

Council Policy

Council Policy Name: Rehoming of Impounded Dogs and Cats

Responsible Directorate: Planning and Development Services

Version: ADOPTED

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of this Policy is to establish a framework for the rehoming of impounded dogs and cats in accordance with the relevant legislation and established Memorandums of Understandings.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1. This Policy is applicable to dogs or cats that have been impounded into the City's Animal Care Facility and who have not been claimed within the period prescribed by the applicable Act (*Dog Act 1976* or *Cat Act 2011*).

3. DEFINITIONS

Term	Meaning
Animal Care Facility	the facility located at 306 Queen Elizabeth Avenue, Vasse
Memorandums of Understanding	understandings entered into with approved animal rescue and welfare organisations
Policy	this City of Busselton Council policy titled "Rehoming of Impounded Dogs and Cats"

4. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

- 4.1. This Policy links to Key Theme 4: LEADERSHIP - A Council that connects with the community and is accountable in its decision making, of the City's Strategic Community Plan June 2021 and specifically Strategic Priority 4.2: Deliver governance systems that facilitate open, ethical and transparent decision making.

5. POLICY STATEMENT

- 5.1. The City supports the rehoming of suitable impounded and unclaimed dogs and cats and will facilitate this through the establishment and use of Memorandums of Understanding.
- 5.2. Any Memorandum of Understanding entered into will contain obligations requiring the rescue and/or welfare organisation to ensure that dogs and cats are sterilised, microchipped and vaccinated prior to rehoming.
- 5.3. The Council acknowledges that organisations entering into Memorandums of Understanding are not-for-profit and volunteer based, and as such will consider waiving registration fees for a maximum of 12 months for dogs and cats under the immediate care of foster carers representing the organisation; conditional on the animal being both microchipped and sterilised.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTATION / LEGISLATION

- 6.1. *Dog Act 1976*
- 6.2. *Cat Act 2011*
- 6.3. *City of Busselton Keeping and Control of Cats Local Law 2014*
- 6.4. *City of Busselton Dogs Local Law 2014*

7. REVIEW DETAILS

Review Frequency		3 yearly		
Council Adoption	DATE	15 February 2023	Resolution #	C2302/021
Previous Adoption	DATE	14 September 2017	Resolution #	C1709/211