

## 1. BACKGROUND

The Flinders Ranges Council (the Council) is committed to promoting responsible cat ownership. The objectives of this policy are:

- 1.1. To reduce the impact of the public and environmental nuisance caused by cats;
- 1.2. To protect the comfort and safety to members of the public; and
- 1.3. To protect the wellbeing and safety of cats.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1. Act means the Local Government Act 1999;
- 2.2. **By-Laws** mean the Council By-Law No 6 Cats 2014
- 2.3. **Cat** means an animal of the species felis catus which is at least three months of age or has lost its juvenile canine teeth;
- 2.4. **Council** means The Flinders Ranges Council
- 2.5. **Cat Cage** means a cage hired from Council for the purpose of safely trapping a cat.
- 2.6. **Identified Cat** means a cat that has a microchip implanted in its body, and the letter M tattooed on the inside of either of its ears.
- 2.7. **Unidentified Cat** means a cat that does not have a microchip implanted, no tattoo or other things such as a collar to assist in identifying its owner.
- 2.8. **Nuisance** means unreasonably interfering with the peace, comfort or convenience of a person, property or animal.

#### 3. SCOPE

3.1. The purpose of these guidelines is to adequately address the nuisance cats within the Council district and dispose or relocate any unidentified cats in a safe and appropriate manner.

#### 4. PURPOSE OF POLICY

4.1 To outline the responsibilities of the Council and the person being permitted to hire a cat cage.

#### 5. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1 An individual is able to hire Council's cat cage to be able to trap nuisance cat/s on their property. The condition of hire will be:
  - 5.1.1 The hirer must complete a hire agreement form
  - 5.1.2 The hirer must pay a deposit for the use of the cage which will be refunded upon the return of the cat cage.
  - 5.1.3 The hirer must bring in any cats that are trapped in the cage to be verified if it is an identified or unidentified cat.
  - 5.1.4 If the cat is identified, Council will take possession of the cat and return it to its owners, advising the owners of their responsibilities as a cat owner. All identified cats must be registered before they are returned.
  - 5.1.5 If the cat is unidentified, Council will arrange for the cat to be either rehomed or



**GUIDELINES FOR USE OF COUNCIL CAT TRAPS AND** 

DISPOSAL

euthanised at the veterinarians.

- 5.1.6 The hirer must agree to be responsible for the transportation of any unidentified cats to the veterinarians.
- 5.1.7 The hirer is responsible for any the loss or damages to the cages whilst in their possession.
- 5.1.8 All cats must be microchipped, desexed (unless and owner is a registered breeder or has a letter or exemption from the veterinarian) and registered on Dogs and Cats online.

### 6. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Director of Works will be responsible for these guidelines.

### 7. LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 1999

Dog and Cat management Act 1995

Local Nuisance and Litter Act 2016

#### 8. REFERENCES

FRC By Law No 6 - Cats 2014

#### 9. REVIEW

To be reviewed within 12 months after a General Election, in line with legislation and any legislative changes or by resolution of Council.

Adopted by Council Resolution

Review Date	Version Number	Change	Resolution
19 October 2021	1	Adoption	246/2021

Appendix 1 Cat Cage Hire Form

The Flinders Ranges Council	GOVERNANCE POLICY GUIDELINES FOR USE OF COUNCIL CAT DISPOSAL	TRAPS AND	Policy Number Version Number Issued Last Review Next Review GDS	OG.03 1 August 2021 August 2021 November 2023 9.63.1.1
Date	Y	es Deposit		ot number
Name				
Email Addro	ess	Phone		
Address	Yes			
Date Returi	ned D	eposit Returne	ed Signed	

# NOTICE TO BORROWER OF CAT TRAP

The Flinders Ranges Council has a cat trap that can be borrowed for one week, subject to the payment of a \$20 bond.

The bond will be refunded on return of the trap in good functioning condition. Council also wishes to make you aware of the requirements for the lawful disposal of any cat trapped.

A person may lawfully seize an unidentified cat, providing that it is delivered within 12 hours of seizure to:

- A registered veterinary surgeon, or
- A Cat Management Officer, or
- A facility for the care of cats operated by the RSPCA, the animal Welfare League of SA or a body or person specified by law. An individual is not authorised to destroy the cat.

# If the cat trapped is identified it must be returned to its owner. To be identified the cat must:

- Have a collar around its neck and the collar, or tag securely attached to the collar, is marked with a current address or telephone number of the owner or other person entitled to possession of the cat, or
- Has a microchip implanted in its body containing information that may be used to obtain the current address or telephone number of the owner. The microchipping of a cat is identified by the letter M tattooed on the inside of either of its ears.

#### If a Cat is trapped the Hirer agrees:

- To bring in any cats that may be trapped to the Councils Works Department, in the cage to be verified if it is a identified or unidentified cat.
  - That if the cat is identified Council will take possession of the cat and return it to its owner, advising them of their responsibilities as a cat owner. All identified cats must be registered before they are returned.



**GUIDELINES FOR USE OF COUNCIL CAT TRAPS AND** 

DISPOSAL

- That if the cat is unidentified Council will arrange for the Cat to be either rehomed or euthanised at the veterinarians.
- <u>To be responsible for the transportation of any unidentified cats to the</u> veterinarians surgery in Port Augusta.

NOTE: Any person failing to comply with the above, or interfering with a cat's identification is guilty of an offence and a maximum fine of \$5,000 pursuant to Sec 79, Dog & Cat Management Act.

1 of
------

have read and understand the requirements of lawful disposal of any cat trapped and will comply with these requirements.

.....

Date

Signed