

# Community Engagement Survey Results

## Domestic Animal Management Plan



Mansfield Shire

Held between 21/08/2022 and 19/09/2022

231 People visited the site and 23 made submissions

### 1. What are the important animal management issues that Council should focus on?

|                                                                      | # of Responses |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Nuisance cats and dogs                                               | 12             |
| Doggie bag stations and waste bins in areas where dogs are walked    | 12             |
| Council to undertake more education around responsible pet ownership | 15             |

### 2. Are there any other important animal management issues that Council could focus on

No comments left

### 3. Is there an area in which we should focus our actions to encourage responsible pet ownership?

- ▶ Cats out at night / Cats wandering fouling neighbours properties / cat enclosures
- ▶ Focus on desexing (to receive reduced registration)
- ▶ Stop “free to good home adverts” and why this is not a good idea
- ▶ Free return of dogs if registered and microchipped and found out of home
- ▶ Nuisance barking dogs / dogs at large
- ▶ Community pet registration events / microchip check events / education to make backyards secure
- ▶ Educate owners about picking up after their dogs

### 4. Communications regarding Pets and Responsible Pet ownership

14 people didn't think Council were communicating enough about responsible pet ownership and 5 thought Council were doing enough

### 5. How would you like to get information about responsible pet ownership?

|                                              | # of Responses |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Council's website                            | 15             |
| Information with registration renewal notice | 11             |
| Social Media                                 | 13             |
| Vets                                         | 10             |
| Local Paper                                  | 1              |
| Emails                                       | 8              |

**6. I would like to know more about ...**

|                               | # of Responses |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| What my registration pays for | 2              |
| Complaint management          | 7              |
| Lost pets and pound services  | 9              |
| Dog friendly spaces           | 10             |
| Pet groups – dog walking etc  | 5              |
| Obedience training            | 5              |
| Park patrols and enforcement  | 6              |
| Microchipping                 | 2              |
| Council services              | 2              |

**7. What aspects are most important to you when sharing public spaces with pets?**

|                                                            | # of Responses |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Bags & bins for animal waste                               | 14             |
| Fenced off-lead areas                                      | 13             |
| Dogs can socialise freely with other dogs                  | 10             |
| Dogs kept on lead                                          | 8              |
| Owners / families can play freely with their dogs          | 5              |
| Family can go to the park together and do different things | 5              |
| Unfenced dog areas                                         | 1              |

**8. Would you like to set times for off lead areas in some parks – if so what option would you prefer?**

|                       | # of Responses |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 6-8am and 6-8pm       | 7              |
| 7pm – 7am (overnight) | 2              |
| 6-10am and 4-7pm      | 2              |
| Not sure              | 4              |

**9. Off Lead Areas?**

|                                       | # of Responses |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Exclude off-lead during school times  | 1              |
| Prefer fenced dog park                | 1              |
| Off lead should be 24 hours every day | 1              |

**10. Should all parks and reserves be off-lead (with the exception of native bushland) and all other public places be on lead?**

|          | # of Responses |
|----------|----------------|
| No       | 13             |
| Yes      | 5              |
| Not Sure | 2              |

**11. Is your pet registered**

Except for one – all said yes

**12. Have you had any compliance or nuisance issues in the past 12 months?**

|                                                                      | # of Responses |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Dogs not being under effective control of the owner in public spaces | 9              |
| Barking dogs                                                         | 7              |
| Dog owners not cleaning dog waste in public places                   | 7              |
| Wandering cats                                                       | 5              |
| Wandering dogs                                                       | 5              |

**13. Number of ranger patrols are:**

|                          | # of Responses |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| The right amount         | 4              |
| Not enough, we need more | 12             |
| Don't know               | 3              |

**14. What time do you think should be priorities for rangers to patrol?**

|                                | # of Responses |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Weekdays (7.45am-5pm)          | 7              |
| Random patrols on weekends     | 5              |
| Weekday evenings (after work)  | 5              |
| Weekday mornings (before work) | 2              |
| Weekends                       | 5              |
| Not sure                       | 2              |

**15. How can Council help to ensure dogs are under effective control in public space?**

|                                     | # of Responses |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| More/improved fenced off-lead areas | 12             |
| More education                      | 11             |
| More ranger patrols                 | 9              |
| Increase fines and enforcement      | 4              |
| More signs                          | 3              |

**16. How can Council help ensure people clean up dog waste in public areas**

|                                       | # of Responses |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| More bag dispensers and bins in parks | 15             |
| More education                        | 12             |
| More signs                            | 9              |
| Increased fines and enforcement       | 9              |
| More ranger patrols                   | 5              |

**17. When pets are found wandering, should council issue a warning for first-time offenders?**

|                                                        | # of Responses |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Yes, warnings are appropriate for first time offenders | 15             |
| No they should be fined                                | 2              |
| Don't know                                             | 1              |

**18. Do you have any general or additional comments about animal management?**

|                                                                                                      | # of Responses |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Too many cats out eating wildlife – keep cats inside                                                 | 4              |
| Barking dogs – current reporting system is too cumbersome                                            | 1              |
| Need education around the keeping of bees in urban areas – beekeeping clubs – newspaper articles etc | 1              |
| Dogs at large – ranger needs to attend                                                               | 1              |
| Dogs in parks should be on lead unless there is a specific off lead fenced area                      | 1              |
| Request for information regarding dogs/cats being rehomed, euthanised – is it a no kill pound?       | 1              |
| It would be good to have fenced areas for dogs off lead                                              | 1              |
| Owners to clean up after their dogs especially in the main street and median strip                   | 1              |
| Owners should not allow their dogs to run up to children and people                                  | 1              |
| Hound Hunters regarding their dog register requirements.                                             | 1              |