

Trim Container	FOL/17/997
First Issued / Approved:	07/09/2009
Last Reviewed:	09/05/2017
	C090517/747
Next Review:	30/06/2019

## **1. PREAMBLE**

### **1.1 Background**

The City of Holdfast Bay recognises that while many residents enjoy the pleasures of cat ownership there are times when cats cause problems in the community and require a cat management response. These times would be reduced by increased responsibility by cat owners and intervention by Council.

Legislative framework for cat management is set out in Part 7 of the *Dog & Cat Management Act 1995*.

A Council Cat By-law came into operation on 7 September 2009.

### **1.2 Purpose**

This policy describes the City of Holdfast Bay's position with regard to the management of cats within the municipality.

### **1.3 Scope**

Due to the absence of any funding mechanisms in the legislation the City of Holdfast Bay's involvement in cat management is limited to the following:

- a. Provision of cat traps (free of charge; refundable deposit applies)
- b. Provision of educational/promotional information on responsible cat ownership generally and to neighbourhoods experiencing cat related problems
- c. Working in partnership with Cats Assistance to Sterilize (C.A.T.S) or other similar organisations
- d. Working with community members to remove excess cats from properties

### **1.4 Definitions**

There are no specific definitions associated with this policy.

### **1.5 Strategic Reference**

Environment: Protecting Biodiversity  
 Culture: Providing customer-centred services  
 Culture: Supporting excellent, efficient operations

## 2. PRINCIPLES

- 2.1 Where an excessive number of cats associated with a property are causing offensive conditions to the extent it is assessed as being in an insanitary condition under the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*, the City of Holdfast Bay's Environmental Health Officers will take the necessary steps to have the owner or occupier of the property reduce or remove the insanitary conditions.
- 2.2 Where appropriate, Council will co-operate with agencies such as the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) and the Animal Welfare League (AWL) to deal with specific cat related problems.
- 2.3 The By-law will be policed primarily by education, negotiation and warning. Secondary enforcement will come from the issue of Expiation Notices, prosecution, and the issue of Requirement Notices under the By-law.
- 2.4 Cats are to be identified in the manner stipulated in the Regulations under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.
- a. It is considered desirable for cats to be identified so that if a cat is found or causes problems it can be traced back to the owner.
  - b. There is no requirement for registration.
- 2.5 To cater for problems people might have where they are already keeping numbers of cats in excess of the limit, the limit does not apply to cats already being kept on premises when the By-law was introduced - 7 September 2009. However, it will apply if new cats are brought onto the premises and the limit is exceeded.

## 3. REFERENCES

### 3.1 Legislation

- *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*
- *Local Government Act 1999*
- *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*

### 3.2 Other References

- *By-law No 6 - Cats*