Baw Baw Shire Council invites community feedback about the

Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017 - 2021
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Project Summary
Pursuant to Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994, every council must prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAM Plan) at 4 yearly intervals, and undertake annual reviews. Baw Baw Shire Council’s DAM Plan will set the strategic direction for the Council’s animal management activities until 2021.

The Bureau of Animal Welfare requires all councils to provide their Domestic Animal Management Plans in a format specifically outlined in their guidelines.

Items covered in this Plan include:

- Training of authorised officers;
- Registration and identification;
- Nuisance animals;
- Dog attacks;
- Dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs;
- Overpopulation and high euthanasia;
- Domestic animal businesses; and
- Other matters, of which Baw Baw has included Responsible Pet Ownership: Supporting people who are experiencing homelessness, and Planning for the future of the pound facility.

Council is seeking public comment on the draft plan.

Included in this pack
- Project information
- FAQs
- Feedback form

Enquiries
Name: Mark Hayward
Position: Acting Compliance Coordinator
Phone: 5624 2411
Email: bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

Submissions
Online
- Complete the online survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HYS_DAMP
- Visit www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au for information about the project or to provide your comments online.
- Alternatively comments can be emailed to bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

Written Submissions
All written submissions must be received by 5.00pm Friday 22 September 2017 and should be addressed to:

Compliance Coordinator
Baw Baw Shire Council
PO Box 304, Warragul, VIC 3820
Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017 - 2021

Purpose
Baw Baw Shire Council’s Domestic Animal Management Plan sets the strategic direction for the Council’s animal management activities until 2021. The Plan will be reviewed annually.

The Plan has been developed in line with Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

Background
Baw Baw Shire Council’s Community Compliance Unit undertakes animal management activities on behalf of the Council.

Whilst the Unit is responsible for delivering many services and undertaking various enforcement activities, animal management, including delivery of Council’s pound services, consumes the largest percentage of the Unit’s resources.

The draft plan has been developed in accordance with the Bureau of Animal Welfare’s guidelines, and has taken in to account the review of the previous Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Benefits of the project
Through the plan, the Council has sought to balance the competing needs of pet owners, the broader community and the animals that share people’s lives. Council recognises the benefits of pet ownership, and acknowledges the role we play in promoting responsible pet ownership and animal-related enforcement. Public consultation is an important part of developing our plan to ensure that the needs and expectations of our community are reflected in the final plan.

Timeline
Consultation will be held throughout August and September 2017, with submissions due by 5.00pm on Friday 22 September 2017.

After consultation closes
Once the consultation on the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan has closed on 22 September 2017, Council will consider the responses received. Everybody who contributes to the consultation will be contacted with the outcomes from the process (if you elect to).

How do I provide feedback?
• Completing the Comments Form at the back of this hand out,
• At Council’s Customer Service Centres
• Visit www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au or complete the online survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HYS_DAMP
• or email to bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

How do I know my feedback has been received?
All forms, submissions or correspondence will be acknowledged either by email or letter so that you know your comments have been received.

What happens to my ideas and feedback?
Council will consolidate comments and feedback and consider all submissions. A decision will be made on the final details.

Those who have taken part in the community engagement process will be informed of the final outcomes, which will also be available on the Baw Baw Shire Council Have Your Say website.
Frequently Asked Questions

To whom does the draft plan apply?
The draft plan applies to all individuals and businesses or organisations who own domestic animals, deliver animal related services, or are impacted by the domestic animals residing within or visiting the Baw Baw Shire.

What does the draft plan include?
Items covered in this Plan include:

- Training of authorised officers;
- Registration and identification;
- Nuisance animals;
- Dog attacks;
- Dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs;
- Overpopulation and high euthanasia;
- Domestic animal businesses; and
- Other matters, of which Baw Baw has included Responsible Pet Ownership: Supporting people who are experiencing homelessness, and Planning for the future of the pound facility.

Why did Council develop a plan?
Under Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994, every council must prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan every four years. The plan must be reviewed annually and, if appropriate, the plan must be amended and a copy of the plan and any amendments provided to the Secretary.

When will the draft plan take effect?
Once the consultation period has ended, Council will consider the responses received and may make amendments as necessary.

The plan will come into effect once adopted by Council, and must be implemented and provided to the Bureau of Animal Welfare by the 3rd November 2017.
Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017 - 2021

Feedback Form

Please submit your ideas, questions and feedback by 5.00pm on Friday 22 September 2017.

Name:

Address:

Email:

Please tell us more about you (optional)

Gender:

Year of birth:

What social media do you engage in?

☐ Facebook

☐ Instagram

☐ Twitter

☐ Linkedin

☐ Other

Please tell us how you participate in Baw Baw life? (tick all that apply)

☐ Resident

☐ Pet owner

☐ Animal rescue group

☐ Animal foster care

☐ Domestic Animal Business owner

☐ Other business owner

☐ Property owner

☐ Worker

☐ Student

☐ Leisure/recreation

☐ Shopper/visitor

☐ Other
Pet Registration and Desexing

1. Do you own any pets? (Select all that apply)
   - Yes – Dog(s)
   - Yes – Cat(s)
   - Yes – Other (please specify) _____________________________
   - No

2. Are your pets desexed?
   - Yes – Dog(s)
   - Yes – Cat(s)
   - Yes – Other (please specify) _____________________________
   - No - ________________________________________________

3. If your pets are not desexed, why haven’t you desexed your pets?
   (Select all that apply)
   - Too expensive
   - Don’t have the time
   - Intend to breed from your pet
   - Currently breeding from your pet
   - Other (please specify) _____________________________

4. Do you support the mandatory desexing of dogs and cats?
   - Yes – Dog(s)
   - Yes – Cat(s)
   - No – Dog(s)
   - No – Cat(s)
5. Are you aware that it is mandatory for cats being registered with Baw Baw Shire for the first time (new registrations) to be desexed from the age of six months?
- Yes
- No

6. Are your pets registered with Council?
- Yes
- No

7. If your pets are not registered, why not? (Select all that apply)
- Too expensive
- Don’t have the time
- Don’t see the value
- Other (please specify) ______________________________

8. Do you have any suggestions on how Council can encourage more people to register their pets?
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
Responsible Pet Ownership

9. How effective do you think the following initiatives would be in increasing responsible pet ownership in the Baw Baw Shire? Please select one response for each initiative, with 1 being ‘Not effective’ and 5 being ‘Very effective’

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>1 Not effective</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5 Very effective</th>
<th>Can’t say</th>
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<tr>
<td>Providing free registration for animals prior to 3 months of age</td>
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<td>Increasing the promotion of animal adoption information</td>
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<td>Increased promotion of the benefits of pet ownership</td>
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<td>Holding bi-annual Pet Expo / Adoption days</td>
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<td>Holding discount microchipping days</td>
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<td>Improved agreements with vets to allow animals to be registered and returned immediately to their owner</td>
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<td>Increasing the number of off leash parks in Baw Baw Shire</td>
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<td>Increasing the number of patrols in off leash parks in Baw Baw Shire</td>
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<td>Providing fenced off leash parks in Baw Baw Shire</td>
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<td>Promoting the 24 hour cat curfew in place across Baw Baw Shire</td>
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<td>Increased locations for cat cages to be hired from and returned to</td>
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<td>Ability to apply for new registrations online</td>
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<td>Expansion of Council's after hours services in relation to wandering animals</td>
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10. Is there anything else that Council could do to improve responsible ownership of cats and dogs?

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

11. Is there anything else that you would like to see included in the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017 - 2021?

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
Engagement Survey (Optional)

To ensure ‘Have Your Say Baw Baw Engagement’ works for our community we seek responses to the following questions and value your input.

1. How important was it for you to have your say today? And overall, how satisfied were you? (1 least to 7 most). Please circle your response.

   Importance: 1  2  3  4  5  6  7
   Satisfaction: 1  2  3  4  5  6  7

2. To what level do you want to be engaged? (please tick)

   □ Being Informed
   □ Being Asked and listened to
   □ Being Involved
   □ Being a partner
   □ Being the decider

3. Did this involvement today, meet that level? Y/N

4. What ideas do you have for engagement in the future?

5. Did you want to be involved in future sessions to explore engagement? Y/N

If so please provide your details:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Address: