

Local laws and animal management



The value we provide

- Protect Council assets, the environment and the health and safety of the community
- Ensure responsible pet ownership.

What we do

- Enforce Local Law No 1 (use, occupation and behaviour on Council land, commercial activities, illegal advertising, dumped rubbish and illegal camping)
- Monitor building development compliance with asset protection permits.
- Proactive patrols and investigation of customer requests to ensure compliance with laws.
- Manage the impacts of increased visitation on our public spaces during the peak summer period through the delivery of a Summer Amenity program.
- Encourage responsible pet ownership through education and registration, respond to complaints about animals, and patrol parks and beaches.
- Implement the Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Why we do it

- To support a healthy and safe community, one that enjoys high levels of amenity and responsibly manages pet ownership.
- To fulfil mandatory duties described in the Local Government Act 1989 and Domestic Animals Act 1995.

Activities that support this service

- Animal management
- Local laws enforcement

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Our service at a glance

Service statistics

Local Laws

	2018/19	2019/20
• Customer requests for local laws investigation	5,208	-
• Asset protection permit inspections	1,074	-
• Proactive building site inspections	4,260	-
• Proactive patrols on shared open space and foreshore areas	275+	-

Animal Management

• Customer requests for animal management	3,134	-
• Pet registrations	9,600+	-

Service risk profile

Low

Strategic risks

Residual risk rating

- None specific to this service

Policies documents that support this service

[Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-21](#)

[Local Law Protocol and Procedure Manual 2016](#)

[Port Phillip Local Law No.1 \(Community Amenity\) 2018](#)

How much it costs to provide the service

Budget 2020/21

Operating costs	\$000	How the service is funded	\$000
Employee costs	1,927	Rates	1,283
Contracts	98	Parking revenue	318
Materials and other expenses	344	Reserves	(41)
Operating projects	0	Fees and charges (incl. statutory)	799
Total operating expenses	2,369	Grants	0
Capital projects	0	Other income	11
Total expenses	2,369	Total funding	2,369

(expenses include management overhead allocation, exclude depreciation and project expenditure)

FTE=17.6

Revenue from parking fees and fines is allocated on a proportionate basis across all service categories.

\$0.89 is spent on this service out of every \$100 of rates we receive

34% of costs are funded from fees and charges, grants or other income

Further revenue and expense information on the service

Activity	Expenses \$000	Revenue \$000
Local laws enforcement	1,026	220

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How much it costs to provide the service

Animal management	976	590
Management expenses	367	0
Total	2,369	810

Expenses exclude depreciation. Management expenses consist of apportioned costs for the Executive Leadership Team (CEO and general managers) and the relevant manager.

Major contracts (annualised expense) \$000

- None

Major property leases (\$000) Market rental estimate Rent per year (\$ excl GST)

- None

Major financial contributions \$000

- None 0

Major assets

Council assets (June 2020) Value \$000

- None

Our Council Plan 2017-27 priorities

Completed

- Review Council's local law to manage and improve community amenity.
- Review Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan, which promotes animal welfare and responsible pet ownership.

In progress

- Implement Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan.
- Continue to maintain a high standard of amenity, ensure compliance with local laws, through service improvements and mobile technology.

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Our projects (* means 100% and ** means partial grant and contribution funding)

Capital projects \$000	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
None			
Total capital projects (excluding Fleet Renewal allocation)	0	0	0
Operating projects \$000	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
None			
Total operating projects	0	0	0

How we are performing

Recent highlights

- Council prioritises animal management requests and strives to respond promptly and within the 24-hour timeframe. The focus on responsiveness to requests has resulted in an improved initial engagement with customers. The result is consistent with the previous reporting period and is expected to continue to remain steady throughout the year.
- This year we have received 11 favourable animal management prosecutions. Despite being above target, this is a result of our proactive efforts to mitigate irresponsible pet ownership.
- There were 22 animals rehomed from 193 animals collected.

Recent challenges

- There was a decrease in animals reclaimed. This was due to large quantities of cats surrendered to council. Council actively works to contact pet owners to collect their pets and is focused on educating the community on pet ownership and responsibilities.
- Cost of animal management service is higher this year and the cost of animal services will continue to be under pressure due to pound service fee increases.

Measure	2017/18 result	2018/19 result	2019/20 result	2020/21 target	Metro councils 2019/20
Days between receipt and first response actions for all Local Law requests	2	2	2	<3	No comparison available
Days between receipt and first response actions for all animal management requests	1	1	1	<2	1.96
Successful animal management prosecutions	6	6	11 (100%)	<10	85%
Percentage of animals reclaimed	48%	56%	51%	>55%	52%
Percentage of animals rehomed	No score	No score	11%	<10%	24%
Cost of animal management service per population	\$6.11	\$5.54	\$7.55	<\$8	\$6.01