

Animal Management By-Law Review-Consultation Outcomes

01: Engagement Overview



260

Electronic/online
surveys received



6

Community
pop-up stalls



29

Social media
engagements



5

Targeted special
interest groups



39

Hard copy survey
submissions

02: Engagement Summary

Community feedback indicates overwhelming support for:

- ▶ the introduction of a range of new penalties for dog attacks and menaces;
- ▶ the ability for a dangerous dog declaration and associated provisions;
- ▶ the introduction of cat registration;
- ▶ compulsory microchipping for dogs and cats prior to registration; and
- ▶ the extension of animals at large offences to include cats and compulsory animal education attendance for nuisance barking.



94 % of respondents live in
Palmerston and 6% live in the rural
area or northern suburbs.

74% of survey respondents were rate
payers and 85 % identified
themselves as pet owners.



03: Key Consultation Respondents Outcomes



Nuisance Barking

- ▶ 80% supported compulsory education sessions for owners with nuisance barking dogs.
- ▶ 63% stated Council should have the power to order installation of a bark monitoring device.
- ▶ 63% provided that Council should have the ability to amend registration conditions.
- ▶ 35% believed that registration should not be cancelled for nuisance barking.



Dog Attack/Menaces

- ▶ 85% agreed there should be a 'sliding fine scale' for dog attacks reflecting severity of incidents.
- ▶ 91% agreed Council should have the ability to declare dogs dangerous and provide conditions to registration.
- ▶ 46% provided that Council should have the ability to cancel a dogs registration.



Other Nuisance Animals

- ▶ 65% provided that they had not experienced nuisance behaviors from other animals.
- ▶ 71% provided that they had not experienced problems relating to cat noises.



Licensing

- ▶ 83% agreed that Council should be able to assess licenses to own more than 2 cats or dogs.
- ▶ 80% provided that Council should assess a license application based on property size and dwelling type.
- ▶ 79% provided that cat(s) should be considered within a license application.
- ▶ 77% provided that an applicant should re-apply if address changes.



Cats

- ▶ 84% agree that at large offence should be applicable to cats.
- ▶ 84% agree that cat registration should be introduced.
- ▶ 60% do not believe Council rates should increase to cover expansion of services.



Microchipping

- ▶ 91% agreed that microchipping should be a condition of registration of dogs.
- ▶ 90% agreed that microchipping should be compulsory for cats, if cat registration is mandated.

04: Where to From Here?

The full process of by-law preparation and enactment can take between 18-24 months from initial and ongoing consultation, drafting, publication through to enactment. Council is committed to working in partnership with the community to make the delivery of the new by-laws as efficient as possible.

To access the full community consultation outcomes report go to: www.palmerston.nt.gov.au/bylawreview

