

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

2015-2019



WEIPA
TOWN AUTHORITY

Executive Summary

The WTA recognises the diversity within our community from all around Australia and we acknowledge that this diversity is reflected in the range of pets and activities in Weipa. WTA also recognises that Weipa has a high portion of dog owners per capita ⁽¹⁾, which gives us a unique profile with regards to animal management.

The WTA through planning, engaging and educating aims to cultivate a community which fosters animal welfare and promotes responsible pet ownership. To develop and implement this strategic plan, we are engaging with the community and stakeholders to identify key issues relating to pet ownership.

The 'Animal Management Plan' has a strong focus on education and compliance. It has been written in accordance with legislative requirements of the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*. The plan also encompasses the regulatory services and enforcement activities contained in Weipa Town Authority Local Laws and the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Each key issue has one or more objectives and an action plan that details the new actions the Weipa Town Authority will undertake over the next three years to achieve its animal management goals and objectives.

The plan contains a set of activities that will be used to monitor the Weipa Town Authority's progress in achieving its animal management goals and objectives.

Core purpose of the animal management service:

- Implement the Weipa Town Authority's responsibilities under the various acts;
- Promote the welfare of animals;
- Inform and educate the community about the needs of companion animals and responsible pet ownership;
- Ensure all needs of all members of the community are reflected in the domestic animal management plan, policies and practices.

The plan has identified actions which are immediate, short and medium term priority. This is displayed through the implementation plan section.

(1) WTA animal census, 2015

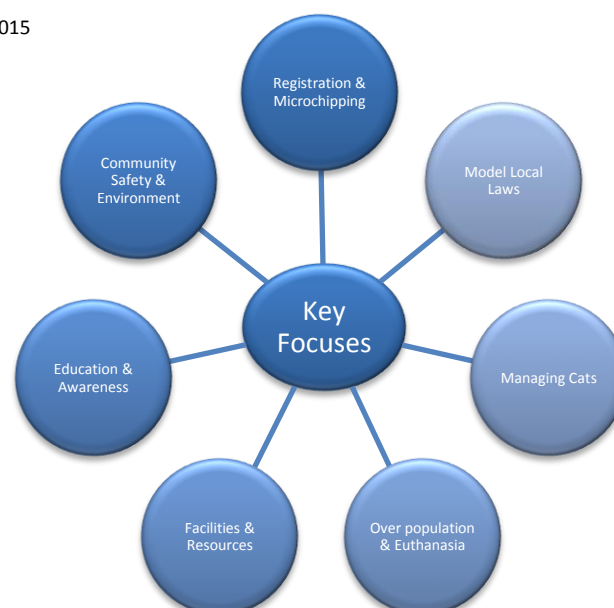


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Introduction - Animal Management Plan

The purpose of this Animal Management Plan (AMP) is to provide the Weipa community with a strategic framework that delivers policy direction and an action plan for the animal management space in 2016-2018.

WTA has identified seven key animal management focus areas. These have been drawn together from an analysis of operational data, the community animal management survey, key stakeholders and the experiences of the staff at WTA.

Through this plan, WTA will invite the community, along with other key stakeholders to work in partnership to meet the current and future challenges relating to animal management in the township of Weipa.

Vision

The Weipa Town Authority encourages responsible pet ownership. Part of the WTA's vision is to 'plan for a future that includes domestic animals as valued members of our community'. This means looking after pets by keeping the family together.

Objective

The AMP will aim to improve the effectiveness of management services and activities by;

- Improving community education and awareness towards responsible pet ownership;
- Minimising reactive work and encouraging proactive solutions;
- Increasing community engagement;
- Improving compliance to local laws and orders;
- Minimising animal attacks and risk to the community;
- Increasing animal identification and registration; and
- Improving animal welfare – (pet overpopulation and euthanasia).

What is Animal Management?

Animal management focuses on the control and regulation of domestic animals, i.e. cats and dogs. Animal management is firmly governed by legislation at both a state and local level.

Animal management is a service that WTA provides to aim to:

- Minimise risk to community health and safety;
- Reduce environmental harm or environmental nuisance;
- Support animal owners to keep their animals in a manner that complies with the relevant legislation and local laws; and
- Promote responsible pet ownership.

Animal Management- Core Functions

WTA employs a fulltime Community Safety Officer, within the Communities Team, who is responsible for overseeing animal management in the Weipa community. The core functions of the Community Safety Officer Role includes;

Animal Management Compliance

Responding to reports and monitoring compliance to general animal management issues such as enclosures, registration, wandering at large, public nuisances (barking, odour), off leash, scheduled patrols, impounding / returning strays.

Education and Public Awareness

Delivery of education programs with the general public and local schools, and the development and distribution of public educational material .

Permits and Approvals

The assessment, processing, granting and compliance activities relating to keeping multiple dogs.

Impounding and Surrender

Impounding stray dogs and collecting surrendered animals when requested by the public (working hours only).

WTA Pound Facilities

Management of the WTA pound facility where impounded and surrendered animals are sheltered until the animal is released to its owner or rehoused.

Emergency Response (out of hours)

Attending to reported dog attacks out of hours.



Animal Management Legislation

The *Commonwealth Aluminum Corporation Pty Ltd Agreement Act 1957* (Comalco Act), clause 45 provides provisions for Rio Tinto to perform the services of a Local Government. Pursuant to the legislation, Rio Tinto and WTA developed the Weipa Town Authority Management Protocol for Weipa in 2008. This document outlines the services that the WTA will provide Weipa Town in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*. Under this protocol the WTA Superintendent has the delegated authority to appoint an Authorised Persons. *Chapter 6 Administration, Part 6, Authorised person, section 202.*

In the case of WTA, the Superintendent has appointed the Community Safety Officer under the following legislations:

- *The Local Government Act 2009 – Section 202*
- *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 – Section 104*
- *Public Health Act 2005 – Section 377 (2)*
- *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2001 – Section 263 (2)*
- *Land Protection (pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 – 244*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1994-Section 445 (2)*
- *The Weipa Town Authority Local Law No 1 – Part 4 Section 14(1)*

Key Performance Indicators

The progress and success of animal management in the Weipa community will continue to be reviewed against the following key performance indicators;

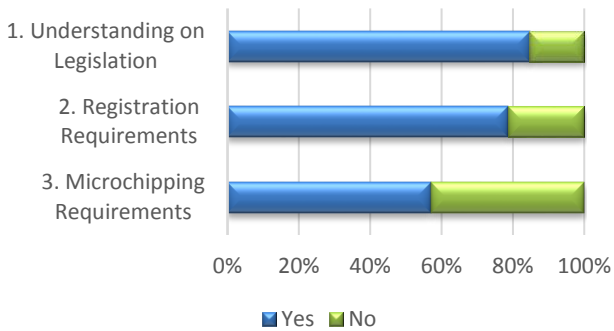
- Number of animal registrations
- Number of animals desexed
- Number of animals entering pound
- Number of animals reclaimed from pound
- Number of animals rehoused from pound
- Number of animals euthanased in pound
- Number of animal complaints (requests for service), per 100 population
- Number of dog attacks causing injury
- Number of compliance notices

Community Animal Management Survey

At the end of August 2015, the Weipa community was asked to participate in a survey relating to animal issues. A copy of the survey was delivered to all residences in Weipa, which allowed the community an opportunity to have their say on what they identified the concerns to be. 180 survey responses were received by the WTA and the results identified the following;

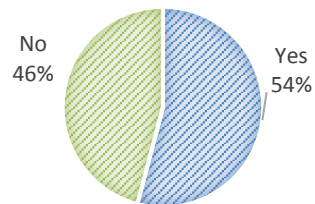
Community Knowledge

1. Requirement to microchip animals at 12 weeks of age.
2. Requirement to register animals at 12 weeks of age.
3. WTA's role to enforce Local Laws and State Legislation.

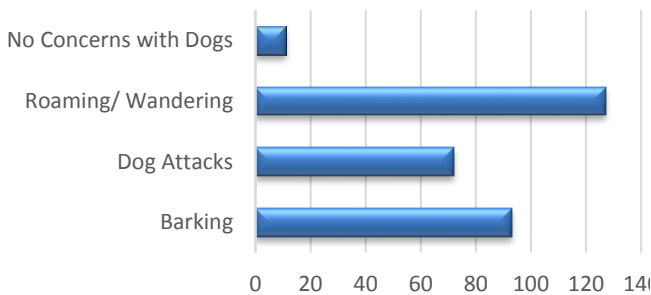


Dog Waste Disposal Stations

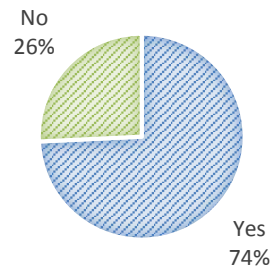
The community are in favour of having dog waste disposal stations located around town to promote the responsible pet ownership.



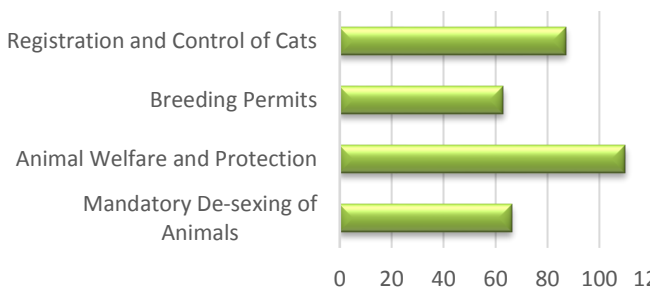
Main Concerns Identified by the Community



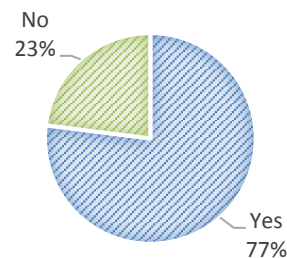
Benefit of Animal Management Education to the Community



Investigation into Amendments to the Local Laws



Benefit of 'Off Leash' Area to the Community



Building and Maintaining Productive Partnerships

As Weipa is a small, remote town it is important for strong networks and partnerships to be established to meet common goals. The WTA aims to work closely with the following organisations;

Weipa Community

The Weipa community plays a critical role. WTA seeks collaboration and feedback from the Weipa community before making decisions or taking action in regards to animal management that have a significant impact on the community. This will be achieved through a variety of strategies e.g. surveys, forums.

Cape Animal Protection Shelter (CAPS)

CAPS is a not-for profit organisation, run by volunteers in the Weipa community. CAPS cares for homeless and unwanted dogs, with the primary aim of providing temporary refuge and eventually new homes for abandoned, abused, stray and unwanted dogs. The WTA relies on CAPS to assist in the re-homing of animals. The aim is to develop an agreement between CAPS and WTA outlining the process of handing over animals to be re-homed.

Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)

DAF are the welfare organisation for Far North Queensland. Any animal welfare concerns should be reported through to the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) Ph: 132523

Queensland Police Service (QPS)

QPS provides support to the WTA, in particular for animal welfare investigations, seizures and assisting in the enforcement of Local and State Legislation.

Neighbouring Councils on the Cape (Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council, Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council and Aurukun Aboriginal Shire Council)

With the rural location of Weipa and the close proximity to other Councils, it is beneficial for WTA to build networks and relationships so that we can all take advantage of shared resources and information. There is the potential for WTA to work with other local councils for the following activities;

- Microchipping days
- Local Law and procedural development to ensure consistency with Animal Management across the Cape
- Impounding facilities

Local Government Association Queensland (LGAQ)

LGAQ provide support to WTA regarding Local and State Legislation.

Weipa Veterinary Services

The Weipa veterinary service plays an important role in maintaining the health of pets and also by educating pet owners.

National Pet Register

The national pet register manages the microchip database which enables the WTA to identify an animal and find its home.

Local Media

The local media is a tool for publishing the correct messages of responsible pet ownership and improvements that WTA is making in the community.

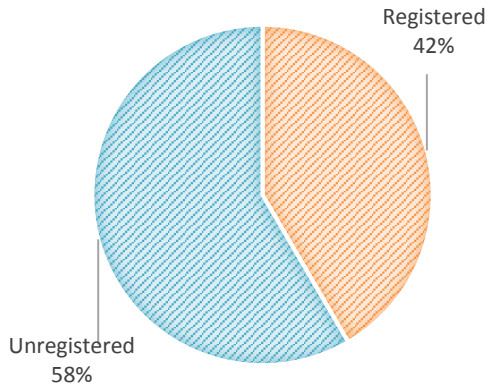
Animal Management Statistics and Data

Weipa Town	2015	
	Dogs	Cats
Population- Nanum	336	35
Trunding	758	36
Golf Links	120	23
Rocky Point	732	50
Total	1946	144
Registered dogs	840	
Declared dangerous dogs	5	
Declared menacing dogs	4	
Declared restricted dogs	1	
Impounded dogs YTD	148	

**Note- WTA recognises that the figures in section are approximate numbers only. Data displayed is based from animal census, WTA registration data and estimations.*

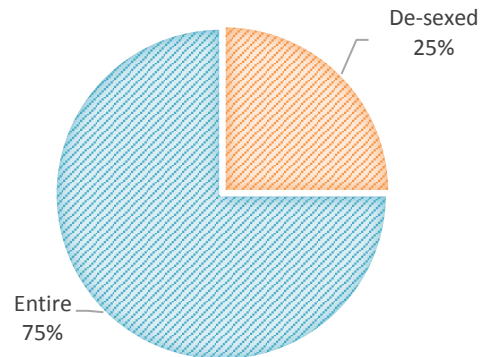
Numbers of dogs registered Vs Un-registered

This graph has been developed based on the approximate number of dogs residing in Weipa, compared to the number of dogs registered in the WTA system.



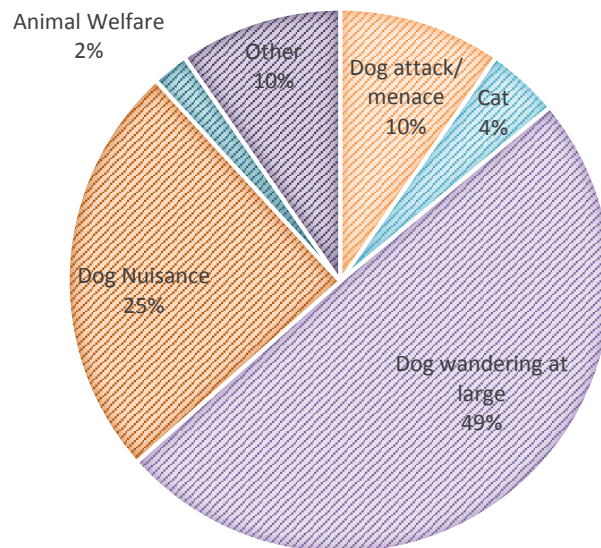
Numbers of dogs de-sexed Vs entire dogs

This graph has been developed based on the approximate number of dogs residing in Weipa, compared to the number of dogs recorded in the WTA system as entire or de-sexed.



Complaint Stats by Type for 2015 YTD

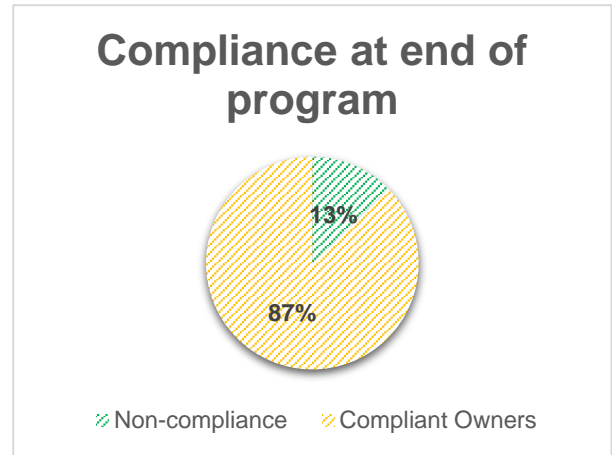
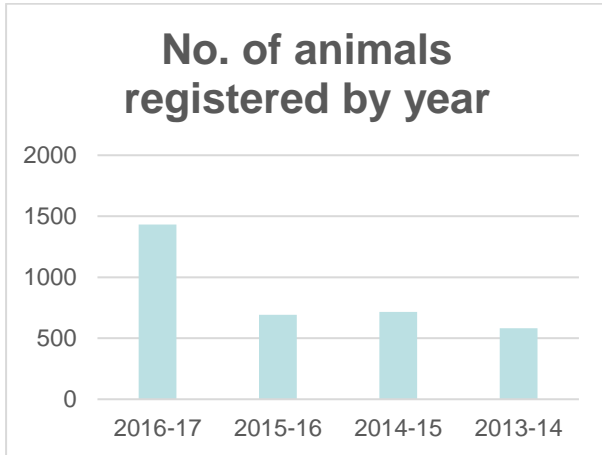
Animal Management complaints reported to WTA are recorded and categorised in a register. This graph represents the types of complaints received in 2015 year to date. This data correlates with the Animal Management survey, in which the community identified wandering dogs to be the main concern.



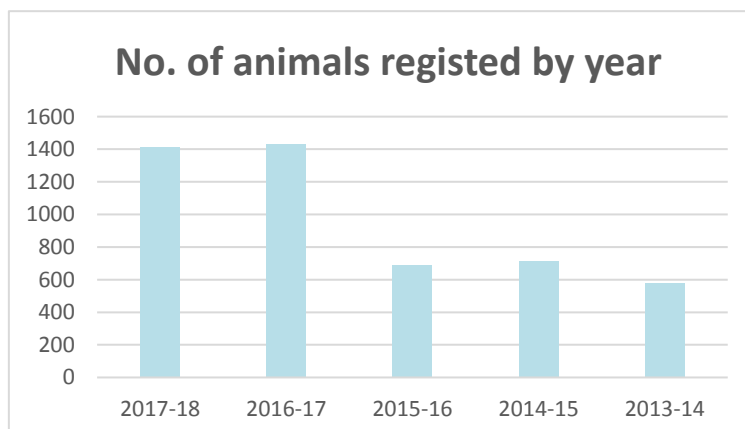
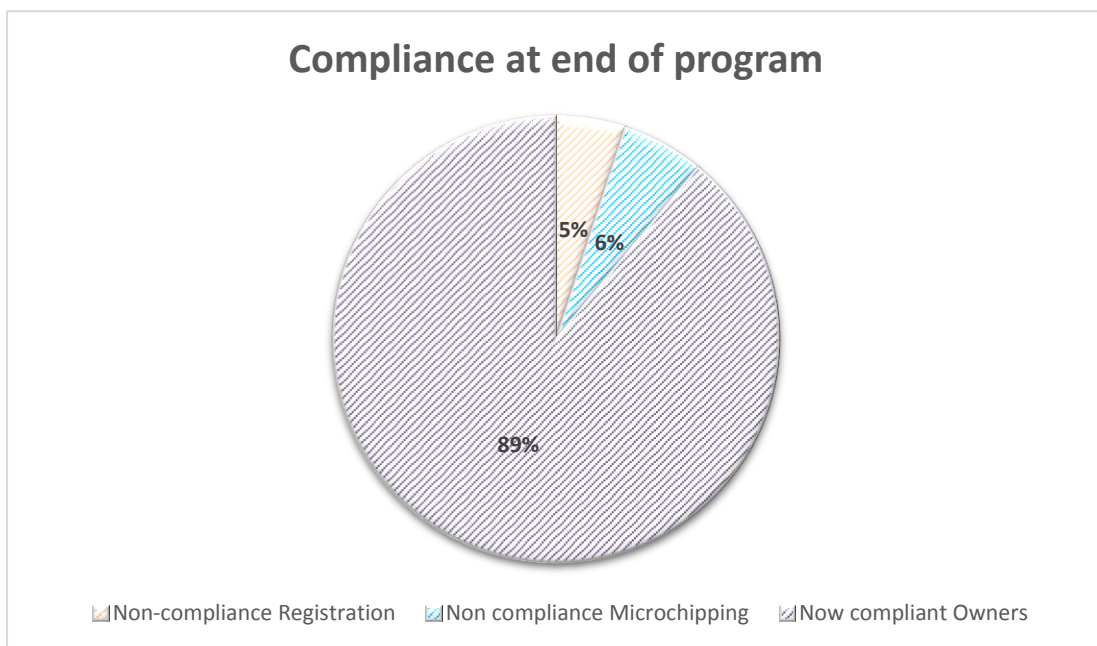
Systematic Inspection Program

The first systematic inspection program (SIP) was introduced in August 2016. This program focused on dog registration, additional dog permits and microchipping. This was a successful program which saw dog registration numbers increase by over 200%. The program was conducted in October 2017 which saw a significant increase in registration and microchipping compliance.

2016 SIP Statistics



2017 SIP Statics



Education and Awareness

The WTA recognises that educating our community on the obligations and responsibilities of pet ownership is one of the most important facets of our role for the community. The WTA has employed a Community Safety Officer who will raise awareness of these obligations using a variety of methods including; developing educational material and awareness programs, consistently applying enforcement and compliance strategies and reviewing and improving local laws, policies and procedures.

The recently conducted Weipa Community Animal Management Survey 2015 identified a number of key focus points for the education and awareness program; registration, microchipping, de-sexing, effective control, appropriate enclosures, care and welfare and legislation. The WTA will address the key focus points to promote responsible pet ownership through various resources including social media, the WTA webpage, public notices, newspaper articles, fact sheets and public interactions.

Education Breakdown

Registration: WTA will communicate comprehensively with the community to advise of its annual systematic audit for registration, and the requirements of registration including renewal dates, requirements for documentation and fees and charges.

Microchipping: WTA will conduct a minimum of one microchipping day per year to encourage responsible pet ownership. The drive for this program is the benefit of easily identifying and reuniting animals with their families and to comply with the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008.

Barking Nuisances: WTA will develop informational material and associated procedures for handling barking nuisances. Dog owners will be guided in ways to reduce a noise nuisance from their animals and residents or complainants will be advised on the WTA process for dealing with barking nuisances.

De-sexing: WTA in supporting responsible pet ownership will conduct desexing programs in conjunction with the local vet, RSPCA or a Locum. The program will focus on the benefits of desexing for both the animals health and public health, such as but not limited to:

- Decreasing aggression/roaming.
- Reducing testicular and mammary tumors.
- Improved genetics.
- Reducing unwanted litters.

Effective Control: The 2015 – 2018 Animal Management Plan aims to significantly reduce the number of dog incidences in the community of Weipa. A large portion of the education and enforcement activities will be focused on non-compliance with effectively controlling dogs in a public space. WTA will work to ensure the community understands what is deemed effective control and also the consequences and processes that follow an incident of non-compliance in this matter.

Pet Enclosures: Currently Local Law No 6. provides the community with minimum standards in which to house an animal. WTA will raise awareness and educate animal owners on the importance of suitable enclosures through the development of fact sheets and by responding to complaints with standard enforcement and compliance strategies. The WTA's aim is to reduce and or prevent the following issues in regards to cats and dogs:

- Traffic hazards from wandering animals.
- Animals injuring themselves or other persons or animals.
- Territorial behaviours.
- Danger to wildlife.
- Having to be impounded.
- Reduce the risk of contracting and spreading communicable diseases.

Care and Welfare: The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries are the governing body for animal welfare in the FNQ region. The WTA through community and school education programs will develop educational material around animal welfare. The program will focus on:

- Empathy for animals.
- Understanding of dogs needs and behaviours.
- Safe personal behaviours around animals.
- Knowledge of relationships between dogs and human health.
- Knowledge of animal management programs.
- An understanding of owner responsibilities that contribute to the wellbeing of animals.
- Education around what to do in a dog attack.

Legislation: The 2015 – 2018 Animal Management Plan aims to significantly improve the community awareness of legislation pertaining to owning and living with pets. Through the implementation of this plan, the WTA will review existing and develop new procedures and policies and local laws which highlight and clarify legislative requirements. The WTA's aim is to uphold the vision *'plan for a future that includes domestic animals as valued members of our community'*.



School Education Program

The WTA local laws officers commenced a school education program in October 2017 to promote safety around pets. The sessions were run for several kindergarten groups as well as primary students at Western Cape College (prep – grade 6). The sessions focused on how to interact safely with dogs, in particular bite prevention. The WTA will endeavor to run this program annually.



Key Focus Areas

Timeframe Legend	
Immediate	Commence now
Short Term	6 months – 18 months
Medium Term	18 months – 3 Years
Long Term	3 years +

1 Registration and Microchipping

1.1. Strategy – Ensure all animals are registered and microchipped and relevant data is stored in accordance with Legislative requirements.

It is the WTA's aim to have all dogs in the Weipa community registered and microchipped in accordance with the State Legislation. *As per the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act, Section 44, all dogs must be registered at 12 weeks of age (3 months) and Section 13 requires all animals born after 1 July 2008 to be microchipped.*

By registering animals, owners ensure animals are easily identified when they are lost or inadvertently escaped their property.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
1.1.1	Develop a systematic registration inspection program as per the legislation	Short term
1.1.2	Develop an education programs as outlined in the education section of this plan	Short term
1.1.3	Hold a minimum of one microchipping and registration day for the community	Short term
1.1.4	Ensure all animals investigated, seized and impounded are registered by the owner before they are released by WTA	Immediate
1.1.5	Ensure all animals investigated, seized and impounded are microchipped by the owner before they are released	Immediate

1.2. Strategy - Improve WTA systems to increase customer satisfaction

Customer service satisfaction is very important to WTA. Therefore it is critical that we are continuously reviewing and improving our processes to ensure all residents have a positive and successful interaction with WTA.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
1.2.1	Review WTA administration procedures	Medium term
1.2.2	Upskill WTA staff in administration processes and animal management requirements	Medium term

1.3. Strategy- Improve community compliance with Local and State Legislations

It is requirement for all pet owners to understand their obligations under Local and State Legislation. WTA aims to work with the Weipa community to ensure responsible pet ownership through education and owner's being held accountable for non-compliance.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
1.3.1	Educate the community through fact sheets, individual interactions and holding owners accountable	Short term
1.3.2	Consistent application of issuing of compliance Notices and Penalty Infringement Notices (PIN)	Short Term

2 Community Safety and Environment

2.1. Strategy – Reduce risk to residents from numbers of dogs wandering

Majority of the animals impounded by WTA, from public places, are a result of animals escaping from private property enclosures. This often occurs during the hours while the owners are not home. The impacts on the community can pose a significant safety and environmental risk. Results from the recent Animal Management survey revealed that the Weipa community sees dogs wandering as the most significant issue. This issue can then lead to a range of other issues including;

- Attacks on people and other animals, and/ or
- Incidents or aggression and nuisance behavior towards people and other animals (e.g. barking).
- Interference with traffic resulting in incident.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
2.1.1	Maintain a regime of varied vehicular animal control patrolling	Immediate
2.1.2	Educate community in Local and State Legislation requirements	Immediate

2.2. Strategy - Permit system

WTA has a permit system in place to manage the number of dogs allowed to reside at one property. The current requirement is a maximum of two dogs at the house and a maximum of one dog at a unit/ apartment. The WTA is aware that the current permit system is inconsistent and therefore a consultative process with the community and stakeholders will be completed.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
2.2.1	Review current permit process with relevant stakeholders to ensure consistency with customer service expectations	Short term

2.3. Strategy – Manage dangerous, menacing and restricted dog breeds

If a dog is involved in an attack, has bitten a person causing serious injury, or has menaced a person more than once it can be declared as dangerous or menacing by WTA, otherwise known as a Regulated Dog. Owners of declared regulated dogs are required to comply with certain conditions to ensure the safety of the community. In Australia, five specific breeds have been identified as ‘restricted’, as they are considered higher risk to the community’s safety more so than other breeds. These breeds are required to be regulated under the Customs Regulations 1956 of the Commonwealth.

The following dog breeds are restricted;

- American Pit Bull Terrior (or Pit Bull Terrier)
- Fila Brasileiro
- Japanese Tosa
- Dogo Argentino
- Perro de Presa Canario (or Presa Canario)

Of these breeds, the Pitbull and the Perro de Presa are the breeds that are currently in Australia. Dogs displaying physical characters of these breeds are to be registered with WTA as ‘restricted’. There are certain requirements to hold a restricted permit. For more information regarding these conditions, go to part 2 of the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Regulations 2009*.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
2.3.1	Review current procedures to ensure all declared animals are compliant with current state legislation	Immediate
2.3.2	Develop a systematic registration inspection program as per the legislation for regulated dogs	Short term
2.3.3	Update state register with current declared animals	Immediate

2.4. Strategy - Barking dogs and animal nuisance

Barking dogs and animal nuisances (dust and odour) pose problems for the Weipa community. As the Weipa community has a significant number of shift workers barking dogs, in particular, can pose an issue both during the day and at night for residents. Whilst sensitivity and tolerance levels play a key role, it is important that complaints are acted upon in a timely manner to ensure the wellbeing of the community is maintained.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
2.4.1	In the field education with the community, working with the community to resolve issues, complaint based	Immediate
2.4.2	Community fact sheet on barking dogs. This may be through community forums, surveys, social media and community events	Immediate

3 Community Education and Awareness

3.1. Strategy- Improve community engagement, education and marketing opportunities.

The key to a successful animal management service is ensuring that the community is adequately educated on responsible pet ownership principles. WTA endeavors to provide sufficient educational material to the community in order for pet owners to comply. This information can be accessed on the Weipa Town Authority website www.weipatownauthority.com.au or by contacting the WTA Communities Team on 4030 9400.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
3.1.1	Develop fact sheet program and communication plan, as outlined in education section of this plan	Short term
3.1.2	In the field education with the community. This may be through community forums, surveys, social media and community events	Immediate

3.2. Strategy – Build partnerships with other local Councils

Building partnerships with other local governments to share resources and information is working towards achieving animal management goals relevant to all stakeholders.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
3.2.1	Develop relationship with Mapoon Council and Napranum Council to enable knowledge and resource sharing. (e.g offer support with microchipping days, delivering dogs back to community etc)	Short term

3.3. Strategy – Continue to support CAPS

CAPS is a major stakeholder in animal management in Weipa and opportunities exist to collaborate with CAPS.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
3.3.1	Develop policy agreement between CAPS and WTA. This policy may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rehoming animals• Pound management• Pound extensions• Projects	Immediate

3.4. Strategy – Manage welfare issues and concerns

Animal welfare is a key focus for the community when it comes to animal ownership. Respondents from the recent survey indicated that animal welfare was the highest priority to address in the WTA review of the model Local Laws. *Note see Activity 7.1.1

Number	Activity	Timeframe
3.4.1	Educate community regarding reporting requirements with Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) for animal welfare complaints	Immediate
3.4.2	Work with relevant state agencies to address welfare complaints and issues	Immediate

4 Community Facilities and Resources

4.1. Strategy – Provide the community with an ‘off leash’ area

Dog walking is extremely popular amongst dog owners and for many people it provides an opportunity to exercise themselves. Dogs are required to be leashed in public places at all times. At this current stage there are no designated ‘off leash’ areas within the Weipa township. However, the WTA have identified the need for an ‘off leash’ facility for the community. Results from the recent survey support this project, with 77% of people indicating that an ‘off leash’ area would be beneficial for the Weipa Community.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
4.1.1	Investigate and risk assess potential locations for the installation of off leash parks around the township	Short term

4.2. Strategy – Provide the community with dog waste disposal facilities and dog water stations

The WTA requires dog owners to pick up their dog’s faeces from public places (*Local Law No.6 Keeping and Control of Animals, Section 19*). To assist in this process it was suggested by the WTA that dog waste disposal stations be installed around town. Survey results revealed that 54% believe dog waste stations would be utilised. In addition with the tropical climate in Weipa, heat stress is common occurrence for pets. Therefore it is important for dogs to stay hydrated whilst being exercised.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
4.2.1	Investigate the installation of dog waste collection facilities and water stations	Short term

4.3. Strategy - Pound Facility

In order for the WTA to provide an effective service to the community it is essential that the pound facility maintenance is completed regularly and improvements are made to bring the facility to align with Australian Standards.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
4.3.1	Complete upgrades to pound facility as identified e.g. fencing maintenance, cat enclosures, and new run area for dogs, source new food supplier, and dangerous dog enclosure	Short term

5 Overpopulation and High Euthanasia

5.1. Strategy – Implement a De-sexing Program

Pet overpopulation is an on-going community issue. WTA records show a significant number of cats and dogs impounded by the WTA are entire (not de-sexed). Each year the WTA has to euthanise a number of animals for various reasons. Assessments are undertaken by the WTA on animals relating to health and suitability for rehoming. While WTA works with CAPS in attempt to find new homes, the limited number of foster carers and facilities restricts this process. It is the aim of the WTA to take a pro-active approach by encouraging owners to de-sex their animals to prevent overpopulation.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
5.1.1	Coordinate a de-sexing program with either the local vet, RSPCA or a locum	Short term
5.1.2	Develop education material and factsheet around the benefits of de-sexing	Short term
5.1.3	Review feasibility of mandatory de-sexing and breed permit process	Short term

6 Managing Cats

6.1. Strategy – Cat registration

When the topic of animal management arises people generally think of dogs, however cats pose a significant environmental risk to the Weipa community. Both domestic and feral cats have a devastating impact on the Australian native wildlife species. Letting cats roam free at night and uncontrolled breeding are the two causes of this epidemic. Cats are also known to create a nuisance at night by aggravating dogs causing them to bark, creating a domino effect. Like owners of dogs, owners of cats are legally required to keep them under effective control at all times (*Local Law No. 6 Keeping and Control of Animals, Section 16*) and be microchipped (*Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008, Section 13*). WTA aims to educate cat owners so that they understand their obligations.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
6.1.1	Investigate whether cat registration requirements can be implemented into the local laws	Short term
6.1.2	Education and awareness by WTA Community Safety Officer	Short term
6.1.3	Develop advertising campaign to inform community of microchipping requirements for cats	Short term

7 Model Local Laws

7.1. Strategy – Adopt new model Local Laws

Animal Management in Weipa is governed by the WTA Local Laws and State Legislation. Since the release of the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*, WTA Local Laws have not been reviewed and updated to align. It is important for the community that WTA reviews and adopts new local laws to enable animal management to work effectively in Weipa.

Number	Activity	Timeframe
7.1.1	Liaise with the stakeholders to adopt new model animal management local laws	Short term

Implementation Plan

Time Frame	Number	Activity	Status
Immediate	1.1.4	Ensure all animals investigated, seized and impounded are registered by the owner before they are released by WTA	On going
	1.1.5	Ensure all animals investigated, seized and impounded are microchipped by the owner before they are released	On going
	2.1.1	Maintain a regime of varied vehicular animal control patrolling	On going
	2.1.2	Educate community in Local and State Legislation requirements	On going
	2.3.1	Review current procedures to ensure all declared animals are compliant with current state legislation	Complete
	2.3.3	Update state register with current declared animals	Complete
	2.4.1	In the field education with the community, working with the community to resolve issue, complaint based	On going
	2.4.2	Community fact sheet on barking dogs	Complete
	3.1.2	In the field education with the community. This may be through community forums, surveys, social media and community events	On going
	3.3.1	Develop policy agreement between CAPS and WTA. This policy may include; rehoming animals, pound management, pound extensions and projects	Complete
	3.4.1	Educate community regarding reporting requirements with Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) for animal welfare complaints	Commenced
	3.4.2	Work with relevant state agencies to address welfare complaints and issues	On going

Short Term	1.1.1	Develop a systematic registration inspection program as per the legislation	Year one & two complete, on going
	1.1.2	Develop an education programs as outlined in the education section of this plan	Commenced Year two, ongoing
	1.1.3	Hold a minimum of one microchipping and registration day for the community	Completed Year one, to recommence year three
	1.3.1	Educate the community through fact sheets, individual interactions and holding owners accountable.	Complete
	1.3.2	Consistent application of issuing of compliance Notices and Penalty Infringement Notices (PIN)	On going
	2.2.1	Review current permit process with relevant stakeholders to ensure consistency with customer service expectations	Complete
	2.3.2	Develop a systematic registration inspection program as per the legislation for regulated dogs	Completed Year two, ongoing
	3.1.1	Develop fact sheet program and communication plan, as outlined in education section of this plan	Complete
	3.2.1	Develop relationship with Mapoon Council and Napranum Council to enable knowledge and resource sharing. (e.g offer support with microchipping days, delivering dogs back to community etc.)	Complete
	4.1.1	Investigate and risk assess potential locations for the installation of off leash parks around the township	Complete
	4.2.1	Investigate the installation of dog waste collection facilities and water stations	Commenced
	4.3.1	Complete upgrades to pound facility as identified e.g. fencing maintenance, cat enclosures, and new run area for dogs, source new food supplier, and dangerous dog enclosure	Complete

	5.1.1	Coordinate a de-sexing program with either the local vet, RSPCA or a locum	On going
	5.1.2	Develop education material and factsheet around the benefits of de-sexing	Complete
	5.1.3	Investigate the introduction of mandatory de-sexing and breeding permit applications to the new model local laws.	
	6.1.1	Investigate whether cat registration requirements can be implemented into the local laws	
	6.1.2	Education and awareness by WTA Local Laws Officer	On going
	6.1.3	Develop advertising campaign to inform community of microchipping requirements for cats	
Medium Term	1.2.1	Review WTA administration procedures	Complete
	1.2.2	Upskill WTA staff in administration processes and animal management requirements	Ongoing

Animal Management Development, Review and Reporting Process

The animal management plan has been developed to provide strategic direction for animal management within the township of Weipa for the period of 2015-2018. Due to potential legislative requirements it is important that the plan is reviewed to allow for new strategies and issues to be raised and incorporated.

Annual Review

The animal Management Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis to;

- Ensure the plan and strategies still align with the WTA’s corporate and business plan
- Identify new issues and strategies to be incorporated into the plan
- Review submissions from the members, staff and community for inclusion and discussion.

The review will take place prior to the budget being finalised each year to ensure sufficient funds are set aside for new projects and services.

Reporting

Performance against the Animal Management Plan will be provided through the business reporting process.

Document Revision & Approval History

Rev.	Date	Revision Description	Author	Reviewed by	Approved by
1.0	01/02/2016	Plan Created	L Boxall	Communities Dept	Superintendent
1.1	03/05/2017	Key Focus Areas & Implementation tables reviewed and timings update	L Boxall	Communities Dept	Superintendent
2.0	05/04/2018	2016 & Animal Management Data & Statistics updated to include SIP statistics, Education & Awareness Strategy reviewed and amended to include 2018 priorities	J Browne	Communities Dept	Superintendent

