

SUBJECT: COMPANION ANIMALS KILLED ON THE ROADS

FILE NO: F00086

Question from Councillor Brown, 11 March 2008:

What is the Council procedure of notifying owners of companion microchipped animals killed on the roads?

Response by Group Manager, Environmental & Customer Services

The BM City Services teams that collect dead animals from the roads are equipped with scanners and in the case of a companion animal they scan them for a chip, and/or look for ID on the collar.

If they locate a micro chip they contact the Ranger team who look up the details and contact the owner. If the information is on a tag, then City Services staff will attempt to contact the owner based on the information found.

City Services staff have indicated that there appears to be a significantly lower number of companion animals being removed from the roads than in the past.

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SUBJECT: ENFORCEMENT GUIDELINES FOR ROAMING CATS

FILE NO: F00086

Question from Councillor Brown, 11 March 2008:

What enforcement guidelines are available to the Council in terms of roaming cats?

Response by Group Manager, Environmental & Customer Services

The *Companion Animals Act 1998* details Council's responsibilities with respect to cats that roam.

Council may act if the roaming cat is:

- 1) In a prohibited area being where food is prepared or in a Wildlife Protection Area

Note: A Wildlife protection area means a public place set apart by the Council for the protection of wildlife and in which;

- a) the Council has ordered that cats are prohibited for the purposes of the protection of wildlife; and
- b) there are notices near the boundaries at reasonable intervals to the effect that cats are prohibited in or on that public place.

Wildlife Protection Areas have not been declared in the BMCC area.

- 2) Not identifiable whilst away from the property on which they are ordinarily kept.
- 3) Unregistered after attaining the age of six (6) month of age.
- 4) Making a noise that persistently occurs or continues to such a degree or extent that it unreasonably interferes with the peace comfort and convenience of any person in any other premises.
- 5) Repeatedly damages anything outside the property on which it is ordinarily kept.

Council action is limited to;

- The seizure of cats in prohibited areas or if they are not identifiable whilst away from the property on which they are ordinarily kept. This is an action that is not readily achievable in practice due to the elusive habits of cats; and
- The serving of a nuisance cat order on the owner of the cat to control the noise or damage referred to above.

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