

# Appendix 7 - Animal Welfare Plan

## Shire of Murray and Shire of Waroona

### 2022



## Disclaimer

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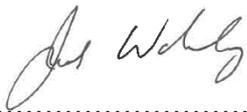
**Animal Welfare Plan Authority**

The joint Shire of Murray & Shire of Waroona Animal Welfare Plan (Animal Welfare Plan) been prepared and endorsed by the Shires Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) pursuant to Section 41(4) of the *Emergency Management Act 2005* and forms one part of the suite of documents referred to as the Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA).

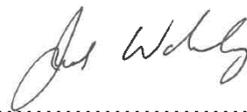
The Animal Welfare Plan (AWP) has been produced in accordance with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) Local Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies Guide and Template (July 2020).

A draft copy was distributed to the District Emergency Management Committee - South Metropolitan (DEMC – South Metro) for comment and feedback during the drafting of the joint LEMA and the documents included in it. A copy has been submitted to the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) for noting pursuant to section 41(5) of the *Emergency Management Act 2005*.

Chairperson		Date
Shire of Murray LEMC		25/08/2022
Cr. Stuart Kirkham	.....	.....

Chairperson		Date
Shire of Waroona LEMC		23/08/2022
Cr. Mike Walmsley	.....	.....

Shire President		Date
Shire of Murray		25/08/2022
Cr. David Bolt	.....	.....

Shire President		Date
Shire of Waroona		23/08/2022
Cr. Mike Walmsley	.....	.....

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## Distribution List

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Director Planning and Sustainability	Electronic	1
Manager Building Services	Electronic	1
Manager Environmental Health	Electronic	1
Director Corporate Services	Electronic	1
Manager Information Services	Electronic	1
Manager Governance	Electronic	1
Coordinator Ranger and Emergency Management	Electronic	1
Community Emergency Services Coordinator	Electronic	1
Ranger and Emergency Services Support Officer	Electronic	1
Manager Community and Library Services	Electronic	1
Team Leader Customer Service (MALC) / LGWLO	Electronic	1
Manager Communications and Marketing	Electronic	1
CEO Executive Support Officer / Admin. Support Officer	Electronic	1
Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO)	Hard	1
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (DCBFCO)	Hard	1
Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades (VBFB)	Hard	5
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Dwellingup Visitors Centre	Hard	2
Administration Office	Hard	1
Murray Library	Hard	1
Shire of Murray website	Electronic	1
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SoW Shire President / LRCG Chairperson	Hard	1
LEMC Chairperson / Shire of Waroona Councillor	Hard	1

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Community Development Officer	Hard	1
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Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades (VBFB)	Hard	3
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OIC - Pinjarra Police Station / Local Emergency Coordinator	Electronic	1
OIC - Dwellingup Police Station	Electronic	1
OIC - Waroona Police Station	Electronic	1
Alcoa Australia Representative	Electronic	1
CEO - Bedingfield Park Inc Aged Care Facility	Electronic	1
DC - Senior District Emergency Services Officer	Electronic	1
DFES - District Emergency Management Advisor - Metropolitan	Electronic	1
DFES - District Officer – Natural Hazards - South West	Electronic	1
DFES - District Officer – Emergency Management - South West	Electronic	1
Murray State Emergency Services Unit	Electronic	1
Pinjarra Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service	Electronic	1
St John Ambulance - Station Manager – Pinjarra Sub Centre	Electronic	1
Murray Waroona Schools – Network Principal	Electronic	1
Quambie Park Waroona Inc. - Representative	Electronic	1

Local Emergency Management Committee	Hard Copy / Electronic Copy	Nº of Copies
Belswan Lifestyle Village	Electronic	1
Community Representative - Shire of Murray	Electronic	1
Community Representatives - Shire of Waroona	Electronic	2
DoH - Manager Emergency Preparedness Disaster Response	Electronic	1
DBCA Parks and Wildlife - Senior Ranger	Electronic	1
DPIRD – Manager, Emergency Preparedness	Electronic	1
Harvey Water - Project Engineer	Electronic	1
Main Roads WA	Electronic	1
Water Corporation – Operations Manager	Electronic	1
Western Power – Field Operations Team Leader	Electronic	1
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DFES – Superintendent – South West	Electronic	1
WAPOL – Superintendent – Metropolitan South	Electronic	1
Western Power – Resource Manager South Metropolitan	Electronic	1
CEO – Shire of Boddington	Electronic	1
CEO – City of Mandurah	Electronic	1
CEO – City of Rockingham	Electronic	1
CEO – Shire of Serpentine/Jarrahdale	Electronic	1
CEO – Shire of Wandering	Electronic	1
CEO – Shire of Harvey	Electronic	1
PWS – Dwellingup Office	Electronic	1
PWS – Mandurah Office	Electronic	1
DC – Mandurah Office	Electronic	1
Department of Education – South Metro Regional Education Office	Electronic	1
Alcoa World Alumina – Refinery and Mine Site Managers	Electronic	2
Rotary Club – Pinjarra Branch	Electronic	1
Salvation Army – Mandurah	Electronic	1
Murray District Hospital	Electronic	1
DEMC – South Metro	Electronic	1
State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC)	Electronic	1
Pinjarra Veterinary Hospital	Electronic	1

Other	Hard Copy / Electronic Copy	No of Copies
Ravenswood Small Animal Clinic	Electronic	1
Murray Veterinary Services	Electronic	1
Waroona Veterinary Clinic	Electronic	1
K9 Rescue Group	Electronic	1
Mandurah Wildlife Rescue	Electronic	1
<b>Total:</b>		<b>105</b>

## Amendment Record

Suggestions and comments from the community and stakeholders can help improve the plan and subsequent amendments.

Feedback can include:

- What you do and don't like about the plan,
- Unclear or incorrect expression,
- Out-of-date information or practises,
- Inadequacies; and,
- Errors, omissions or suggested improvements.

To forward feedback copy the relevant section, mark the proposed changes and forward it to the Coordinator Ranger and Emergency Management:

### Shire of Murray

Post: PO Box 21  
PINJARRA WA 6208  
Email: [mailbag@murray.wa.gov.au](mailto:mailbag@murray.wa.gov.au)

### Shire of Waroona

Post: PO Box 20  
WAROONA WA 6215  
Email: [warshire@waroona.wa.gov.au](mailto:warshire@waroona.wa.gov.au)

Any suggestions and/or comments will be referred to the LEMC for consideration. Amendments promulgated are to be certified in the following table when entered.

Nº	Amendment/ Adoption Date	Details	Resolution Number	Amended by (Initials)
1	8 August 2022	Original Document – LEMC endorsed	LEMC22/004	
2	23 August 2022	Original Document – Shire of Waroona endorsed	OCM22/08/104	
3	25 August 2022	Original Document – Shire of Murray endorsed	OCM22/096	

## Review

The Animal Welfare Plan will be reviewed:

1. After an emergency event or incident that requires the activation of the Animal Welfare Plan
2. After training or exercise that exercises this Animal Welfare Plan
3. Every (5) years
4. Any other time the LEMC considers appropriate
5. Contact lists are updated quarterly

## Document Availability

Copies of the Animal Welfare Plan are available for inspection, free of charge, by members of the public during office hours and can be found at:

- Shire of Murray Administration Building, 1915 Pinjarra Road, Pinjarra,
- Shire of Waroona Administration Building, 52 Hesse Street, Waroona
- Murray Library, Corner Pinjarra Road and Forrest Street, Pinjarra
- Waroona Library, Corner Thatcher Street and Hesse Street, Waroona
- Dwellingup History and Visitor Information Centre, Marrinup Street, Dwellingup; and,
- Waroona Visitor Centre, 37 South Western Highway, Waroona.

or alternatively online at: [www.murray.wa.gov.au](http://www.murray.wa.gov.au) or [www.waroona.wa.gov.au](http://www.waroona.wa.gov.au)

All information relating to the joint LEMA, and associated documents, will be recorded on the Shire of Murray and Shire of Waroona record-keeping systems to ensure that all records are recorded, registered, maintained and stored. This will allow for efficient retrieval of information.

SoM HPE Content Manager – Emergency Management Files	
Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)	7206
Local Recovery – Financial	1/2281
Local Recovery – Communications	1/2282
Local Recovery – Coordination Group	1/2283
Local Recovery – Other	1/2284
Evacuation Centres	1/2161
SoW Synergysoft – Emergency Management Files	
Bushfire Control	23/1
Emergency Services	51/1
Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)	51/2
Bushfire Brigades	24/1

## Acknowledgements

The joint Local Emergency Management Committee would like to acknowledge the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) All West Australian's Reducing Emergencies (AWARE) Program for providing grant funding for a comprehensive review of the LEMA and the formation of the Animal Welfare Plan.

The quality of the information in this plan is directly attributed to the voluntary input of a wide range of organisations involved in animal management. The Shires Local Emergency Management Committee would also like to acknowledge assistance from employees at the following agencies whose input was critical to this Animal Welfare Plan being developed. These include representatives from:

- Shire of Murray
- Shire of Waroona
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)

Other Local Government Animal Welfare Plans have been referenced and been used to develop this plan to ensure best-practice, these include;

- City of Armadale
- Shire of Capel
- Shire of Augusta Margaret River
- Shire of Katanning

## Part 1 – Introduction

**This document is an Appendix to and should be read in conjunction with, the joint Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA).**

The joint LEMA is available at [www.murray.wa.gov.au](http://www.murray.wa.gov.au) or [www.waroona.wa.gov.au](http://www.waroona.wa.gov.au)

### LEMA and Associated Documents

- Local Emergency Management Arrangements
  - Local Recovery Plan
    - Local Recovery Resource Manual
  - Emergency Evacuation Plan
  - Animal Welfare Plan
  - Communication Plan
  - Local Emergency Welfare Plan – Peel Region (Department of Communities)

### Associated Legislation

- State Emergency Management Policy section 5.9.7
- *Dog Act 1976* and subsidiary legislation
- *Cat Act 2011* and subsidiary legislation
- *Animal Welfare Act 2002* and subsidiary legislation
- *Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960* and subsidiary legislation
- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*

### Purpose

The purpose of the Animal Welfare Plan is to provide clear guidance to Shire employees, Hazard Management Agencies and Supporting Agencies to assist with the care and management of domestic and native animals during an emergency event with the SoM and/or the SoW.

### Objectives

The objectives of the Animal Welfare Plan are to:

- Provide support and assistance to the LEMA
- Provide guidance in relation to roles and responsibilities in the event of an emergency

- Identify emergency management arrangements between stakeholders to ensure adequate and effective actions for preventative, preparedness, response and recovery arrangements
- Enhance public safety and community resilience through effective planning and management of animals during an emergency event, and ensure the protection of animal suffering during and immediately following an emergency event
- Provide the community and stakeholders with a reference document outlining the response and provision of animal welfare during an emergency event

## Roles and Responsibilities

- **Animal Owner / Carer**

Individual animal owners and/or carers are responsible for the welfare and preparedness of their animals prior and during any emergency event. This includes the response to and recovery from an emergency or disaster event.

- **Local Government**

- **Animal Welfare Liaison Officer (AWLO)** – The AWLO is the Coordinator Ranger and Emergency Management, or other employee determined by the SoM Chief Executive Officer or SoW Chief Executive Officer. Roles include;
  - Activate Ranger Services or other Local Government employees as required and according to their roles and responsibilities outlined in this AWP
  - Provide information to the SoM and/or the SoW Chief Executive Officer as applicable
  - Liaise between the Controlling Agency and the AWC
  - Provide information to relevant SoM Manager Communications and Marketing or SoW Executive Assistant to the CEO (SoW) for public release
  - Liaise with other SoM and/or SoW departments regarding rescue, transport and/or relocation of animals
  - Authorise and allocate necessary expenditure for animal welfare requirements
  - Liaise with DPIRD, WALGA, CAWE and the SAWEC as required
- **Animal Welfare Co-ordinator (AWC)** – The AWC is a On Duty Ranger who reports to, and takes direction from the AWLO. Roles include;
  - Coordinating the delivery of animal welfare for HMA
  - Managing the Animal Welfare Team (AWT) and equipment outlined in this AWP
  - Request assistance for community organisations, individuals or businesses that have the skills and resources to support the animal welfare team
  - Appoint a “Person in Charge” of the shelter from the AWT
- **Animal Welfare Team (AWT)** – The AWT shall be made up of Ranger Services or other Local Government employees and supporting local animal business employees, as required. The AWT works under direction from the AWC. Roles include;

- Keep an “Animal Register” ([Appendix 1](#)) for all animals brought in the designated or existing location serving as a temporary animal management facility
  - Ensure completion of “Individual Animal Registration Form” ([Appendix 2](#)) for all animals taken in the SoM and/or SoW’s care during an emergency
  - Provide each animal with a tag that has a number corresponding to the “Animal Registration Log”
  - Ensure that animals are secure and confined in an area where they are not likely to injure or be injured by other animals
  - Ensure that animals are fed and watered, and that the facilities are regularly cleaned
  - Report any apparent injury and/or illness to a Veterinarian and if necessary transport animals requiring treatment, or if necessary euthanasia, to a designated facility
  - Record the details of owners including time of release on the “Animal Register” and ensure that the “Individual Animal Registration Form” ([Appendix 2](#)) is filled out when animals are released
  - Consult with the AWC regarding possible alternative locations for the animal management facility (AMF) when damage, overcrowding or other circumstances exist at the current AMF
- **Operations Officer** - The Operations Officer is the Ranger and Emergency Services Support Officer, or another designated Local Government employee, who works under the direction of the AWC. Roles include;
- Undertake administration duties required for the collection and maintenance of animal data, animal record management and triage of lost animal reports. A “Lost Animal Report” ([Appendix 3](#)) is to be completed
  - Assist with the management of additional employees and volunteers assisting with the emergency event
  - Complete the “Found Animal Report” ([Appendix 4](#)) and display at the Evacuation Centre/s and/or the Temporary Animal Management Facilities
- **Field Officers** – are employees from the Ranger Services and/or other Local Government employees, as required. Direction to Field Officers is provided by the AWC. Entry to emergency area by Field Officer is subject to direction from the Controlling Agency. Field Officer roles include;
- Assessment of the emergency area to identify, capture and contain any animals that are escaped, released or straying
  - Identify animals requiring veterinarian assessment, treatment, care or euthanasia, as well as those deceased animals requiring disposal
  - Complete the “Escaped, Released or Stray Animal Information Sheet” ([Appendix 5](#))
  - Relocate animals to an existing or designated temporary animal management facility
  - Assist with the supply of food and water to animals within the emergency area where the owners/carers have not been identified or are not present
  - Complete an Animal Needing Welfare Data Sheet ([Appendix 6](#)) for those animals identified and not evacuated from the emergency area

- **Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA)** – WALGA represents the SoM and the SoW on the Committee for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (CAWE) and may be requested by DPIRD to join the Animal Welfare Emergency Group (AWEG) during an emergency event
- **Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)** – Activation of the [State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies](#) at the request of the Controlling Agency. Coordination and management of the CAWE and authority to request members of CAWE to join the Animal Welfare Emergency Group (AWEG) to facilitate coordinated support for animal welfare during an emergency. The trigger for activating the DPIRD Animal Welfare Emergency Group is determined by the AWLO dependant on the scope of the emergency incident.
- **Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)** – assist with animal evacuation through the State Emergency Services (SES) – Mounted Division and provide representation on the CAWE
- **Western Australia Police (WA Police)** – assist with animal evacuation through the Police Mounted Division and provide representation on the CAWE
- **Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)** - Native wildlife management and provides representation on the CAWE
- **Royal Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA)** – Animal Welfare through the care for those who are lost or abandoned and need rehabilitation and longer care treatment. Provide representation on the CAWE
- **Department of Communities (DC)** – Provide information to the public regarding animal housing arrangements including those people and people with animals in evacuation centres. Provide information from DPIRD regarding animal welfare to people in welfare centres and liaise with DPIRD regarding the reunification of owners/carers with their animals
- **Australia Red Cross and Salvation Army** – Provide support to people and people with animals in evacuation centres, and provide mental health and wellbeing support to those that have been separated from their animals and/or have been advised that their animals are deceased or have been euthanised
- **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** – Emergency Management MoU (**LEMA Appendix 10**) between City of Mandurah, City of Rockingham, Shire of Murray, Shire of Waroona and Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale formalises the cooperative arrangements promoting the sharing of resources during emergencies and during post incident recovery which affects one or more of the partnering local governments

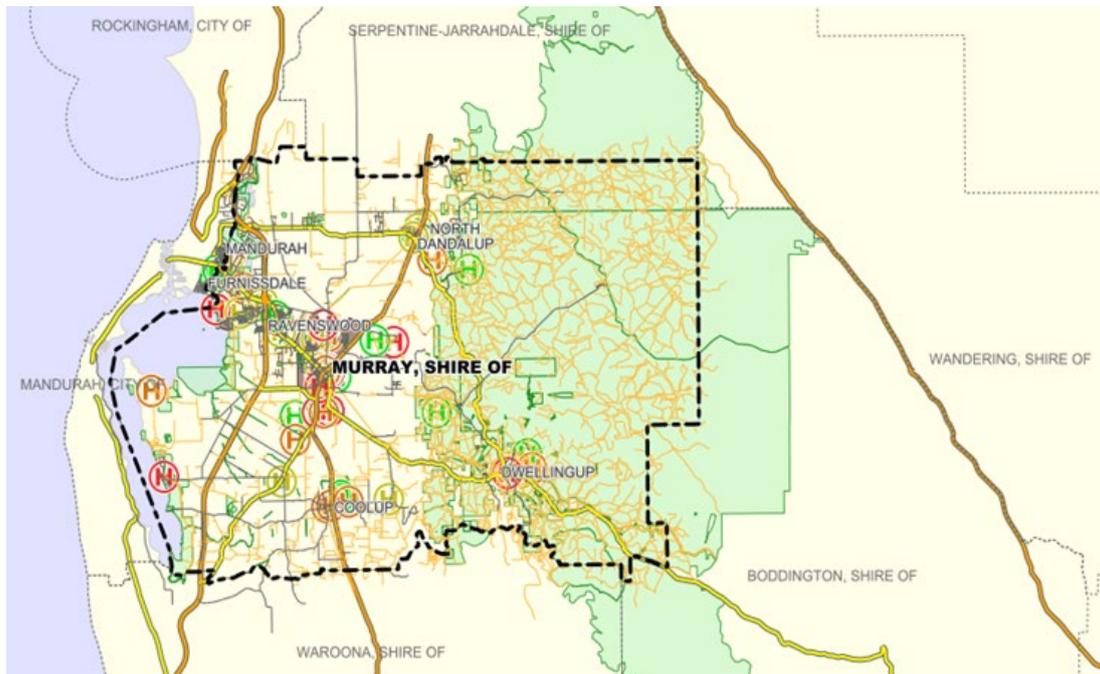
## Part 2 - Scope

This Animal Welfare Plan is limited to the boundaries of the SoM and the boundaries of the SoW, and forms a part of the joint LEMA.

### Shire of Murray

The SoM consists of the following localities;

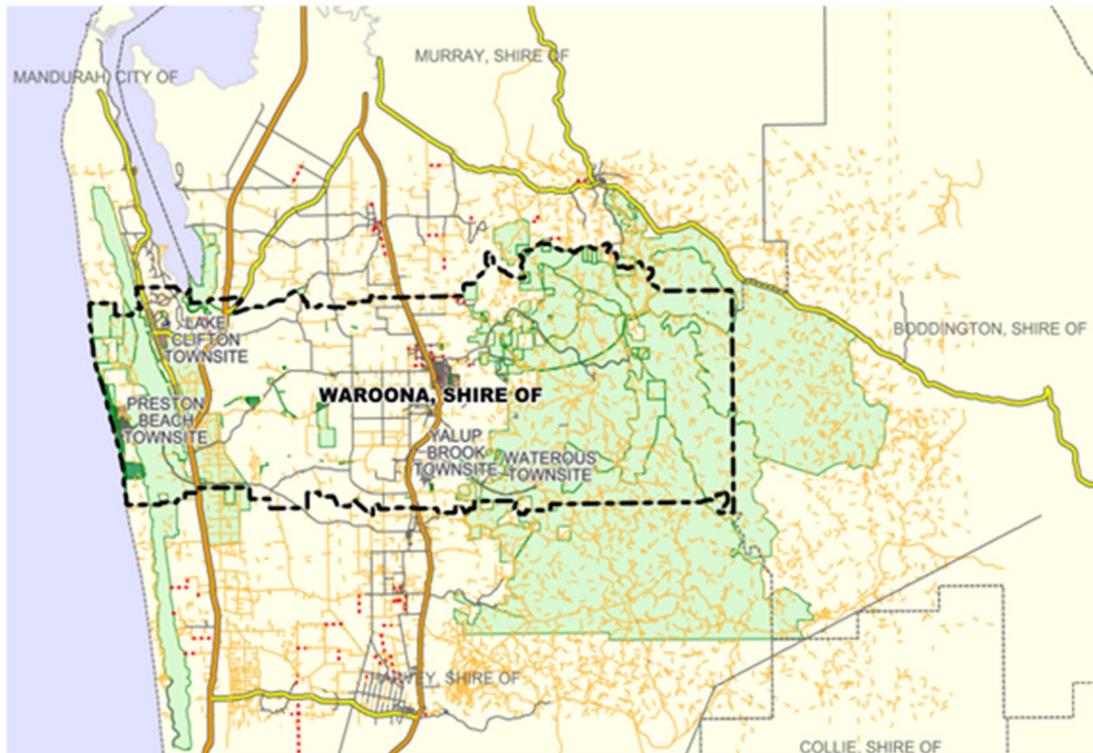
Banksiadale	Keralup (part)	Pinjarra
Barragup	Keysbrook (part)	Point Grey
Birchmont	Marrinup	Ravenswood
Blythewood	Meelon	Solus
Coolup	Myara	South Yunderup
Etmilyn	Nambeelup	Stake Hill
Fairbridge	Nirimba	Teesdale
Furnissdale	North Dandalup	West Coolup
Holyoake	North Yunderup	West Pinjarra
Inglehope	Oakley	Whittaker



### Shire of Waroona

The SoW consists of the following localities;

Hamel	Lake Clifton	Nanga Brook
Preston Beach	Wagerup	Waroona



The AWP covers arrangements for all non-native species within the Shires boundaries. This would include any non-native transient animals that may be located within Shire boundaries during an emergency event. The following type of animals are outside the scope of this Plan

- Wildlife
- Feral animals
- Privately owned animals in wildlife parks or zoos

The AWP also outlines the care of animals at evacuation centres, temporary animal management facilities and any longer-term animal arrangements deemed suitable by the SoM and SoW during an emergency event.

### Part 3 - Cost / Financial Arrangements

The SoM and SoW recognise [State EM Policy 5.12 – "Funding for Emergency Responses"](#), which outlines financial arrangements in meeting costs associated with an emergency.

The Emergency Management Agency with operational control of any resource is responsible for payment for all related expenses associated with its operation during emergencies, unless other arrangements are established. Agencies that have assisted in responses may be eligible for reimbursement of some expenses.

Special arrangements may be required in relation to financial expenditure during an emergency. Such arrangements must be in accordance with the financial management provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Normal fees for caring of animals during an emergency will be waived by the SoM and SoW, provided that animals are collected within two (2) weeks after the emergency has passed.

Animals must be collected within a reasonable time frame, as deemed by the AWC, following the conclusion of the emergency incident unless prior satisfactory arrangements have been made.

Any costs for transport, shelter, unusual feed supplies and veterinarian treatment are to be borne by the animal owner/carer for animals that are being cared for during an emergency event.

Arrangements for the return of animals shall be made at the time of entry into the AMF. The owner contact details shall be recorded on the "Individual Animal Registration Form" ([Appendix 2](#)).

## Part 4 - Preparedness

As part of the LEMA, the Shires have developed this AWP to assist with supporting their communities to develop preparedness, and to provide education to animal owners and carers on their responsibility for their animals during an emergency event.

Equipment and supplies will be available during emergencies to support animal welfare and provisions will be made available at evacuation centres, temporary animal management facilities and any longer-term animal facilities during an emergency event.

The following risks have been identified through the [SEMC State Risk Project](#) as 'priority hazards' within the SoM and SoW:

- Bushfire
- Chemical Substance (HAZMAT)
- Cyclone
- Earthquake
- Flood
- Heatwave
- Storm

### Community Preparedness

At all times, and including during an emergency event, animal owners/carers have the responsibility for their animals wellbeing and safety. This includes livestock, horses, companion animals and wildlife under their direct care.

The best form of preparedness is to have an emergency plan that includes details regarding:

- Which animals are to be evacuated and which are to remain onsite?
- What transport options are available for both large and small animals?
- What are the evacuation routes from our property for different types of hazards?
- What are the triggers for implementing evacuation or relocating animals to a safer area?
- What are the safest, low risk areas to relocate animals to if they can't be evacuated?
- Are there adequate provisions available (food, water access) for those animals remaining on property?
- Are animals able to be identified (microchipping, National Livestock Identification System, registration of dogs and cats)?
- What other options are available to temporarily house my animals in the event of an emergency (family, friends, animal welfare shelters, boarding kennels, agistment centres etc)

Further information is available from the DPIRD website [Animal Welfare in Emergencies](#).

Animal owners/carers are responsible for the costs associated with the provision of private services such as, but not limited to, veterinary clinics, private shelters, food suppliers etc.

Community preparedness strategies to be implemented by SoM and SoW in the leadup to an emergency event and prior to formal incident activation include:

- Community messaging via Social Media, SMS, LED signage and Emergency WA
- Ensure that employees have received pre-training in animal handling
- Ensure that resource pre-positioning have been undertaken which includes pre-planned teams, access to suitable animal shelters, access to adequate food and water supplies, and access to transport services. Details of resources can be found in the **LEMA – Part 10 – Resource and Asset Register**

## Part 5 - Response

### Activation

In the event of an emergency event, the decision to evacuate and the type of evacuation, is made by the Incident Controller under [State Emergency Management \(EM\) Policy Section 5.7](#) and [State EM Plan Section 5.3.2](#).

Where a decision for an evacuation, the SoM and/or SoW may determine that the activation of this AWP is required.

The scale of activation will be dependent on the emergency event.

### Situation and Intelligence

The AWP will be provided to all members of the LEMC and all individuals, businesses and organisations on the LEMA distribution list.

Templates to assist with the welfare of animals in emergency events have been developed and will be used to capture information and accurately report.

### Public Information

In the event of an emergency event, the HMA is responsible for the management of public information as outlined in **LEMA Part 4 – Response – Media Management and Public Information**.

Following the activation of the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies the SoM Manager Communications and Marketing and/or SoW Executive Assistant to the CEO will liaise with the HMA to provide local information that may include:

- Information for persons evacuating with animals including what resources are available and how they are able to request assistance
- The state of the general welfare of animals involved in the emergency
- The location/s of animals
- Information to enable owners to find and reunite with the animals
- Information regarding public donations

### Response Activities

- **Transportation and Evacuation Route Options**

The Animal Welfare Liaison Officer (AWLO) will liaise with DPIRD and the HMA to provide information regarding local resources and advice regarding the evacuation of people with animals and the evacuation of animals.

This may include:

- Road closures, safe route alternatives and route suitability for traffic
- Consideration of early evacuation for those travelling with large animal carriers
- Possible transport options and details of volunteers available to assist

- **Temporary Evacuation Centres/Shelters**

Animals are not permitted in Evacuation Centres or Shelters with the exception being assistance/service dogs. The SoM and SoW will provide alternative options for animals to be temporarily accommodated, and where possible will be within the vicinity of the Evacuation Centres (refer **LEMA - Part 11 – Evacuation and Welfare Centres**).

The approved SoM and SoW temporary animal management facilities are:

- Domestic - SoM Animal Management Facility, 6 Baker Street, Pinjarra
- Livestock - Murray Regional Equestrian Centre, 42 Murray Street, Coolup

Other nominated temporary shelters may be required depending on the number of animals involved in the emergency. Refer to **LEMA Appendix 2.12 Identified Alternative Temporary Animal Facilities**.

The movement of livestock is to be undertaken in accordance with the [Biosecurity and Agriculture Management \(Identification and Movement of Stock and Apiaries\) Regulations 2013](#).

- **Stray Animals**

During an emergency animal often escape, be released or stray, and may pose additional risk to emergency services personnel and their vehicles.

When directed by the HMA that the emergency area is safe to re-enter, the SoM and/or the SoW AWC will implement employees to undertake the roles and responsibilities as outlined in the section within this document titled [Local Government](#)

- **Access to Properties**

In an emergency event, entry into areas may be restricted and road closures may be put in place to delay people returning to their properties and animals on their properties. This is a requirement to ensure community safety, and SoM and/or SoW employees will provide welfare as outlined in the section within this document titled [Local Government](#)

- **Animal Welfare Assessment, Triage and Treatment**

All concerns regarding animal welfare during an emergency should be directed to the AWC and on ground assessments can only begin once authorisation has been obtained to re-enter the

affected area by the controlling HMA. The team authorised to undertake these assessments include officers from relevant agencies including SoM, SoW, DFES, DBCA, DPIRD, WAPS and RSPCA.

Activities will include;

- Assessment of impacted animals
- Prioritisation of (triage) the welfare needs of animals
- Provision of welfare assessment to assist the controlling agency or HMA to include animal welfare considerations in ongoing response and recovery operations.

Wildlife animal welfare needs are to be determined of the DBCA, and they will determine if any intervention or treatment is required by affected wildlife.

### • **Euthanasia and Disposal**

If it is determined that an animal requires immediate euthanasia, every effort will be made to identify or contact the owner or carer of the animal. If the owners cannot be identified or contacted, immediate humane destruction is permissible under the [Animal Welfare Act 2002](#).

Where possible the animal owners or carers should be notified that their animals have been euthanised or is deceased prior to returning back to their property.

The disposal of animals is primarily the responsibility of the animal owner or carer but where possible Shire employees and DPIRD are able to provide advice and assistance regarding appropriate timing and disposal of carcasses. [DPIRD](#) is only to be consulted following the activation of the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies.

Where this relates to wildlife DPIRD will consult with DBCA following the activation of the State Support Plan for Animals Welfare in Emergencies.

### • **Emergency Supplies**

Emergency events within the SoM and/or the SoW may impact on the availability of water, pastures and other sources of food that are usually available to animals. This can have severe impact on non-evacuated animals within the emergency area as well as those in large numbers or at livestock facilities. Shire employees, in coordination with the HMA and DPIRD (only following the activation of the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies), will determine the following;

- Identify animals requiring access to food and water as part of the welfare assessment within the emergency area
- Assist with the identification of evacuated animals that require access to emergency water and food. Refer to the **LEMA – Part 10 Resource and Asset Register – Animal Food Suppliers**

- Identify potential sources of food and water including depots, distribution centres and water
- Donations of non-perishable food for the immediate care of animals will be accepted through prior arrangement with the AWC and DPIRD (only following the activation of the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies).

- **Reunite**

The AWC, AWT and designated Shire employees will endeavour to capture and record as much information as possible in order to reunite animals with their owner and/or carer. The process will include;

- Completion of a Lost Animal Report (**Appendix 3**)
- Identification of animals via the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) and microchipping
- Liaise with DC to reunite animals with their owners or carers that are in evacuation centres
- Tagging of escaped, released and stray animals captured following the emergency event

## Volunteers and Donations

During emergencies, the management of volunteers and donations will be undertaken by DPIRD (only following the activation of the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies), and they will coordinate arrangements to best utilise resources and services as they are required. DBCA will be consulted where donations and volunteers relate to the welfare of wildlife.

## Other Considerations / Challenges

During an emergency event, there are a number of other considerations that may impact on the response activities outlined above. These may include:

- **Impacts from Utility Outages**

In the event of a power outage during an emergency event, consideration must be given to the impact to windmills, bores, water pumps and reticulation systems used for watering animals and livestock. Access to properties may also be impacted in regard to electric gates, as well as the ability to secure stock by way of electric fencing.

- **Rescue Requirements**

A list of the available rescue resources and equipment is included in the joint LEMA in the following sections:

- Part 9 – Emergency Contacts Directory
- Part 10 – Resource and Asset Register

- **Decontamination**

In the event of a flood, decontamination may be required when animals are exposed to contaminated water which may include asbestos and other hazardous materials. If decontamination is required, direction is to be given by the HMA.

If the animals have remained with their owners/carers, all possible risks are to be communicated, and relevant information provided to the owners or carers.

- **Biosecurity**

Any biosecurity concerns are to be reported to DPIRD, and if biosecurity hazards are present then DPIRD is the HMA and will implement the [State Hazard Plan – Animal and Plant Biosecurity](#).

In an effort to reduce the risk of disease and pest spread, the Animal Welfare Team and designated Field Officers will record the movement and housing of animals, record ownership and identification details of animals, note any known relevant vaccination records or medical history and record details regarding the source of any animal feed supplies or donations.

Cleaning and maintenance of SoM AMF is in accordance with normal procedures.

Other known biosecurity hazards are the six priority declared weeds as declared by the Peel Harvey Biosecurity Group which are present within the SoM and SoW. [Peel Harvey Biosecurity Group - Weeds \(phbg.org\)](#)

- **Zoonotic Disease**

To manage potential disease, reduce spread and prevent outbreaks within temporary AMF, standard procedures for cleaning and maintenance are to be applied.

- **Mental Wellbeing Support**

The SoM and SoW will collaborate with Red Cross to support animal owners, carers and employees. Services include mental health support services delivered through trained personnel. Information regarding welfare assistance is also available on the DC website - [Disaster and emergency support services \(www.wa.gov.au\)](#)

SoM and SoW employees are able to access an Employee Assistance Program as well as Shire employees undertaking regular debriefing meetings to provide support of wellbeing within the team.

## Part 6 - Recovery

### Responsibility

The SoM and SoW are responsible for managing the recovery phase following an emergency that has affected the districts under section 36(b) of the *Emergency Management Act 2005*.

The Local Recovery Coordinator, in collaboration with the State Recovery Coordinator (if appointed), are responsible for the implementation of the recovery phase once it has been declared by the Incident Controller.

### Transition to Recovery

The joint LRP forms part of the joint LEMA and will be used to ensure animal welfare into the recovery phase of an emergency event. Many of the [Part 5 – Response](#) activities will continue into the recovery phase and during this time DPIRD will transition the responsibility of ongoing animal welfare activities back to the Shires and the owners and/or carers of the animals.

Prior to animals being moved back into an emergency affected area, the area needs to be inspected to ensure that it is safe for the return of animals. This inspection will be undertaken by the SoM and SoW employees in conjunction with supporting agencies, and factors to consider include, but are not limited to:

- The emergency area has been declared safe to the return of people and animals
- Perimeter fencing has been inspected and deemed adequate for the return of livestock and large animals
- If the animal's owner or carer is not present, then animals are returning to a safe and liveable environment with provisions supplied for their wellbeing
- Any stranded or lost animals within the emergency area have been secured and where possible returned to their owners or carers
- Biosecurity issues regarding the movement of animals within the emergency area have been considered and any possibility of the transmission of disease from live and deceased animals has been addressed
- Animals welfare and wellbeing has been considered in relation to the trauma and stress on the animals as a result of the emergency event
- The welfare and wellbeing of animal owners and carers has been considered with regard to additional trauma and stress experienced if their animals have been lost, injured or are deceased as a result of the emergency event





Appendix 2 – Individual Animal Registration Form

**Incident Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Part A – Animal Owner							
Name:						Phone:	
Address:						Mobile:	
Alternative contact details:							
Part B – Animal Details							
Nº	Animal Name	Type dog, horse, etc	Breed	Description, colour, etc	Collar, tag, etc	Brand, Tag Nº	Comments
1							
2							
3							
Signature:						Date:	
Part C – Officer Actions							
Part D – Animal Shelter							
Location:						Animal Shelter Register Nº:	
Person in Charge:						Date:	
Part E – Animal Relocation							
Relocated to (Name):						Phone:	
Address:						Mobile:	
Signature:						Date:	
Part F – Return or Collection Details							
Name:						Phone:	
Address:						Mobile:	
Signature:						Date:	

Appendix 3 – ‘Lost Animal Report’



Incident Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part A – Animal Owner**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative contact details:

**Part B – Animal Details**

Nº	Animal Name	Type dog, horse, etc	Breed	Description, colour, etc	Collar, tag, etc	Brand, Tag Nº	Microchip number (if available)
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							

Location and time last seen:

Comments:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part C – Officer Actions**

**Part F – Return or Collection Details**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm

Appendix 4 – ‘Found Animal Report’ – PUBLIC NOTICE

Incident Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Shire of Murray



Animal Details					
Nº	Type of animal	Breed (if known)	Description/colour/sex (if known)	Collar, Registration tag, NILS or microchip details (if known)	Location and time found
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					

Appendix 5 – ‘Escaped, Released or Stray Animal Information Sheet’

Incident Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Details			
Type of animal/s			
How many			
Location			
Breed (if known)			
Description, colour, sex (if known)			
Owner details (if known)			
Reported by	Name:	Telephone:	
	Address:	Email:	
Officer Actions:			
Details if animal/s returned to owner/carer or relocated (include date and time)			
Officer name			
	Date:		Time: _____

Appendix 6 – ‘Animal Needing Welfare Data Sheet’

**Incident Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Details			
Type of animal/s			
How many			
Breed (if known)			
Description, colour, sex (if known)			
Location of animal/s			
Welfare required			
Owner details (if known)			
Reported by	Name:	Telephone:	
	Address:	Email:	
Officer Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Veterinarian</li> <li>• Euthanasia</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>		
Officer name			
	Date:		Time:

## Appendix 7 – Glossary of Terms

**Agency** – A Government agency, including Commonwealth, State or Local Government Authority

**Animal** – Under the Animal Welfare Act, an animal is defined as a live vertebrate; or a live vertebrate of a prescribed kind, other than a human or a fish (as defined in the *Fish Resources*)

**Biosecurity** – The protection of primary industries, the environment, economy and human health from the risks posed by harmful organisms including any animal or plant pest or disease through exclusion, containment, eradication and management.

**Companion Animal** – Any animals other than horses kept primarily for companionship, hobbies, sport or work.

**Controlling Agency** – an agency nominated to control the response activities to a specified type of emergency.

**Emergency** – the occurrence or imminent occurrence of a hazard which is of such a nature or magnitude that it requires a significant and coordinated response.

Note: The terms "emergency" and "disaster" are used nationally and internationally to describe events which require special arrangements to manage the situation. "Emergencies" or "disasters" are characterised by the need to deal with the hazard and its impact on the community.

The term "emergency" is used on the understanding that it also includes any meaning of the word "disaster".

**Hazard Management Agency** – a public authority, or other person, prescribed by the *Emergency Management Regulations 2006* to be a hazard management agency for emergency management, or an aspect of emergency management, of a hazard.

**Horse** – Any horse or equine hybrid (*Equus caballus*; *Equus asinus*)

**Livestock** – Has the meaning of Stock as defined in regulation 4 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Regulations 2013*, including the following:

- Buffalo including buffalo cattle hybrids
- Camel
- South American Camelids
- Cattle including cattle buffalo hybrids
- Deer and any hybrids
- Emu
- Goat
- Ostrich

- Pig
- Poultry and any hybrids
- Sheep

**Organisation** – Includes government agencies, non-government agencies, volunteer organisations and private sector organisations.

**Owner or Carer** – Has the meaning of ‘person in charge’ in the *Animal Welfare Act 2002*. “Person in charge, in relation to an animal, means –

- a) The owner of the animal;
- b) A person who has actual physical custody or control of the animal;
- c) If the person referred to in paragraph (b) is a member of staff of another person, that other person; or
- d) The owner or occupier of the place or vehicle where the animal is or was at the relevant time”

**Restricted Area** – A declared area in which defined rigorous conditions apply to the movement into, out of, and within, of specified animals, person or things.

**Support Organisation** – a public authority, or other person, prescribed by the Regulations to be a support organisation for the purposes of the *Emergency Management Act 2005* because of the agency’s functions under any written law or specialised knowledge, expertise and resources, and is responsible for providing support functions prescribed by the Regulations in relation to that organisation.

**Triage** – The process by which animals are sorted and prioritized according to their need for care, veterinary treatment or euthanasia.

**Wildlife** – An animal that is indigenous to Australia’s land or waters, living without regular human intervention or support and having the meaning of fauna, as defined within the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

**Zoonotic diseases** – is an infectious disease caused by a pathogen (an infectious agent, such as a bacterium, virus, parasite or prion) that has jumped from a non-human animal (usually a vertebrate) to a human.

## Appendix 8 – Acronyms

The following acronyms are used throughout the Animal Welfare Plan;

The Act	<i>Emergency Management Act 2005</i>
AMF	Animal Management Facility
AWC	Animal Welfare Coordinator
AWEG	Animal Welfare Emergency Group
AWLO	Animal Welfare Liaison Officer
AWP	Animal Welfare Plan
AWT	Animal Welfare Team
CAWE	Committee for Animal Welfare in Emergencies
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CP	Communication Plan
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
DEMC	District Emergency Management Committee - South Metropolitan
DFES	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
DC	Department of Communities
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
EM	Emergency Management
EEP	Emergency Evacuation Plan
HMA	Hazard Management Agency
JOINT	Shire of Murray and Shire of Waroona
LEMA	Local Emergency Management Arrangements
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee
LRP	Local Recovery Plan
LRRM	Local Recovery Resource Manual



RSPCA	Royal Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals
SAWEC	State Animal Welfare Emergency Coordinator
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SES	State Emergency Services
SoM	Shire of Murray
SoW	Shire of Waroona
WALGA	Western Australian Local Government Association