8.1	Cat Management	Cats should be contained at all times.	Implement a cat wandering curfew.	Council will continue to encourage responsible cat ownership. Anticipate this to be included in the Cat Management Strategy.	No amendment.

Tracey Mattin, Cambrai

Submission 9 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
9.1	Full report	Great information in this Management Plan.	Nil.	Noted.	No amendment.

Colleen Walker, Mannum

Submission 10 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
10.1	Cat management	Plan covers most areas but feels the cat control could be expanded. Cat owners should keep their cats inside at night.	Implement a cat curfew.	Council will continue to encourage responsible cat ownership. Covered by the Cat Management Strategy, once implemented.	No amendment.

Suzi Whiteclaw, Clare

Submission 11 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
11.1	Cat Management	Critical of Council finding ways to control people and take their money. Not doing anything about cats wandering.	Nil.	Noted. Council will continue to encourage responsible cat ownership. Covered by the Cat Management Strategy, once implemented.	No amendment.

Deidre Stevens, Mannum

Submission 12 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
12.1	Cat management	Curfew would be fantastic, but has to be 24 hours.	Implement a 24 hour cat curfew.	Council will continue to encourage responsible cat ownership to reduce wandering cats. Covered under Cat Management Strategy.	No amendment.

Julie McShanag, Mannum

Submission 13 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
13.1	Cat management	The need for by-laws regarding cats.	All cats should be inside or in cat enclosures at all times.	Council's By-law 6 relates to cats. The By-Laws are currently under review.	No amendment.
13.2	General	Mannum oval maintenance.	Regular maintenance, gates are broken, no dog litter bags.	Noted.	Advised Infrastructure team of maintenance concerns.

Alex Nikolic, Cowirra

Submission 14 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
14.1	Cat management	Rural vs Town cat control, cat control in towns is valid, unsure how to enforce desexing and microchipping by irresponsible people.	Nil.	The <i>Dog and Cat Management Act</i> 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 6 months, or within 28 days of possession. Council will continue to encourage responsible cat ownership. Anticipate this to be included in the Cat Management Strategy.	No amendment.

Cheryl Brentson, Mannum

Submission 15 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
15.1	Cat management	Cat curfew like other Council's. cats should be contained inside or in a cat cage. Dogs aren't allowed to wonder so why are cats?	Implement a cat curfew.	Council will continue to encourage responsible cat ownership to reduce wandering cats. Anticipate this to be included in the Cat Management Strategy.	No amendment.

John, Blanchetown

Submission 16 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
16.1	Cat management	Criticises of Council's inaction on cat management, accusing it of ignoring ongoing feral cat issues, lacking enforcement, and using token measures instead of implementing serious regulations like mandatory desexing, microchipping, and penalties.	Introduce mandatory desexing microchipping and registration for cats and tough penalties for those that allow the cats to roam free.	Council will continue to encourage responsible cat ownership to reduce wandering cats. Anticipate this to be included in the Cat Management Strategy.	No amendment.

Sue Smalldon, Cowirra

Submission 17 Point	Provision	Submission Point Summary	Decision Sought	Response	Action
17.1	Dog parks	Would like designated dog off-leash swimming area near the Bolto camping grounds in Mannum.	Designated off leash swimming area.	Dogs are permitted to swim in areas where off-leash reserves provide access to the river, such as at Gass Reserve.	No amendment.
17.2	Dog Parks	Inadequate off leash areas throughout South Australia and especially in Mid Murray Council. Queensland Council examples provided.	More designated off leash area within the Council area. Better information.	Potential for new dog parks to be considered as part of future planning and budget.	No amendment.

17.3	Cat Management	Suggests that rural and semi-rural cats should be acknowledged for their role in controlling pest species like rats and rabbits.	Acknowledgement of cat's role in controlling pest species.	Cat controlling pest species may be covered in the State-wide Cat Management Strategy. Council will continue to educate the community on responsible cat ownership.	No amendment.
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Appendix

Appendix 1 – Public Notice



Council is currently seeking feedback on the following:

Privately Funded Code Amendment Policy

Mid Murray Council resolved to endorse a new *Privately Funded Code Amendment Policy*.

The Policy seeks to establish clear principles for considering a privately funded Code Amendment under Section 73 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025-2030

Council has reviewed and updated its Plan for the management of dogs and cats over the next five years, fulfilling Council's obligations under Section 26A of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.

The Plan provides the framework for Council's priorities and services delivered to the community.

Where to obtain copies

A copy of the draft Policy and Plan are available for inspection on Council's website www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au or at Council Offices located at Mannum, Cambrai, Morgan or Blanchetown.

How to provide feedback

Feedback on the draft Policy and Plan is welcome with written submissions to be received no later than 5:00pm Friday 27 June 2025 by email to postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au or by post to PO Box 28, Mannum SA 5238.

For more information, contact Executive Assistant – Development and Community Services, Melissa Marschall on 8569 0100.

Ben Scales
Chief Executive Officer

Appendix 2 – Social Media Posts

Posts published on 30 May 2025 and 10 June 2025

Council has prepared a draft Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025-2030 for the management of dogs and cats over the next five years.

Council has released the draft Plan and is inviting feedback from the community.

To view the draft Plan and provide feedback, please visit Council's Your Say page at <https://engagement.mid-murray.sa.gov.au/>

Consultation closes at 5pm Friday 27 June 2025.



Post published on 23 June 2025

! Finishes Friday !

Council has prepared a draft Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025-2030 for the management of dogs and cats over the next five years.

Council has released the draft Plan and is inviting feedback from the community.

To view the draft Plan and provide feedback, please visit Council's Your Say page at <https://engagement.mid-murray.sa.gov.au/>

Consultation closes at 5pm Friday 27 June 2025.



Appendix 3 – Email to Subscribers

From: MMC Communications
Sent: Tuesday, 3 June 2025 3:31 PM
Subject: Public Consultation - Draft Privately Funded Code Amendment Policy and Draft Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025 – 2030

Dear Mid Murray Council subscriber,

Council is currently seeking community feedback on the following:

Draft Privately Funded Code Amendment Policy

The *Draft Privately Funded Code Amendment Policy* seeks to establish clear principles for considering a privately funded Code Amendment under Section 73 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

For more information and to view the *Draft Privately Funded Code Amendment Policy* please visit Council's [Your Say](#).

Draft Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025 – 2030

Council has reviewed and updated its Plan for the management of dogs and cats over the next five years, fulfilling Council's obligations under Section 26A of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.

The Plan provides the framework for Council's priorities and services delivered to the community.

For more information and to view the *Draft Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025 – 2030* please visit Council's [Your Say](#).

Where to obtain copies

A copy of the draft Policy and Plan are available on Council's [Your Say](#) or at Council Offices located at Mannum, Cambrai, Morgan or Blanchetown.

How to provide feedback

Written submissions are invited on the draft Policy and Plan and will be received by the Chief Executive Officer, Mid Murray Council, PO Box 28, Mannum SA 5238, or email postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au; or via the feedback forms on Council's [Your Say](#) until 5pm Friday 27 June 2025.

[Click here](#) to unsubscribe.

Mid Murray Council
PO Box 28, Mannum SA 5238
T: 08 8569 0100
Email: postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au
Web: www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au

Appendix 4 – Submissions

Mid Murray Your Say

Feedback Form - Draft Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025-2030 Results

May 29, 2025 - Jun 17, 2025

Project: Draft Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025-2030

Form: Feedback Form - Draft Dog and Cat Management Plan 2025-2030

Tool Type: Form

Activity ID: 10

Exported: 2025-06-30 09:08:35

Exported By: NVivian

Filter By: No filters applied.

Response No:
1

Contribution ID: 50

Member ID:

Date Submitted: Jun 17, 2025, 08:19 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text

Carolyn

Q2 Last Name

Short Text

O'callaghan

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text

Truro

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

I think the strategies are excellent, but would encourage people to get their cats and dogs desexed by adding information of what support can get to get reduced costs, higher fines for unnecessary puppy's. As a resident of Truro, our dog closed in area is absolutely not suitable, I would love to see the Truro oval fenced with farm fencing, so we can use this as an off leash area due to our busy main road. It wouldn't cost that much and it would be of great benefit for our town. Closed obviously when the boys are playing cricket.

Response No:
2

Contribution ID: 48

Member ID:

Date Submitted: Jun 12, 2025, 03:49 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text

Ann-marie

Q2 Last Name

Short Text

Wiseman

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text

Mannum

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

Some Thing Needed To Be Done About Cats That Are Out About At Night Pooing In People Front yards

Response No:
3

Contribution ID: 47

Member ID:

Date Submitted: Jun 12, 2025, 03:11 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text Henny

Q2 Last Name

Short Text Wyman

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text Mannum

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

I may be not seeing it in draft but I see no mention of curfew for cats. It is high time for this to be introduced to our council region as it is in others.
It would be nice to see this regulation included.

Response No:
4

Contribution ID: 44

Member ID:

Date Submitted: Jun 08, 2025, 08:48 AM

Q1 First Name

Short Text

Kendra

Q2 Last Name

Short Text

Radford

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text

Wongulla

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

Please consider making it illegal for cats to roam outside and destroy our wildlife. Huge fines would encourage compliance

Q1 First Name

Short Text Marjut

Q2 Last Name

Short Text Maenpaa

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text Mannum

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

Having looked at the 2020 animal management plan I believe there was a lot more going for it in terms of layout, content, and readability.
Feedback on the 2025-2030 version:

1. All tables should be numbered & preferably titled [eg. Table 1: Dog registrations, microchipping & impounding data] for ease of reference across the document rather than geographical statements like "table below".
2. re: page 4 statement "...a high percentage of dogs within the Council area are microchipped".
Statistics for this is I believe based on registered dogs as per the table on page 7 and so this statement should be amended to reflect this.
3. re: page 5 statement "...providing the community with an understanding of their responsibilities". It is unclear how the Council will achieve this or has previously gone about it, statements like "Investigate opportunities to educate the community", in Theme 2 on page 14 are vague.
4. re: page 7 organisation
The table going across the two columns makes the text regarding dog parks difficult to follow.
5. re: page 7 dog parks
 - a. No reference is made to Appendix A the aerial images of the dog parks [as per 2020 plan].
 - b. The aerial images would be more useful if they had an outline drawn to indicate the position of the dog park as per 2020 plan.
 - c. The descriptions for the dog park are inconsistent. eg. fenced, or unfenced and perhaps would be more readable in table format.
 - d. The table of "Control and Descriptions" is not referred to in the text and thus appears to have no relevance.
 - e. I was unable to locate a list of dog parks on the MMC website is there one?
6. re: page 2 why are statements numbered 2 & 3 for dogs not combined into a single statement akin to statement number 4 for cats?
7. re: page 7 "This may include engaging with local dog behaviourists to support early socialisation, training, and understanding of canine body language"
This statement is a little restrictive [eg. "local" and type of support available ie. qualified dog behaviourists are very rare] perhaps would be better written as "This may include engaging with dog behaviourists, training clubs and veterinarians to support early socialisation, training, and understanding of canine body language".
8. Will the MMC consider a discount on dog registrations for dogs reaching a certain standard of training?

I could write more but hope that the feedback given above is at least considered.

Response No:
6

Contribution ID: 35

Member ID:

Date Submitted: Jun 03, 2025, 04:28 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text Rebecca

Q2 Last Name

Short Text Fettke

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text Morgan

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

The main issue we have in Morgan is the number of cats straying at night.
This is, for the most part, why dogs are barking.
I feel, within the town at least, all cats should be desexed and no breeding allowed.
I do believe every cat owner should have an enclosed outdoor cat run but I know people will not do that.
Catching and putting down needs to be done more.
We have noticed a large decrease in native bird life, and have witnessed many nests being preyed on and destroyed (on security camera) during spring last year.
We do everything we can within our property to make it a beautiful place for native birds, and we want them all to return.

Response No:
7

Contribution ID: 34

Member ID:

Date Submitted: Jun 03, 2025, 04:18 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text Merry

Q2 Last Name

Short Text Porter

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text Mannum

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

I would like to have Off the leash dog times at Maryanne Reserve before 10am for well behaved dogs.
A fenced section on Gass Reserve. The section with out any parking bays. This will make it safe for both dogs, toddlers and birds... they would have to fly over the road instead of many getting killed or injured by uncaring fast drivers.

Response No:
8

Contribution ID: 32

Member ID:

Date Submitted: Jun 03, 2025, 04:13 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text

Mark

Q2 Last Name

Short Text

Davis

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text

Cadell

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

I believe cats should be confined at all times

Response No:
9

Contribution ID: 31

Member ID:

Date Submitted: Jun 03, 2025, 03:54 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text Tracey

Q2 Last Name

Short Text Mattin

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text Cambrai

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text Great information in this management.

Response No:
10

Contribution ID: 25

Member ID:

Date Submitted: Jun 01, 2025, 12:59 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text Colleen

Q2 Last Name

Short Text Walker

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text Mannum

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

The draft plan covers most options but in my opinion cat control could be expanded.

You may be aware there is a stray cat problem in some areas of Mannum and there seems to be a lack of understanding of the nature of cats as hunters, killing native wildlife even within the township.

I respectfully suggest that cat owners should keep their cats indoors at night. The cat curfew which Mount Barker has in place is incentive for cat owners to implement measures to prevent cats from escaping from their own property. I'm aware of responsible cat owners in my neighbourhood who have built cat runs or keep their cat indoors at all times which is healthier for the cat and protects native animals.

I believe that working towards a cat curfew (or animal curfew) at night would alleviate some of the issues.

Yours sincerely

Colleen Walker

Mannum

Response No:
11

Contribution ID: 22

Member ID:

Date Submitted: May 31, 2025, 04:55 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text Suzi

Q2 Last Name

Short Text Whiteclaw

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text Clare

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

Finding more ways to CONTROL people and take their money. Yep. Typical. You waste our money by putting TRAUMATIZING pictures in parks where children play. Are you INSANE? WHY DO YOU Want to TRAUMATIZE everyone? Wtf You think dogs should be on lead ALL THE TIME and that's just stupid. And picking up poo? It dries and turns to powder but hey... We need more landfill dont we? And you refuse to ever acknowledge that some pets are homeless like their owners but you don't care. Track and control.. track and control.. AND TAKE THEIR MONEY AND GIVE THEM NOTHING. My dog chases cats and I let him. You DO NOTHING about cats wandering. What a bunch of useless money grubbers you are. I hate you and everything you stand for.

Response No:
12

Contribution ID: 19

Member ID:

Date Submitted: May 30, 2025, 08:54 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text

Deirdre

Q2 Last Name

Short Text

Stephens

Q3 Email

Email

[REDACTED]

Q4 Suburb

Short Text

Mannum

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

Curfew would be fantastic but has to be 24 hours we keep our dog in our yard and if she goes out we clean up after her but we can't leave any food out for her as neighbourhood cats eat her biscuits and do their business on our back lawn

Response No:
13

Contribution ID: 15

Member ID:

Date Submitted: May 30, 2025, 01:56 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text Julie

Q2 Last Name

Short Text McShanag

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text Mannum

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

There needs to be by-laws in place regarding cats. All cats should be inside or in a catio/enclosure at all times. Cats do not need to wander. Many councils have these restrictions in place and so should Mid Murray Council. Mannum oval dog park receives very minimal input/maintenance by council. All four gates at the facility are broken and have been for well over 12 months. This has been reported several times. I have had to ask/email to request the poo bags be refilled on several occasions. Also for the bin to be emptied. The grounds are exclusively watered by the users of the park. I have had to ask for a section of lawn to be cut down in front of the water. The auto water filler often leaks and we have asked for this to be replaced/repared. On the occasions I have emailed issues - I never received a reply apart from the automated reply. I'm sure you can do better.

Response No:
14

Contribution ID: 14

Member ID:

Date Submitted: May 30, 2025, 01:44 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text

Alex

Q2 Last Name

Short Text

Nikolic

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text

Cowirra

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

I think within townships cat control is important, however on farms and low housing density areas not so much. The issue is with cats are that people are obtaining them via friends etc and not being responsible in having them desexed or microchipped. How do you manage and control that market?

Response No:
15

Contribution ID: 13

Member ID:

Date Submitted: May 30, 2025, 01:33 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text Cheryl

Q2 Last Name

Short Text Brentson

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text Mannum

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text

I would like to see a cat curfew at the minimum put in place like other councils. Ideally all cats should be contained inside or in a cat cage. The devastation to our wildlife cause by wondering cats is way to high. There are several studies done that up hold the need to lock cats away. The damage to personal property by cats coming in to peoples gardens and walking over cars. Not to mention it is safer for the cats to be locked inside or in an enclosure. Dogs are not permitted to wonder so why are cats?? People get very frustrated with wondering cats and take the law into their own hands. The take cats and dump them out bush. Which has a huge impact on the wildlife as well as the family that then are looking for their cats. Some people will even do horrible things to cats to make them disappear. Please mid murry join other councils in the fight to save our wild life and keep cats locked up.

Response No:
16

Contribution ID: 11

Member ID:

Date Submitted: May 29, 2025, 12:37 PM

Q1 First Name

Short Text john

Q2 Last Name

Short Text john

Q3 Email

Email

Q4 Suburb

Short Text blanchetown

Q5 Please provide your comments below

Long Text This council has sat on it's hands in regards to cats since amalgamations . They bragged at the time how much river and sensitive environs that they oversee yet never introduced a strong cat management program. I can produce countless letters to council about the major problems with feral cats and the people that breed them yet to this day NOTHING has been done except massive amounts of damage done by the cats running wild. I highly doubt council can or will ever have the balls to bring in mandatory desexing microchipping and registration for cats and tough penalties for those that allow the cats to roam free. Then there is the issue of the toothless tiger which is the council that won't even seriously tackle the issue of the feral cat breeders. I have come to the conclusion the the MMC is not serious about cat managment nor will it do anything to truly address it now or in the future. This is just a smoke and mirror scenario to be seen like they are doing something.

From: Sue Smalldon [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 11 June 2025 1:09 AM
To: Post Box
Subject: IEM10549-25 - 1/DCMA/1 - Dog and cat management draft - submission

please Find my submission regarding the draft cat and dog management plan

Mid Murray Council Submission

Dogs

Mannum needs a dog off leash area where dogs can swim freely near or adjacent to the camping areas at Bolto. The campers can't be expected to keep their dogs on a leash the entire time they are staying there. It's ridiculous to have river camping areas but dogs can't enjoy it with their owners. Other regions of Australia recognise dogs need some freedom especially in water areas where they can swim. For example Sunshine Coast and Fraser coast in Queensland. Extremely busy areas that recognise residents and visitors need to allow their dogs to run and swim. The area on the Mannum side near the ferries is not a good swimming area for dogs.

The Queensland examples below put the entire of South Australia to shame. There are inadequate off leash areas throughout South Australia and especially in Mid Murray Council areas. I find your lack of awareness is reflected in your 'dog and cat management plan 2025-2030'.

This is from Hervey Bay in Queensland

<https://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/dog-map>

- [Living and Community](#)
- [Animals and Pets](#)
- Dog Off-leash Areas

Dog off-leash areas

Council provides a number of dog off-leash areas across the Fraser Coast.

These areas provide the opportunity to play, exercise and socialise leash-free with other dogs and dog park visitors.

Dog off-leash areas can include facilities such as seating, water, dog waste bins/litter bag dispensers, and some shaded areas.

When attending an off leash area, you must ensure your:

- dog is under your control (for example: your dog will return to you when called).
- dog is not a nuisance to other dogs and their owners.
- dog's droppings are disposed of in the bins provided.
- dog is registered with Council, wormed regularly, and its vaccinations are up to date.

[INTERACTIVE MAP](#)

Dog off-leash etiquette 101

Council understands the importance of exercising and socialising your dog and has provided several designated off-leash areas where dog owners can safely exercise their animals.

However, despite your dog being the wiggliest, cuddliest, sweetest pup ever, their temperament can't prevent unexpected accidents.

Below is a list of current dog off-leash areas.

Council has recently installed separate play areas for small dogs and big dogs at the following dog parks: Neptune Street in Maryborough, Petersen Rd in Craignish, Brendan Hansen Park in Granville, Blaxland Rd and Julie-Anne Street in Urraween.

Here's their example along the extremely busy foreshore at Hervey Bay:

- [Point Vernon \(Foreshore\)](#)

Description

Point Vernon (Foreshore) - Between Aplin Street and the Pines Park (with the exception of the southern entry to 40m north of last playground).

Times allowed

24 Hours

Address

between Aplin Street and The Pines Park

- Point Vernon QLD 4655

This is from the Sunshine Coast.

They have a well developed plan in the Sunshine Coast with numerous dog off leash areas including many beach and river areas for dogs to swim. It's an extremely busy area with high resident numbers combined with high tourism numbers.

<https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/search?query=Dog+off+leash+areas+&collection=default&month=&year=&type=>

<https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/living-and-community/animals-and-pets/keeping-dogs/exercising-dogs/dog-parks-and-off-leash-areas>



For example- beach off leash areas



Mid-Murray Council need to consider an area adjacent to Bolto camping for dog off leash areas for dogs to swim freely near the camping spots.

Perhaps west:



I have noted very occasional cattle do access the pasture at the west. However there is never any cattle to the east, as per below.

Or perhaps east of them



You need to get with the times Mid Murray Council!

In addition council has recognised dog barking problems in this plan but where is the plan for human noise control? To palm off noise complaints to the police is a cop out. There is no permanent police presence. There are occasional parties by residents and by visitors and no way to keep the noise down. I can't see anything in the plan to address that issue.

Either remove the dog noise management issue or add in human noise but you can't have one without the other. Dogs bark when they hear fireworks, human parties, highly active holiday makers etc.

You can't have one without the other!

Cats

Pages 10 - 12 don't recognise the important role of cats in a rural setting. You've recognised working dogs but not working cats.

Cats keep rodents in check. Note figures below of rats cats are catching and therefore keeping numbers down. They also catch rabbits and are somewhat effective in keeping the number of rabbits down.

Unfortunately rabbits keep coming in because no one is keeping the numbers down elsewhere.

You require an additional paragraph: council recognises the important role of cats keeping invasive species, such as rats, mice and rabbit numbers down in rural, semi-rural and rural adjacent council areas, but also note the importance of conservation of native species.

There needs to be a balance. You could at least recognise cats keep pest species numbers down. In most cases where there are high pest species numbers there are low native species numbers because the pest species push the native species out. That's where cats come in! They deserve at least some form of recognition for that assistance to control pest numbers thanks.



Thanks for the opportunity to contribute to your plan.

Sue Smalldon

[REDACTED] Cowirra

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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