



LIGHT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Public Consultation: Draft Dog and Cat Management Plan

Dog and Cat Management Plan 2018-2022 –

Council has prepared a new *Dog and Cat Management Plan* to set its strategic direction for dog and cat management over the next five years. The new draft Plan aligns with legislative changes to the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 (the Act)* including mandatory desexing and microchipping of dogs and cats.

For example, did you know that under changes to the Act, **from 1 July 2018:**

- **All dogs and cats must be microchipped;**
- **All newly born dogs and cats must be microchipped by the time they are 12 weeks of age;**
- **All cats and dogs born after that date must be desexed by 6 months of age; and**
- **All dog and cat breeders must be registered with the Dog and Cat Management Board of SA.**

This draft Plan identifies a range of key focus areas including: dog registration, desexing and microchipping of dogs, wandering dogs, nuisance barking, pets in communities, provisions for dogs in public places (on-leash, off-leash and dog prohibited areas), community education, breeder registration and cat management.

Council established a Community Reference Group to help develop the Plan, which contributed local issues and ideas for the management of dogs and cats. These have been incorporated into the draft Plan and we hope you take the time to tell us what you think.

Have we missed anything? Did we get the balance right? Is there something you think we should include?

The draft Plan is now open for public consultation.

How to get involved?

- Go to the Council's website – www.light.sa.gov.au/dogs to **download the draft Plan** and complete a **feedback form**.
- Printed copies of the feedback form and the draft Plan can be picked up from Council offices during business hours.
- **Email suggestions and feedback** to: light@light.sa.gov.au – Subject line: Draft Dog & Cat Management Plan
- **Write to us:** Draft Dog & Cat Management Plan, c/o Light Regional Council, PO Box 72, Kapunda SA 5373
- **Call Council's Compliance Coordinator** to discuss the draft Plan on 8525 3200.

Public consultation closes: 5pm Friday, 9 March 2018