

Council Meeting

29/Sep/2025

Notice of Motion No. 187 Domestic Animal Management Plan

I give notice that at the next meeting of Council I shall move:

That Council resolve:

- A) To note that Council resolved to endorse the Draft Knox Domestic Animal Management Plan (the draft DAMP) for phase 2 of community engagement at the Council meeting on 8 September 2025 and that phase 2 commenced on 15 September 2025; and
 - 1. Note that verbatim community feedback from phase 1 of community engagement (conducted February to April 2025) was not included in the report to Council considered on 8 September 2025.
 - 2. To increase transparency, and subject to the removal of personal information to protect privacy, to request that copies of verbatim community feedback from phase 1 of community engagement be made available to the community as part of phase 2 of community engagement.
 - 3. Request officers extend phase 2 of community engagement by at least two weeks, recognising the delay in releasing verbatim community feedback from phase 1.
- B) In relation to the draft DAMP:
 - 1. To note that the draft DAMP includes “Programs to address over-population rates and any high euthanasia rates” and “Dog attacks” as two of the nine areas of focus.
 - 2. To amend the draft DAMP to include an action to investigate how a community cat program or cat desexing program could be implemented at Knox:
 - a. Using evidence provided by the Australian Pet Welfare Foundation and other available peer reviewed evidence relating to cat containment and the welfare of cats;
 - b. Including proactive, microtargeted desexing initiatives as demonstrated in the City of Banyule;
 - c. Considering any animal management cost savings generated by such a program; and
 - d. With a target completion date of December 2026.
 - 3. To amend the draft DAMP to include an action to investigate pro-active dog programs:
 - a. As described in the Australian Pet Welfare Foundation’s phase 1 submission, which would require an increase in community education and engagement;
 - b. Considering any animal management cost savings generated by such a program; and
 - c. With a target completion date of December 2027.

4. To note that the objectives of the programs detailed in Resolutions B(2) and B(3) above are to:
 - a. Reduce attacks on local wildlife;
 - b. Increase compliance with registration and responsible pet ownership; and
 - c. Increase compliance relating to dogs
5. To note that the extension of phase 2 of community engagement will also allow community engagement on the proposed amendments to the DAMP in Resolutions B(2) and B(3) above; and to request officers to contact all existing phase 2 submitters to advise them of the amendments once released and invite further comment.

Cr Peter Lockwood

Baird Ward