



PALMERSTON ANIMAL MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF MEETING WEDNESDAY, 26 JUNE 2019

The Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee Meeting of the City of Palmerston will be held in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston commencing at 5.00pm.

LUCCIO CERCARELLI
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PALMERSTON ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE **AGENDA**

CITY OF PALMERSTON

Notice of Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee Meeting
To be held in Council Chambers
Civic Plaza, Palmerston
on Wednesday 26 June 2019 at 5:00pm.

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2 OPENING OF MEETING

3 APOLOGIES

- 3.1 Apologies
- 3.2 Leave of Absence
- 3.3 Leave of Absence Request

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- 4.1 Committee Members
- 4.2 Staff

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- 5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee Meeting held Wednesday, 1 May 2019, be confirmed.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

7 OFFICER REPORTS

- 7.1 Receive and Note Reports

Nil.

- 7.2 Actions Reports

- 7.2.1 Action Report PAMAC9/019
- 7.2.2 Cat Management Education PAMAC9/020
- 7.2.3 Term Limits for Membership of Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee PAMAC9/021

8 OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.1 Facebook – Petition for Small Dog Park Michelle Walker
- 8.2 Community Animal Management Concerns Alderman Garden

PALMERSTON ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE **AGENDA**

9 NEXT MEETING

10 CLOSURE OF MEETING

PALMERSTON ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: 7.2.1

REPORT TITLE: Action Report

REPORT NUMBER: PAMAC9/019

MEETING DATE: 26 June 2019

Author: Director Governance and Regulatory Services, Chris Kelly

Approver: Chief Executive Officer, Luccio Cercarelli

COMMUNITY PLAN

Family and Community: Palmerston is a safe and family friendly community where everyone belongs.

PURPOSE

This report seeks to inform the Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee on the progress of previous actions.

KEY MESSAGES

- Following last month's meeting, two items have been removed.
- Two items are recommended for removal as they have been completed.
- There are no further items on the Action Report.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Report Number PAMAC9/019 entitled Action Report be received and noted.
2. THAT the following items be removed from the Action Report:
 - PAMRG/0054 – Cat Management
 - PAMRG/0125 – Membership Drive

BACKGROUND

At the previous meeting of 1 May 2019, the Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee made the following decisions:

7.2.1 Action Report PAMAC9/016

1. *THAT Report Number PAMAC9/016 entitled Action Report be received and noted.*
2. *THAT the following items be removed from the Action Report:*
 - *PAMRG/0118 – Amendments to the Terms of Reference*
 - *PAMRG/0127 – Responsible Pet Ownership*

CARRIED PAMAC9/0149 – 01/05/2019

PALMERSTON ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

A Place for People

This report provides an update on the items in the Action Report.

DISCUSSION

The table below contains the actions the Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee has requested Council staff address or provide further information on.

Action Item No.	Task Date	Decision	Status	Comment
PAMRG/0054	22/11/2018	THAT a report be prepared for February's meeting on cat management.	Item completed. Recommended for removal.	The Community Plan was adopted at the First Ordinary Council Meeting on 2 April 2019. This item has been reviewed by Council staff and a report is on this meeting's agenda.
PAMRG/0125	30/01/19	<p>Membership Drive</p> <p>THAT the Palmerston Animal Management Reference Group are to consider and forward to the Chair by 15 February 2019;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Who should be on the group? b) How many community members to be on the group? c) Timing of the meeting and frequency? d) What the current group's purpose is? <p>THAT Council consider as part of this item strategies to attract new members.</p>	Item completed. Recommended for removal.	This report was adopted by Council at the First Ordinary Meeting of 4 June 2019.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

There was no consultation required during the preparation of this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications for this report.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget or resource implications relating to this report.

RISK, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications relating to this report.

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no environment sustainability implications for this report.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

We the author and approving officer declare that we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

PALMERSTON ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

AGENDA ITEM:	7.2.2
REPORT TITLE:	Cat Management Education
REPORT NUMBER:	PAMAC9/020
MEETING DATE:	26 June 2019
Author:	Ranger Services Manager, Jeffrey Borella
Approver:	Director Governance and Regulatory Services, Chris Kelly

COMMUNITY PLAN

Family and Community: Palmerston is a safe and family friendly community where everyone belongs.

PURPOSE

This report seeks to inform the Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee on Council's cat management practices and initiatives.

KEY MESSAGES

- Action Item number PAMRG/0054 requested that a report be prepared on cat management.
- Elected Members and staff regularly engage with the community promoting key messages around ownership and Council provides cat traps for hire.
- Council also endorsed a report from this committee, for Council to provide a grant to an external agency to administer an animal de-sexing and microchipping program in Palmerston.
- Council's focus over the coming year will be education on responsible cat ownership.
- Council has approved a full-time position for an Animal Education Ranger to undertake several activities outlined in this report.
- Council staff will continue to proactively engage with Territory Housing to assist tenants with cat management issues.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report Number PAMAC9/020 entitled Cat Management be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

In the Action Report, Action Item number PAMRG/0054 requested that a report be prepared for February's meeting on cat management. As the Community Plan was adopted at the First Ordinary Council Meeting of 2 April 2019, this report is now provided for the committee's consideration.

Currently, to promote responsible cat ownership, Elected Members and staff regularly engage with the community at major community events promoting key messages around ownership, microchipping and de-sexing. Whilst the primary focus is on dogs, this education also extends to cats.

This committee recently recommended a report to Council, which was approved by Council, for Council to provide a grant to an external agency to administer an animal de-sexing and microchipping program.

A Place for People

The objective of this program is to reduce the population of unowned and stray, feral cats and dogs. It includes the requirement to microchip all cats prior to release and provide that information to Council.

Council also offers a cat trap hire service to enable residents to manage unowned or feral cats. As part of the 2019/2020 Budget development process, Council has reduced the level of fees to ensure affordability of cat trap hire for members of the community. Cat traps can be hired from Council's Customer Service Counter at Civic Plaza.

Cat trap hirers are strongly encouraged to take any trapped cats to a local vet for microchip scanning so if it is a domestic cat, it can be reunited with its owner. If the owner cannot be located or if there is no microchip, they may be handed to animal rescue groups or the RSPCA for rehoming. If the cat is feral or stray, a voucher is provided by Council to fund the veterinary costs to humanely dispose the animal, following an inspection.

DISCUSSION

Council's recently adopted Community Plan has two outcomes which relate to cat management, namely Palmerston is a safe and family friendly community where everyone belongs, and Palmerston is an environmentally friendly, liveable city that promotes renewable practices and sustainability.

Council currently does not regulate cat management through its By-Laws, however, Council encourages responsible cat ownership in the Palmerston municipality as there are several benefits from owning a cat. Over the coming year Council will focus its attention on educating cat owners on responsible cat ownership with new resources provided to complement existing initiatives.

The appointment of an Animal Education Ranger as part of the 2019/2020 budget will underpin a variety of education programs and initiatives to further educate cat owners around responsible cat management practices. It is anticipated that the new position would complement the existing strategies by undertaking the following:

- owner education on methods to mitigate nuisance through home visits and training, particularly in identified problem areas;
- advice on containment;
- accessing national school-based programs to deliver education to families on pet management; and
- overseeing and coordinating our animal management community events, producing promotional material and media releases to further enhance responsible animal management.

There may also be an opportunity to research and attend national forums to be aware of the latest devices, mechanisms or methodology around urban animal management. It is recommended that PAMAC monitor ongoing education initiatives and provide input and suggestions where appropriate.

Council staff also proactively engage with Territory Housing to assist tenants with animal management issues, including unwanted or feral cats. Council is advocating for Territory Housing to provide a member for this Committee to provide strategic input and guidance and engage with local stakeholders.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

There was no consultation involved in the preparation of this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council Policy REG02 *Feral Cat* is largely procedural, however it outlines Council's approach to feral cat management which is reflected in the report above.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget or resource implications relating to this report.

RISK, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications relating to this report.

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

As noted in this report, unowned or feral cats cause significant damage to the environment and Council has initiatives and additional resources to reduce the presence of unowned or feral cats.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

We the author and approving officer declare that we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

PALMERSTON ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

AGENDA ITEM:	7.2.3
REPORT TITLE:	Term Limits for Membership of Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee
REPORT NUMBER:	PAMAC9/021
MEETING DATE:	26 June 2019
Author:	Director Governance and Regulatory Services, Chris Kelly
Approver:	Chief Executive Officer, Luccio Cercarelli

COMMUNITY PLAN

Family and Community: Palmerston is a safe and family friendly community where everyone belongs.

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council approval for amendments to the Terms of Reference to set term limits for membership of the Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee.

KEY MESSAGES

- The Terms of Reference set a term limit of two years for membership, however do not contain transition provisions.
- It will be recommended as part of the upcoming recruitment campaign that new members be appointed for two years, expiring 30 June 2021.
- Current members will be asked to continue for a further 12 months to 30 June 2020.
- This will ensure that member changeover alternates to provide consistent external representation.
- Any member who fills a casual vacancy will do so for the balance of the term remaining.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Report Number 9/021 entitled Term Limits for Membership for Membership of Animal Management Advisory Committee be received and noted.
2. THAT the Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee recommend to Council that:
 - a. Existing external members of the Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee continue in their roles until 30 June 2020 at which time their membership will be declared vacant.
 - b. Any external member of the Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee who fills a casual vacancy will do so for the balance of the term remaining only.
 - c. Council write to existing members to inform them of the term limits.

BACKGROUND

At the 2nd Ordinary Council Meeting on 16 April 2019, Council made the following decision:

PALMERSTON ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

13.2.4 Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee Meeting – March 2019 9/0208

3. THAT Council approve the reviewed Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment B** to Report Number 9/0208 entitled Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee Meeting – March 2019 with minor amendment to the ordering of the Responsibilities of the Chairperson in section 3.2.

CARRIED 9/0587 – 16/04/2019

Section 2.3 of the Terms of Reference state that “all nominations are for a maximum of two years membership”, however there are no transition provisions. This report considers the how term limits of current and future Palmerston Animal Management Advisory Committee (PAMAC) members will operate.

DISCUSSION

Council recently approved a report to commence recruiting three new members to the PAMAC to fill current vacancies, namely a representative from Territory Housing, a veterinary representative and a community representative.

Since that report was approved, Council has approved a nomination to fill the community representative vacancy for a period of two years. Council has written to the Northern Territory Government, following up on informal discussions to secure a representative from Territory Housing and will shortly commence a recruitment campaign to fill the final vacancy. Consistent with the Terms of Reference, it will be recommended as part of the report with the outcomes of the recruitment that the veterinary specialist roles will be for two years, expiring on 30 June 2021, however the representative from Territory Housing will be an ongoing appointment of the candidate selected by Territory Housing.

It will be further recommended that the terms of the existing external members of PAMAC expire on 30 June 2020. This will ensure that external members rotate on offset two-year terms to ensure consistent representation and sharing of knowledge and experience. Future terms will be offered for two years to ensure that rotation continues. All members will be welcome to reapply at the end of their term, however it is recommended that Council undertake an open recruitment at the conclusion of each member's term.

To avoid any uncertainty, it is also being recommended that any member who fills a casual vacancy will do so for the balance of the term remaining only.

A schedule of terms for all members is at **Attachment A**. Elected Member representation on PAMAC is appointed by Council and is unaffected by these provisions.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

There was no consultation required during the preparation of this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications for this report.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

A Place for People

There are no budget or resource implications relating to this report.

RISK, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

No amendments are required to the Terms of Reference, as the recommendations of this report are implementing the two year term limits as outlined in the Terms of Reference.

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no environment sustainability implications for this report.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

We the author and approving officer declare that we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

SCHEDULE OF PAMAC MEMBER TERMS

Position	Member	Expiry Date
Chairperson	Alderman Amber Garden	30 June 2020
Elected Member	Deputy Mayor Sarah Henderson	30 June 2020
Ex-Officio	Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell	Ongoing
Territory Housing	Vacant	Ongoing
Animal Welfare	Danny Moore, RSPCA	30 June 2020
Vet Specialist	Vacant	30 June 2021
Community Representative	Katrina Stafford	30 June 2020
Community Representative	Jill Pascoe	30 June 2020
Community Representative	Mandy Hall	30 June 2020
Community Representative	Michelle Walker	30 June 2020