

**SHARE
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**Share Strathbogie
Survey Results**

Domestic Animal Management Plan

29th July 2021 - 27th August 2021



POWERED BY

The HiVE

Domestic Animal Management Plan

Background

Under Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 (the Act), every Council in Victoria is required to produce a Domestic Animal Management Plan (plan) which will be renewed every four years. The plan covers issues such as:

- The importance of pets to Shire residents
- Concerns about animal-related matters (nuisance animals, dog attacks, dangerous dogs and restricted breeds)
- Ideas and resources to help locals manage and care for their pets
- Dogs in parks and reserves, and
- How well information provided by Council about pets and animal management addresses the needs of residents.

The Engagement Approach

Our planned engagement program and associated communications campaign will ensure our residents are clear on how to have their say and feel confident in providing their feedback.

Our plan takes a four-stage approach to community engagement – which will ensure community input into the development of the draft plan. This means we're developing a draft plan with the community, not simply releasing a draft plan for consultation.

The stages, goals and tools to be used are summarised in the table below. Stage one and two are complete:

Stage	Goal	Tools and methods
One	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To education our community about the DAMP.• To inform our community a new DAMP is being prepared.• To ensure the community understands how to participate.• To provide communications that encourage people to participate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media release• Fact sheets• Website copy• Advertising• Social Media• Posters
Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To educate our community about the role of a DAMP.• To provide our community with the opportunity to provide input into the development of the Draft DAMP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media release• Website copy• Advertising• Social Media• Fact sheets• Share Strathbogie online engagement• Letters to key stakeholders seeking feedback
Three	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To show the community how their input, provided during stage two, helped inform the Draft DAMP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media release• Website copy

Engagement Report

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To provide the community with further opportunity to have their say on the Draft DAMP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AdvertisingSocial MediaShare Strathbogie online engagementLetters to key stakeholders seeking feedback
Four	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To provide the community with an updated DAMP.To provide the community with information on how their feedback was used to develop the DAMP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Website contentSocial MediaMedia releaseAdvertisingMy Strathbogie BulletinLetters / emails to stakeholdersShare Strathbogie online engagement

Depth of engagement

Depth: Involve

Public participation goal: To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.

Promise to the public: We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.

Participation and reach

- Sixty-one contributors participated in the DAMP survey on www.share.strathbogie.vic.gov.au
- There were 218 page views on the project
- A social media reach of 5507 was achieved with an engagement score of 452.

Recommendations

Council Officers to develop a Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan to be released for community consultation (stage three of the engagement plan). Key themes to be investigated for inclusion in the draft include:

- A focus on responding to nuisance dogs and cat reports
- Education and communication about responsible pet ownership, with a focus on social media
- Greater availability of poo bags and bins
- Investigate off-leash times in Shire parks and walks
- More regular ranger patrols
- Stronger fines for those consistently doing the wrong thing
- Warnings for first time offenders

For detailed survey data please see following report (doc ID 740693).

Closed

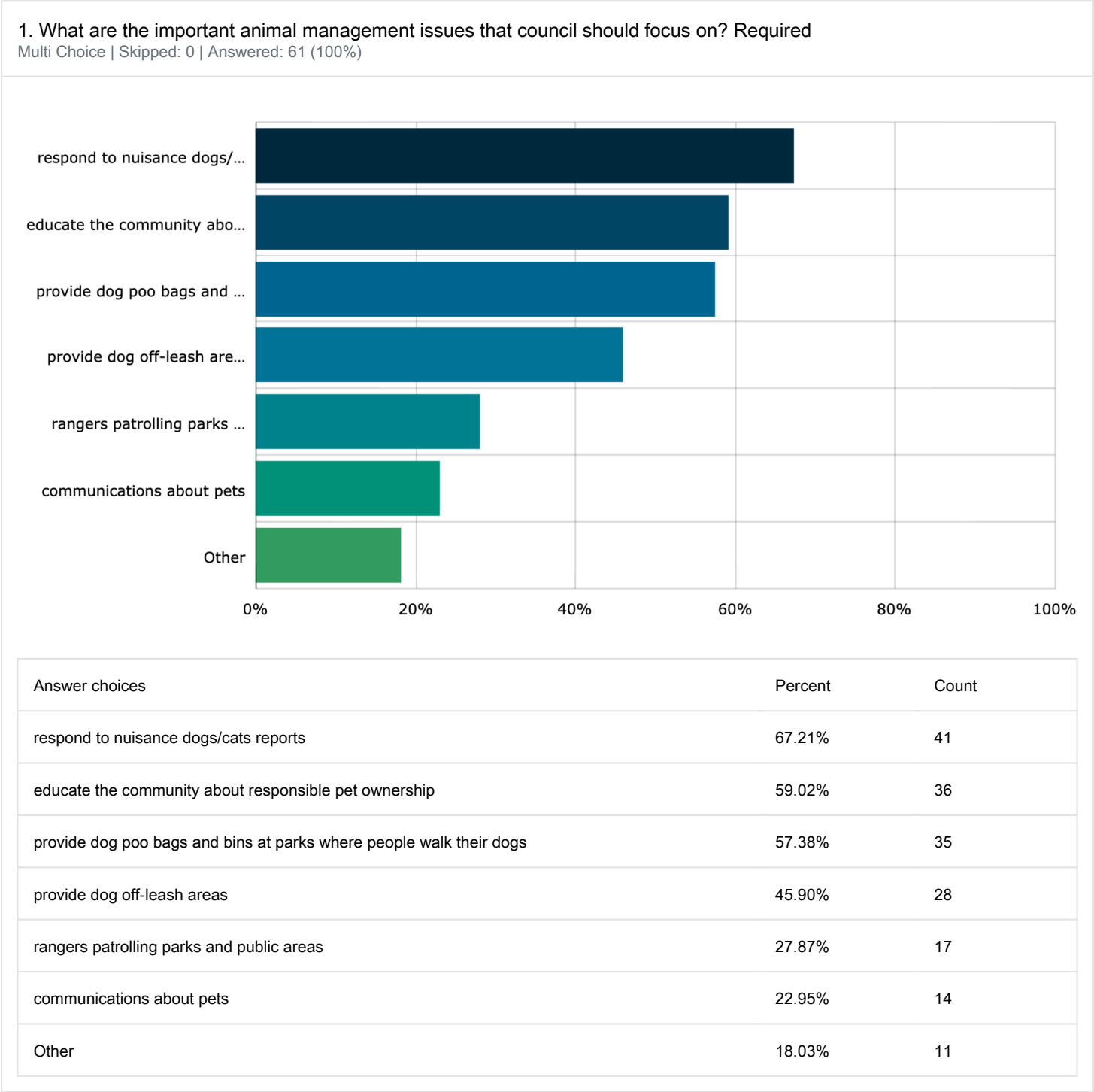
Domestic Animal Management Survey

[Domestic Animal Management Plan](#)

57Contributors

61Contributions

Contribution summary



1. What are the important animal management issues that council should focus on?

Selected answer: Other

1	Protecting stock and wildlife from domestic animal attacks
2	Restrict cats to their property boundary, I've live many country towns that have cats restricted to their yard. Also I've had cats of my own and restricted them to my property boundary very easily
3	DABs
4	More microchip days or encourage people to bring their dogs and check their details are up to date on their respective registry
5	We have enough laws and regulation re animals and pet so will you please focus on maintaining our roads and footpaths, please.
6	The fact that many people care about the local wildlife and irresponsible pet ownership (mostly cats and dogs) can heavily impact local wildlife populations.
7	24 hour cat curfew
8	Stray dogs
9	Have an actual pound in the shire our rates are high enough without travelling to Shepparton to get your pet back in f they get out.
10	provide water stations ,human and pet around walking tracks and parks refurbish and reinstate local pound
11	Curfew for cats to protect native wildlife

2. Is there an area in which we should focus our actions to encourage responsible pet ownership?

Long Text | Skipped: 20 | Answered: 41 (67.2%)

1	All domestic pets, including cats, should not be allowed outside without a lead. If they cannot be restrained in the owners yard, then it should be an indoor cat. No exceptions.
2	Dogs roaming the streets !!
3	Providing at least ONE dog park per main township.
4	Avenel- constant complaints online about dogs roaming the streets
5	With the increase of tree changers there in semi rural areas there has been an increase of stock attacks. This goes mainly unreported. Encouraging reporting of stock attacks and putting in place actions to reduce these with the onus of prevention on the domestic animal owner would be a positive move.
6	Understanding that dogs need to be leashed outside the owners property. Walking my on lead dog is a nightmare as she is defensive when other dogs off lease!
7	Responsible pet walking - education around risks of walking dog off lead for all involved I.e. alot of people walk dogs off lead because they are "nice" but what they don't realise is maybe another dog on lead isn't as nice or can react if a dog off lead races towards it Responsible ways of ensuring dogs don't escape/nuisance cats can be etc
8	The shire has a great ranger who responds promptly and is always polite I think for dogs there is excellent facilities However more bins on the apex track would be good Cats however seem to be able to roam It would be good if they too were told / made to be kept in the owners yard I don't have a cat but my neighbours vCard leaves a mess at my place and kills the birds I attract to my garden
9	Some pet owners need to realise that there dog off lead may be friendly but some dogs don't like being rushed at when they are on lead.
10	Responding to calls about animal welfare to be able to provide evidence ASAP to the RSPCA since they're so far away.
11	More local education on general pet care and responsible pet ownership, potentially look at subsidised desexing for lower socioeconomic families if they complete some informal educational course?
12	Prevent cats straying beyond their homes and killing native birds and animals.
13	To stop wandering and aggressive unrestrained doges
14	- Off leash park in Avenel. - Roaming dogs and dogs at large that come onto your property.

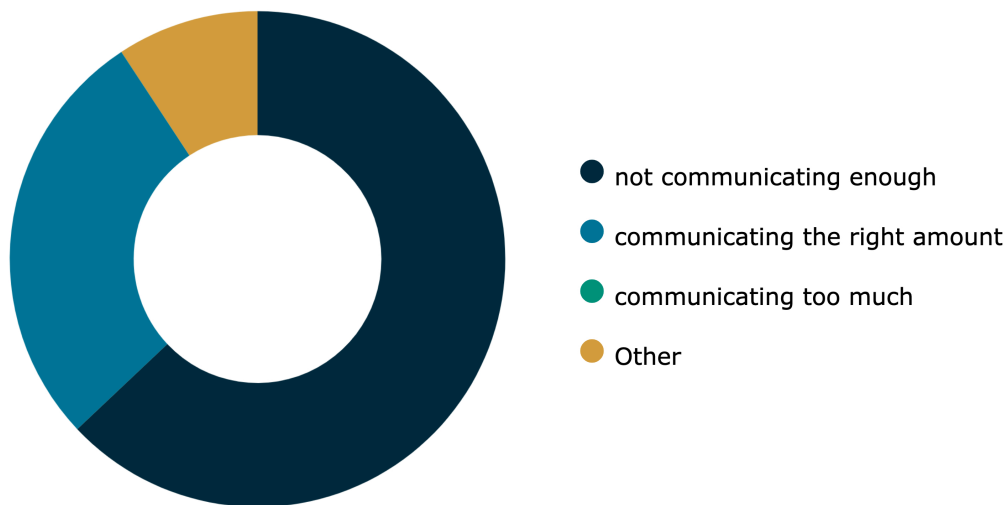
15	<p>The value of desexing pets - offering low income earners subsidises for desexing their pets, reducing the number of animals in pounds/shelters.</p> <p>Socialisation of pets / what this looks like / obedience clubs locally that people can further the education and socialisation of dogs after puppy preschool.</p> <p>Dog/pet friendly towns - Main Street cafes, pet friendly markets. Many travellers travel with pets and can't attend the VT market as they can't take their pet with them or leave them in the car/van.</p> <p>Other markets across Victoria are dog friendly. Shouldn't ban all dog's because of a small few who have behaved badly</p>
16	<p>The entire Apex walking track. I walk the track every day between the White Street end and the Rockies. Almost every day I see people walking their dogs off lead.</p>
17	<p>The biggest issue I have as a dog owner is when I am walking my dog on the lead and other dogs off lead run up to me on the walking track. People need to understand the dangers posed by off leash dogs. Given the high percentage of dog ownership in our shire, maybe we could establish a dog obedience club. It would be a good place to learn about dog behaviour and might have a flow on effect in the community.</p>
18	<p>Presently pet owners are charged for a full year registration when pet is obtained part way through that period (i.e. should be pro rata)</p> <p>Reduce the annual pet registration fee then encourage more people to register with the Shire. (Many other councils charge a lower annual pet registration fee compared to Strathbogie Shire and also pro rata for part year registration.)</p>
19	<p>Livestock</p>
20	<p>I would like to see better pet controls in place . . . Our region is a wildlife haven - domestic animals continue to decimate our wildlife populations . . .</p> <p>1) Cats should be kept in well-designed/ well-constructed cages - as is happening in many places already https://theconversation.com/one-cat-one-year-110-native-animals-lock-up-your-pet-its-a-killing-machine-138412</p> <p>2) Dogs are often poorly managed - with many owners losing interest after the initial novelty of "having a dog" wears off. Repeated messaging about the on-going responsibilities of pet ownership must occur.</p> <p>3) Irresponsible pet ownership should result in greater penalties.</p>
21	<p>People need to be aware that there are fines for walking dogs off leash and for not picking up after their dogs. So many people still continue to walk dogs off leash and not pick up their poop!</p>
22	<p>Education Support Desexing incentives - cost is far too expensive for the battler and every child deserves the live of a pet 🐶</p>
23	<p>Yes in Tabilk specifically in regards to striking other peoples animals, cats being loose and horses without shelter or rugs in winter.</p>
24	<p>Avenel residents allow dogs to roam freely and still think they are good and responsible owners. The respond varies "it's always been like that" or "he Just wants to be friendly". My small dog is always leashed, is extremely protective of me and senses my anxiety. It is nothing to run across 3 different roaming dogs on our daily walks. That impacts on my enjoyment and health. Perhaps education of owners is the answer</p>

25	Encourage more farmers to desex and microchip their dogs.
26	Avenel has become difficult for people to exercise and walk around streets because of unrestrained dogs and barking dogs behind fenced and gates that walking an anxious activity. We know of many instances where people have been threatened by unrestrained dogs and in a few cases bitten requiring doctor's visit.
27	Cats kill at night I'd like to see it mandatory that cats are indoors at night Then I'd like to see cat night patrols and those cats confiscated
28	Do something about the known offenders in town that breed and release unregistered, fertile cats!
29	Council needs to fine owners of cats that are known to have undersexed cats and allowed to wander the neighbourhood. We have neighbour in Nagambie on Ross Street that we have made constant complaints about and have at 30+ cats caught and picked up by the Ranger. He has at least 10 new kittens again.
30	I think council should focus on enforcing the laws associated with pet ownership such as stray dogs and cats that are out after dark. I also think that council should consider prohibiting dogs from all weekend markets not just Violet Town. This is my opinion as I feel it can be dangerous if there are too many dogs in a public place.
31	Cats must be kept locked up, not allow free reign to kill, which they must do by nature (I like cats, but....). Dogs also ought be kept close, registered and tagged electronically. Owners fined for not looking after them and keeping them at home.
32	Cat curfews.
33	Offer a desexing discount to pensioners we pay enough on rates to fund this program lots of other shires offer this service.
34	Frequently dogs and cats, unaccompanied by owners, are seen wandering the streets. Unsafe for the animal and for people driving and walking in the area. Also, the mess animals leave is left on residents' properties and public areas, not picked up by irresponsible owners. More compliance in securing pets in properties is needed.
35	Education of pet dog owners. Ensuring dogs not used for breeding are neutered by the age of 1yr. Educate children how to respond and greet dogs Provide off leash areas Ensure dogs in all areas other than off leash areas are on a leash and under control.
36	educate people to exercise dogs daily and socially for an hour at least and list suitable reliable town dogs, i.e., NOT hard jaw hunting types, NOT immature working bred dogs unless an active owner is home and can give them hours and kilometres as well as if no one is home don't leave your pet home alone for days, or even extended hours find a pet sitter or take the dog with you. lonely, bored dogs get into trouble and are barkers, anxious and plain miserable often escapees

37	Dog off the leash areas
38	Barking dogs and roaming cats are a constant nuisance, so education of owners is needed. Difficult job I know.
39	I would recommend that the Shire ensure that all domestic cats are confined at all times within the owners property, either by keeping them inside or by having suitable external cat runs. The Shire should also mandate the desexing/chipping and vaccination of all cats and kittens
40	We walk around Honeysuckle Creek and in VT each day and always have our dog on a lead. We have experienced aggressive dogs off leash and owners who don't appear to understand that they are required to have their dogs on a lead and to pick up after their dogs. One of the incidents involved three large dogs coming down from Hurt Street which was reported but we still don't know what action was taken despite following up several times and we still don't walk over there.
41	The Avenel Facebook page is a forum for animals at large in Avenel. The majority of animals are dogs and it appears that there is a lack of responsibility by owners of dogs. With the increase of new residents this issue needs to be attended to.

3. When it comes to communications about responsible pet ownership, council is... Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 7 | Answered: 54 (88.5%)



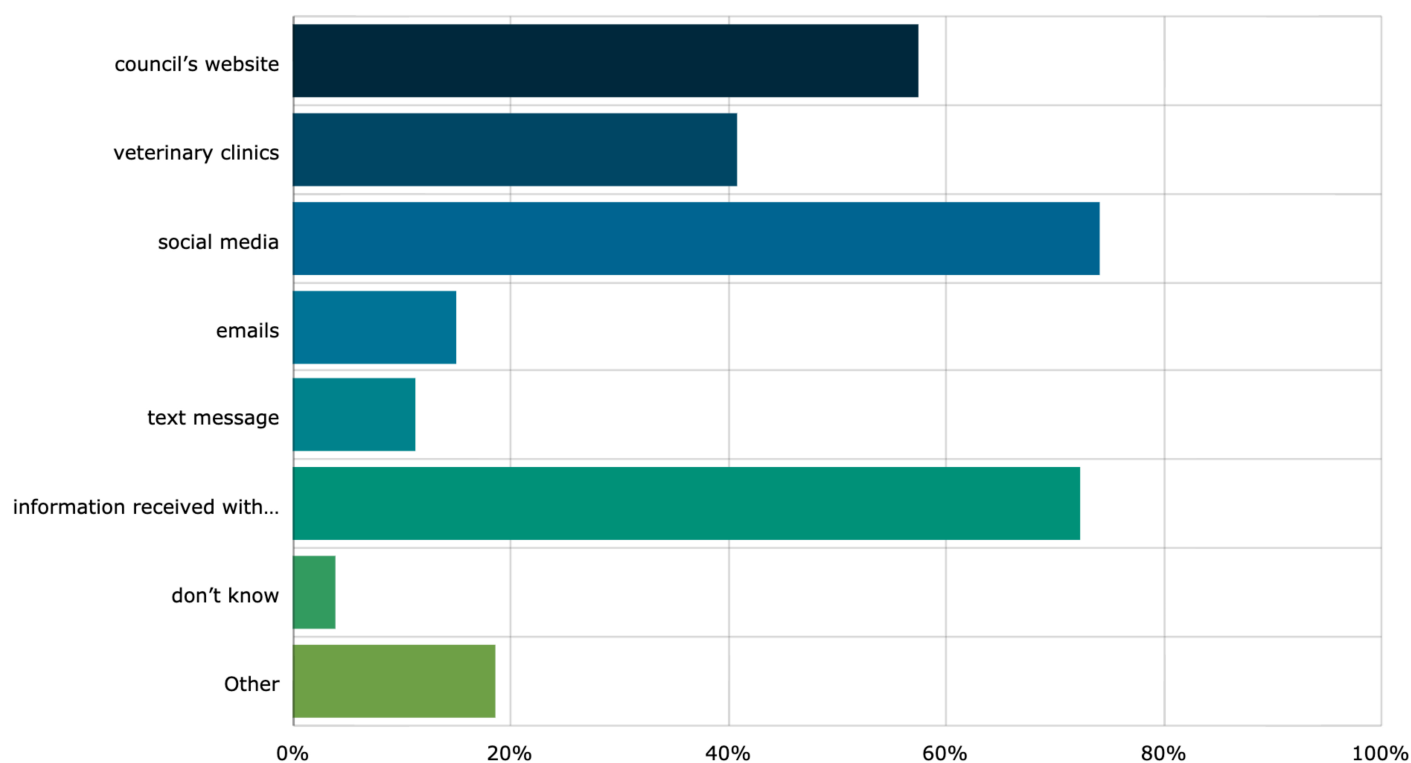
Answer choices	Percent	Count
not communicating enough	62.96%	34
communicating the right amount	27.78%	15
communicating too much	0%	0
Other	9.26%	5
Total	100.00%	54

Selected Answer: Other / I have further feedback

1	This could be expensive for Council to manage/afford - pet registrations should be higher to cover the costs
2	There's nothing in my area that is a problem with pets, with the exception of a neighbour's Alsatian
3	When my pet got out when I was moving I contacted the ranger for him to close the case after 24 hours with nothing done to notify the public about him. Then I had to go to Shepparton to pick him up as he was not registered as a missing pet.
4	even our local councillor was unaware that the pound had closed TRANSPARENCY ?,PUBLIC INFORMATION?
5	Rangers don't know the rules and if they do, they ignore them

4. How do you want to get information about responsible pet ownership? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 7 | Answered: 54 (88.5%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
council's website	57.41%	31
veterinary clinics	40.74%	22
social media	74.07%	40
emails	14.81%	8
text message	11.11%	6
information received with registration renewal notice	72.22%	39
don't know	3.70%	2
Other	18.52%	10

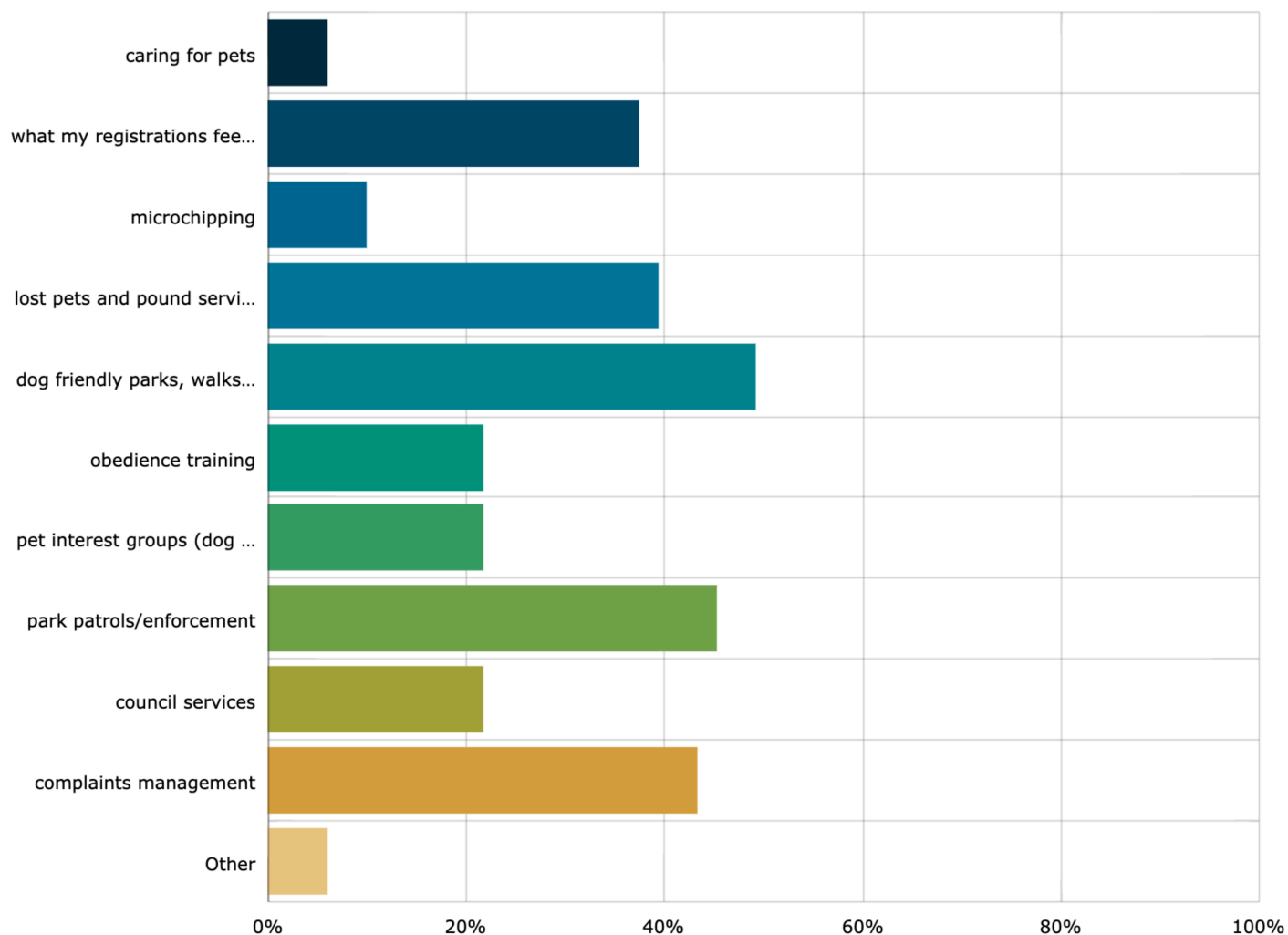
4. How do you want to get information about responsible pet ownership?

Selected Answer: Other

1	Local newspaper
2	Agriculture Victoria website
3	Quarterly reminders relevant to the resealable
4	I believe relevant information around the extinction rates of wild species should be given greater airplay.
5	Door knocking and personally seeing the people complaining or sending a newsletter.
6	Local paper.
7	Community Dogs Day Out Events
8	I am a responsible pet owner
9	ALL NEW RESIDENTS TO SHIRE SHOULD RECIEVE A WELCOME PACKAGE , ALL USEFUL INFORMATION ,IE PETS BINS COUNCEL PHONE ,CONTACTS ,POLICE AMBO ,LOCAL MAP ,MADICAL INFO ,HUB ETC PLEASE BE MINDFUL THAT NOT EVERYONE HAS A SMART PHONE AD MORE USE SHOULD BE MADE OF THE NEWSPAPER AND COMMUIY NOTICEBOARD
20	Pop Up stands in towns with a council person present. More patrols by the Ranger/s (maybe more Rangers)

5. I want to know more about... Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 10 | Answered: 51 (83.6%)



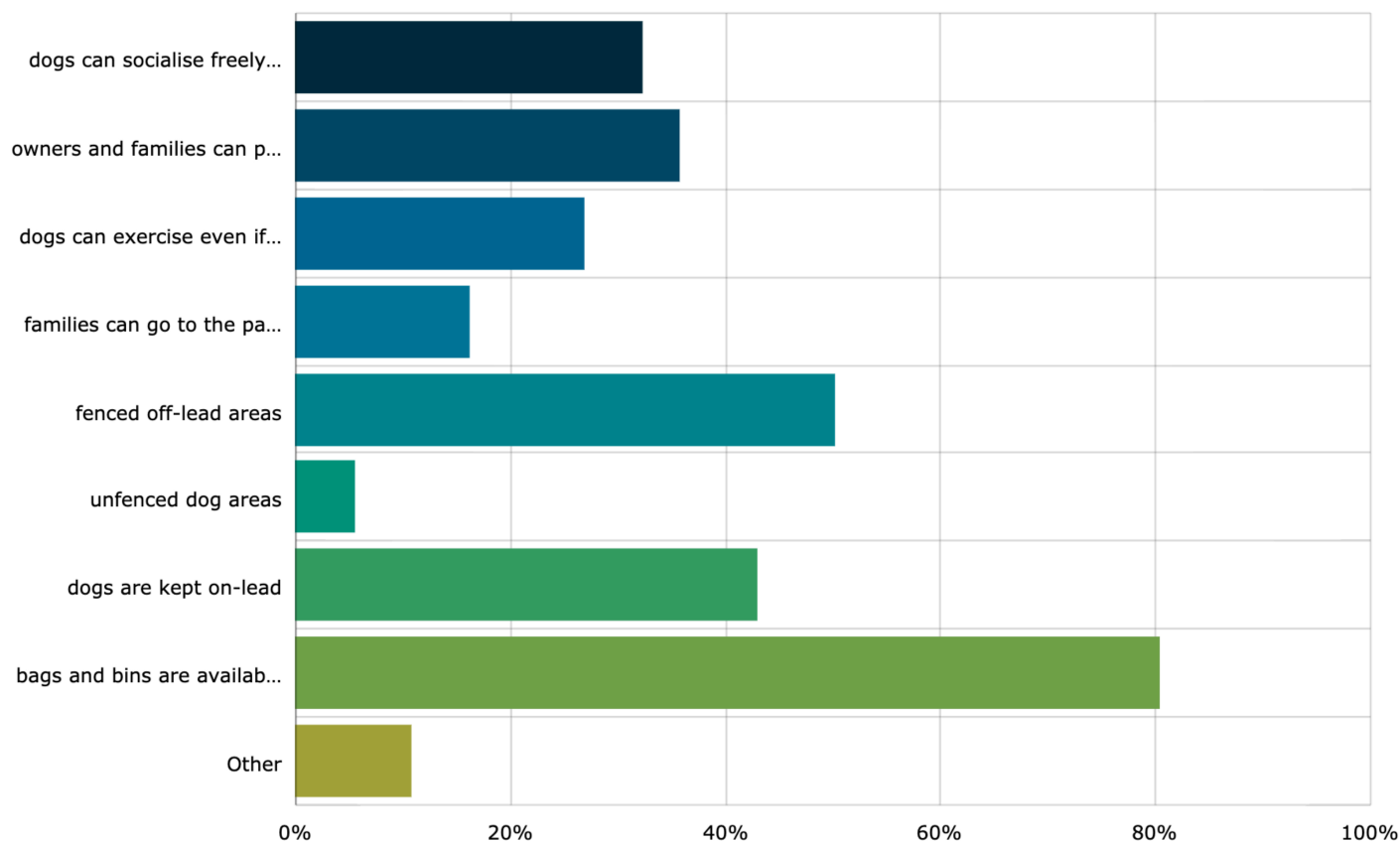
Answer choices	Percent	Count
caring for pets	5.88%	3
what my registrations fees pay for	37.25%	19
microchipping	9.80%	5
lost pets and pound services	39.22%	20
dog friendly parks, walks and trails	49.02%	25
obedience training	21.57%	11
pet interest groups (dog walking groups)	21.57%	11
park patrols/enforcement	45.10%	23
council services	21.57%	11

complaints management	43.14%	22
Other	5.88%	3

Selected Answer: Other	
1	How many cats/dogs can a household have? This information does not appear easy to find on website.
2	Please display ranger contact details in prominent spots ie council rates notice ,sale yards ,tip , approach and departure points of town
3	CAT OWNERS RESPONSIBILITY

6. What aspects are most important to you when you are sharing parks and public spaces with pets? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 5 | Answered: 56 (91.8%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
dogs can socialise freely with other dogs	32.14%	18
owners and families can play freely with their dogs	35.71%	20
dogs can exercise even if their owners cannot	26.79%	15
families can go to the park together and do different things	16.07%	9
fenced off-lead areas	50.00%	28
unfenced dog areas	5.36%	3
dogs are kept on-lead	42.86%	24
bags and bins are available for animal waste	80.36%	45
Other	10.71%	6

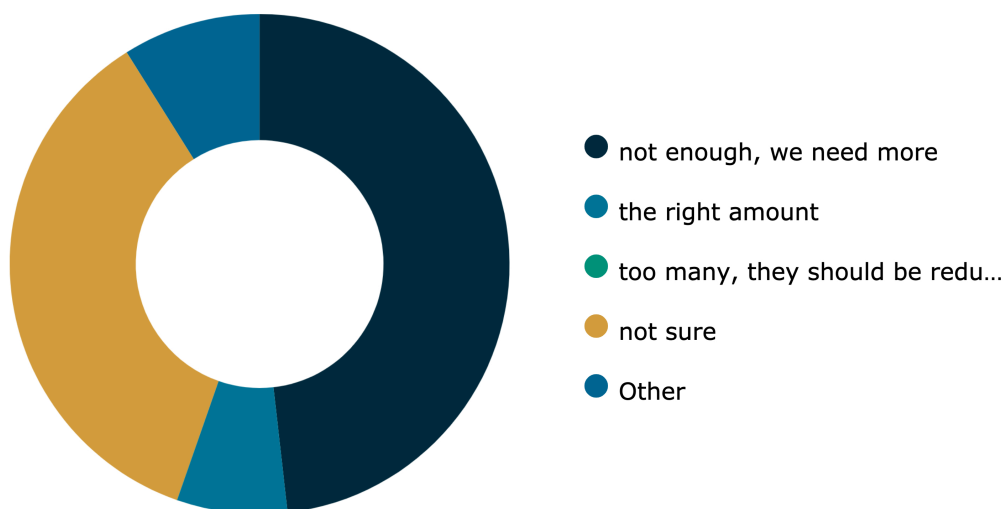
6. What aspects are most important to you when you are sharing parks and public spaces with pets?

Selected Answer: Other

1	I don't understand the question of "what aspects are the most important". Living in Nagambie I don't have access to any parks or public spaces where my dog can play freely, either with me, other dogs or families.
2	Thank you for the Euroa dog park. It's very gratefully received.
3	Dogs being under control 'full stop'. Just because you're in a 'leash free' area, doesn't mean your dog can run riot. Must be watched at all times & under voice control !!
4	The dog and I use Shadforth Reserve at least six times a week with the only issue being mobs of kangaroos at certain times of the years. There are at least two mobs managed by big male Roos which might deter people using the reserve. Or might encourage a bad element to sool their dogs onto the Roos. That hasn't happened yet to my knowledge.
5	Off leash areas are free from dog droppings. In the event of an outbreak of parvo or similar notice is displayed
6	water

7. The number of off-lead parks in Strathbogie Shire is... Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 5 | Answered: 56 (91.8%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
not enough, we need more	48.21%	27
the right amount	7.14%	4
too many, they should be reduced	0%	0
not sure	35.71%	20
Other	8.93%	5
Total	100.00%	56

Selected Answer: Other / I have an idea

1	I don't know of any areas
2	1 in Euroa is enough, but there needs to be more in other towns.
3	I don't know where the off lead shire parks are, but I understand the Arboretum is off lead. I haven't yet been to the off lead area behind Euroa Showgrounds but someone told me it is just a grass area. My idea would be to include some challenges for the dogs such as jumps, things to run through, hay bales etc etc.
4	Is there any ? If so where ?
5	a dog needs acres , the showgrounds area may be huge to miniature but to a bigger dog its waay too small

8. Are there any other parks that should be considered for off-lead areas? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 14 | Answered: 47 (77%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
no	55.32%	26
Other	44.68%	21
Total	100.00%	47

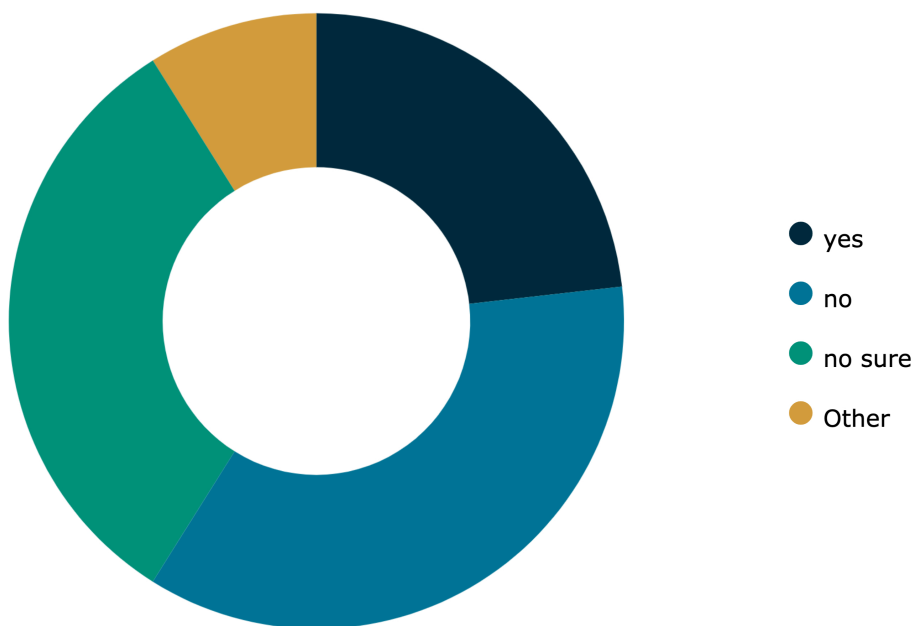
Selected Answer: Other = Yes (please specify)

1	Other parks than what parks? Question doesn't make sense. 🤔
2	Somewhere in Avenel? Unsure where it could be though
3	Areas that f the apex track
4	The creek reserve in Avenel. Or football ovals ect
5	Stewart Park, Avenel or build one.
6	Balmattum hill reserve, apex walking track
7	Any fenced off area on the proviso that there are no other people or dogs around and the owner has control of dog. and they pick up the dogs excrement.

8	Shadforth reserve
9	If people own dogs that are not under control then they should be on a lead
10	There is none in Nagambie, so ANYWHERE would be good
11	Nagambie needs one
12	Avenel
13	One in other towns
14	All parks that don't have playgrounds in the immediate vicinity.
15	Balmattum hill , arboretum ,waterboard track garden ranges ?
16	Not sure
17	The existing off lead park could be split into multiple areas so that more people could utilise it at the same time. The addition of agility type equipment, obstacles would make the space more fun for two legged and four legged users
18	Nagambie need one
19	Old Tennis court in VT
20	All Strathbogie
21	Nagambie

9. Would you like set times for off-lead areas in some parks? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 5 | Answered: 56 (91.8%)



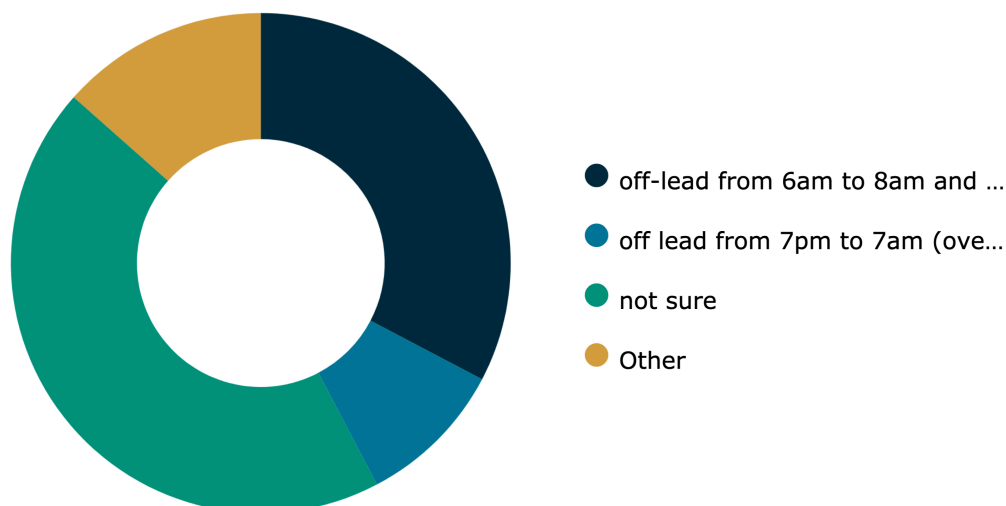
Answer choices	Percent	Count
yes	23.21%	13
no	35.71%	20
no sure	32.14%	18
Other	8.93%	5
Total	100.00%	56

Selected Answer: Other = Comment

1	Yes, this would allow for shared use of spaces to suit more users
2	I think unless an area is fenced dogs should be on lead at all times
3	alternate to give everyone a fair go ie am /pm week one week two
4	As per above if the space was divided into more areas there could be on lead and off lead areas or areas for small and large dogs so that all patrons could enjoy the space at the same time.
5	Yes if it increases the amount of off leash social opportunities

10. If we were to consider set off-lead times in some parks, what options would you prefer? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 9 | Answered: 52 (85.2%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
off-lead from 6am to 8am and 6pm to 8pm	32.69%	17
off lead from 7pm to 7am (overnight)	9.62%	5
not sure	44.23%	23
Other	13.46%	7
Total	100.00%	52

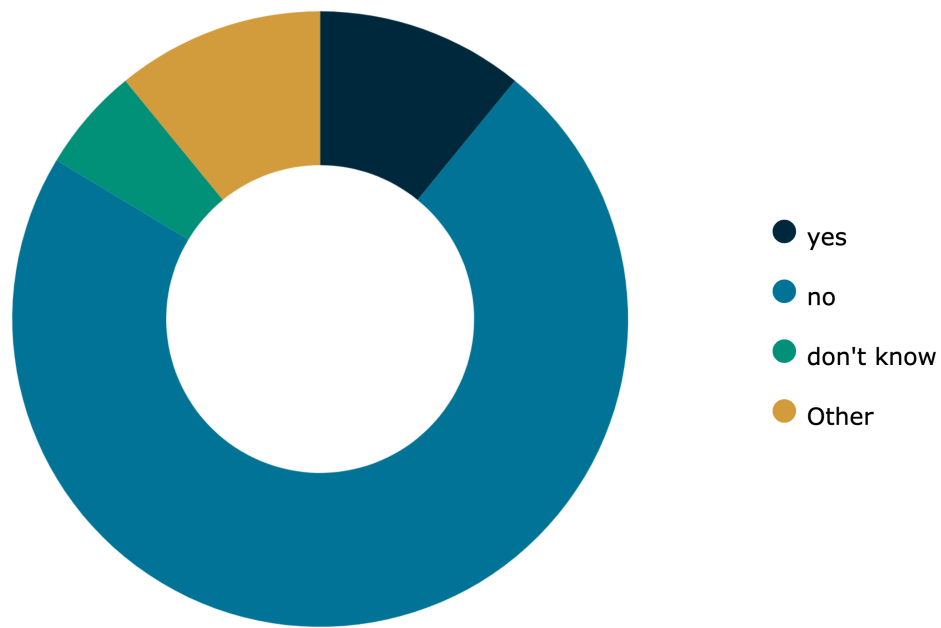
Selected Answer: Other (please specify)

1	It's a horrible idea as so many dogs in our area are untrained, aggressive and unsocialised. If you decided on times, some dog owners would just stay away as there is an overwhelming risk their dog would get attacked or injured by another dog, who now suddenly is "allowed" to be off leash.
2	Off lead 6am to 8am and then off lead 4pm to 7pm when it's not daylight savings.
3	Most of our parks are also home to a range of native birds and mammals - their survival must come before that of domestic pets.
4	5am- 10pm
5	This requires persons to comply with regulations. I doubt compliance would occur (current covid restrictions demonstrate this completely)
6	alternate to give everyone a chance
7	In a small Town the shady walking areas are limited and the times people tend to use them are based around their work and family schedule, so just have fenced off-leash areas please.

11. Should all parks and reserves be off-lead (with the exception of native bushland) and all other public places be on lead?

Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 6 | Answered: 55 (90.2%)



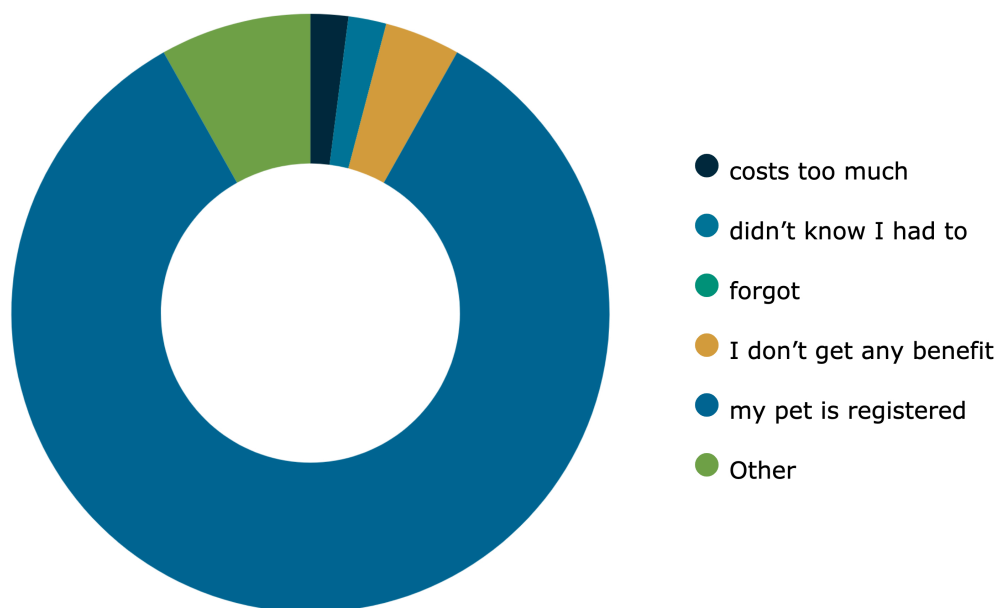
Answer choices	Percent	Count
yes	10.91%	6
no	72.73%	40
don't know	5.45%	3
Other	10.91%	6
Total	100.00%	55

Selected Answer: Other (please specify)

1	No I don't think they should be because not all people can walk their dogs off lead for behavioural and safety reasons, this would limit those people
2	Possibly, but would need more information/details to make a decision
3	I think children/ aggressive people should be on leads or under control in public areas first. Secondly dogs under voice control or shown to be under control should be exempt from this ruling
4	How could you possibly police that as the dogs would roam outside the areas.
5	Native bushland should be too. Most dogs are hopeless hunters. It's the cats you've gotta worry about.
6	definitely on lead on footpaths and main street

12. If your pet is not registered with Council, why not? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 12 | Answered: 49 (80.3%)



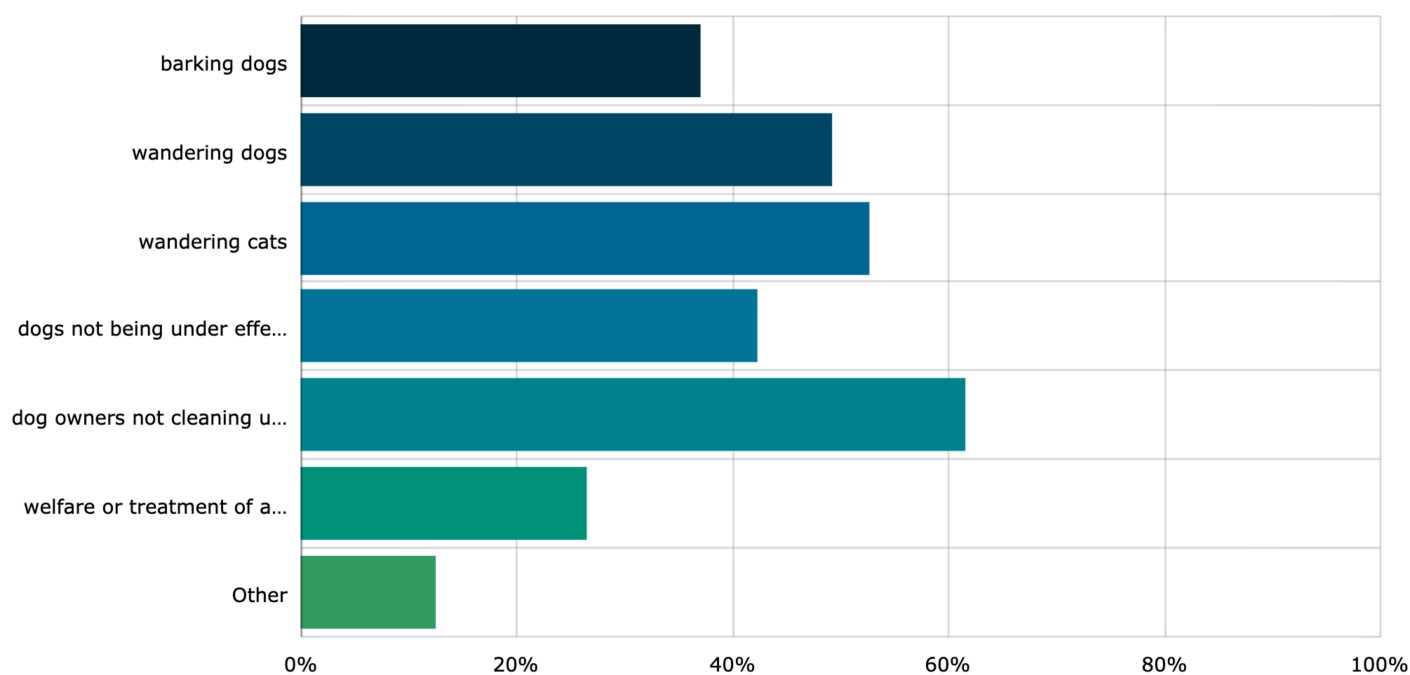
Answer choices	Percent	Count
costs too much	2.04%	1
didn't know I had to	2.04%	1
forgot	0%	0
I don't get any benefit	4.08%	2
my pet is registered	83.67%	41
Other	8.16%	4
Total	100.00%	49

Selected Answer: Other (please specify)

1	No pets
2	no dog
3	I don't have a pet
4	don't have any

13. What, if any, compliance or nuisance issues have you experienced in the past 12 months? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 57 (93.4%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
barking dogs	36.84%	21
wandering dogs	49.12%	28
wandering cats	52.63%	30
dogs not being under effective control of the owner in public spaces	42.11%	24
dog owners not cleaning up their dog's waste in public spaces	61.40%	35
welfare or treatment of an animal in my neighbourhood	26.32%	15
Other	12.28%	7

13. What, if any, compliance or nuisance issues have you experienced in the past 12 months?

Selected Answer: Other (please specify)

1	Aggressive dogs attacking my dog and friends and family members.
2	Dog attacks on other animals
3	the number of dogs taken to Binney St.
4	School children taunting neighbourhood dogs through fencing, whilst walking to & from school.
5	Constantly having to hire a cat trap to capture nuisance cats from neighbour that has constant litters with no fines outcome from council of know offender.
6	As well as dogs, also neighbourhood cats allowed to wander and leave their waste in my yard.
7	Our son was attacked by a neighbours dog. The neighbours dogs continue to bark and disturb houses close to these dogs

14. If you have notified council's rangers, were you satisfied with the outcome? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 12 | Answered: 49 (80.3%)



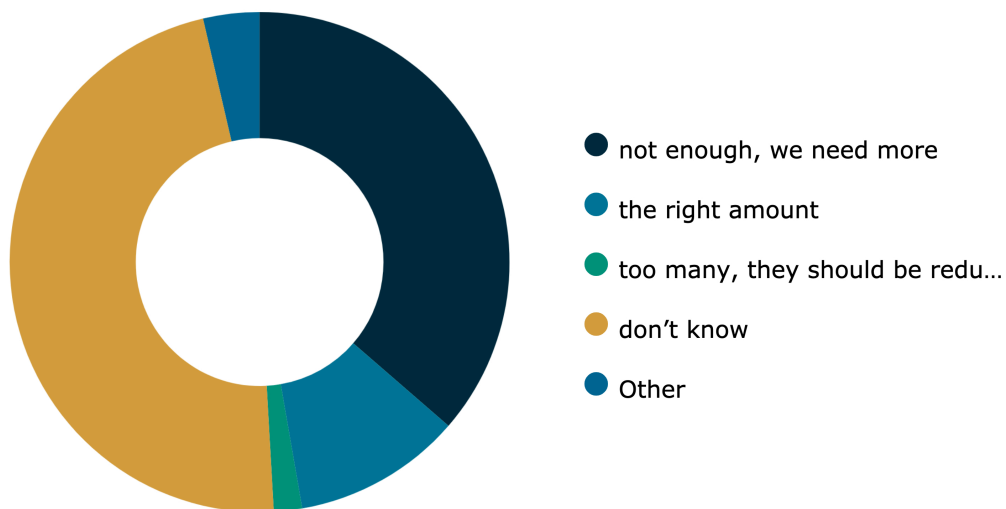
Answer choices	Percent	Count
yes	30.61%	15
no	18.37%	9
not sure	38.78%	19
Other	12.24%	6
Total	100.00%	49

Selected Answer: Other = I have some further feedback:

1	I reached out to Agriculture Victoria who referred it to the ranger. The ranger had no power to do anything which is why I didn't contact them first. I often see the ranger around and think he does a good job. I like the education and assistance before enforcement approach he uses.
2	I have been told there is no point notifying shire as they won't do anything.
3	Constant complaints made by numerous residents in street with no outcome.
4	No. Numerous complaints about feral cat issue in Blayney lane and nothing is being done.
5	I would like to be able to speak to the person responsible for animal management within the Shire
6	Didn't listen and didn't CARE

15. The amount of Ranger patrols are... Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 6 | Answered: 55 (90.2%)



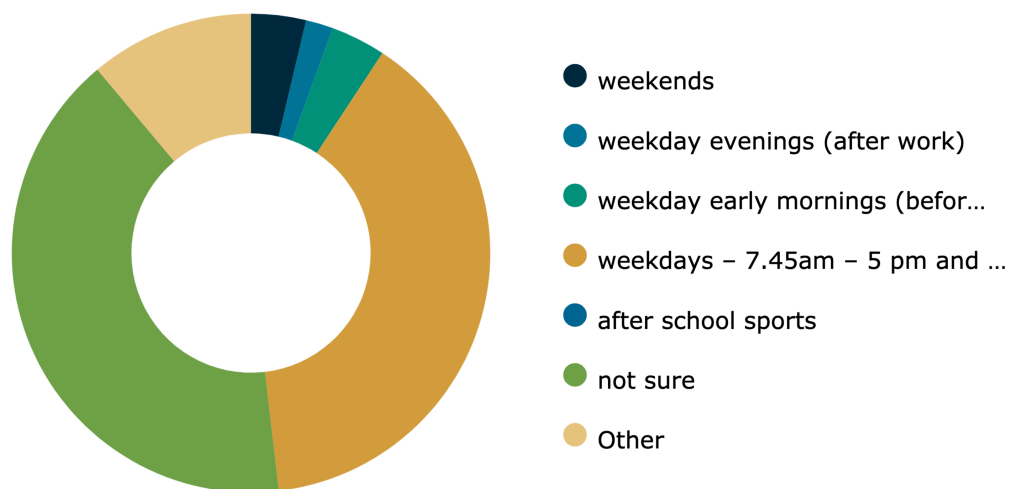
Answer choices	Percent	Count
not enough, we need more	36.36%	20
the right amount	10.91%	6
too many, they should be reduced	1.82%	1
don't know	47.27%	26
Other	3.64%	2
Total	100.00%	55

Selected Answer: Other = I have a comment

1	I think Norm does as many patrols as he can. But more would be better
2	Large animals on roads are a problem, especially with newcomers to country life

16. What times do you think should be priorities for Rangers to patrol? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 7 | Answered: 54 (88.5%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
weekends	3.70%	2
weekday evenings (after work)	1.85%	1
weekday early mornings (before work)	3.70%	2
weekdays - 7.45am - 5 pm and random patrols on weekends	38.89%	21
after school sports	0%	0
not sure	40.74%	22
Other	11.11%	6
Total	100.00%	54

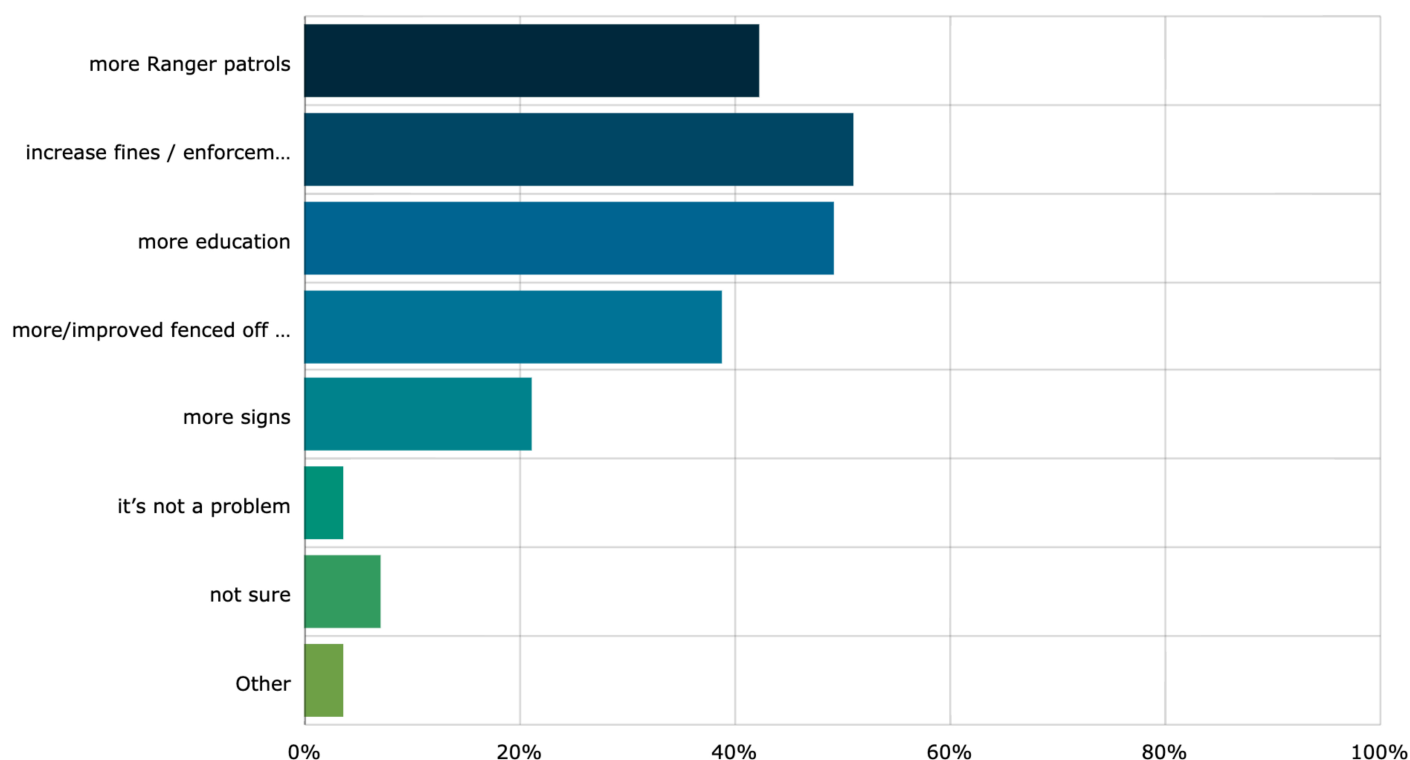
16. What times do you think should be priorities for Rangers to patrol?

Selected Answer: Other (please specify)

1	Rangers need a life too!
2	I think patrols should be random, not at set times.
3	Randomly
4	any job involving animals requires seven day a week on call. we need two rangers
5	Should be on call our RATES ARE HIGH ENOUGH.
6	Random and ask the ranger to check on the Avenel FB page re wandering animals.

17. How can council help ensure dogs are under effective control in public spaces? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 57 (93.4%)



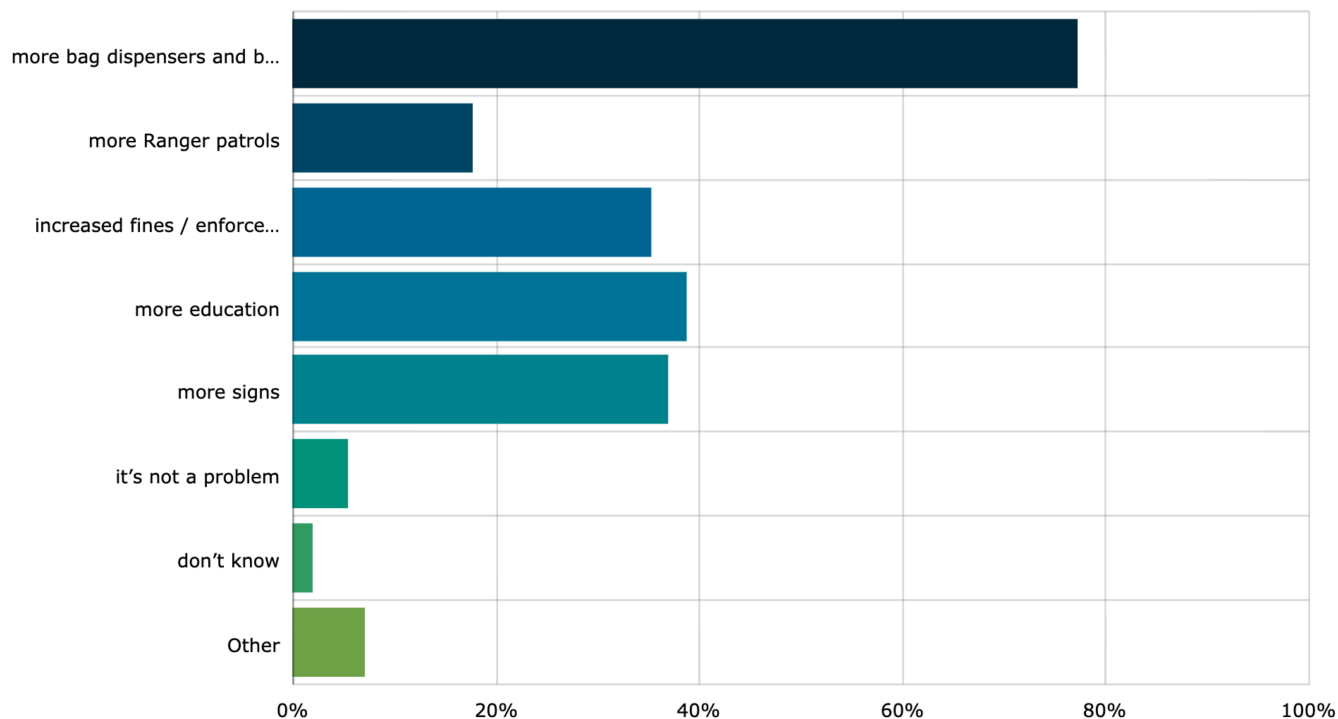
Answer choices	Percent	Count
more Ranger patrols	42.11%	24
increase fines / enforcement	50.88%	29
more education	49.12%	28
more/improved fenced off lead dog areas	38.60%	22
more signs	21.05%	12
it's not a problem	3.51%	2
not sure	7.02%	4
Other	3.51%	2

Selected Answer: Other (please specify)

1	Encourage people to record others not picking up after their dogs and send it to the council.
2	Offer courses for dog discipline and care.

18. How can council help ensure people clean up after the dogs in public spaces? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 57 (93.4%)



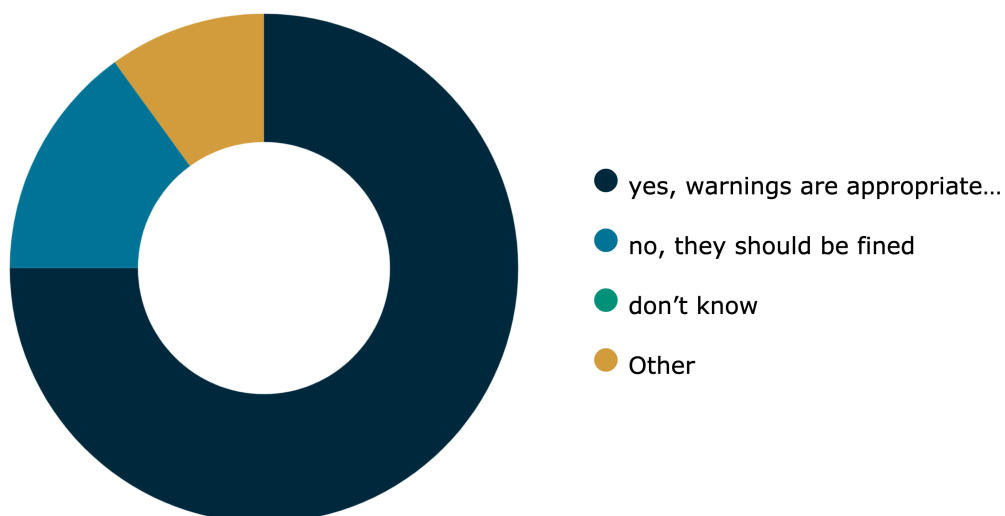
Answer choices	Percent	Count
more bag dispensers and bins in parks	77.19%	44
more Ranger patrols	17.54%	10
increased fines / enforcement	35.09%	20
more education	38.60%	22
more signs	36.84%	21
it's not a problem	5.26%	3
don't know	1.75%	1
Other	7.02%	4

Selected Answer: Other (please specify)

1	I find the roaming dogs the biggest issue
2	Definitely more bins along the Apex walking track, including the Rockies end.
3	council could give a roll of biodegradable bags with pet registration. People pick up the waste put it in a plastic bag and throw it off the track.
4	Security cameras

19. When pets are found wondering, should council issue a warning for first-time offenders Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 1 | Answered: 60 (98.4%)



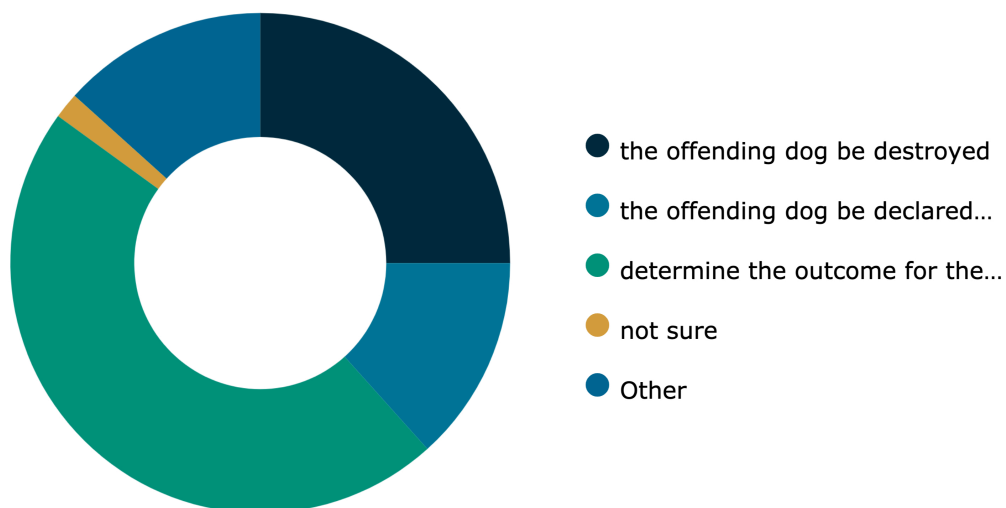
Answer choices	Percent	Count
yes, warnings are appropriate for first time offenders	75.00%	45
no, they should be fined	15.00%	9
don't know	0%	0
Other	10.00%	6
Total	100.00%	60

Selected Answer: Other (please specify)

1	Not sure "wondering" dogs are a problem... Possibly "wandering" dogs, however. And yes, a warning is fine.
2	For being curious! If found wandering however, I think education and suggestions on appropriate confinement would be preferable.
3	*Wandering Education and ensure animal is chipped
4	All pet owners should sign up to a duty of care when registering their animals. If they breach that responsibility, there must be a meaningful penalty.
5	Give a warning but make sure pet is desexed and microchipped as a condition of warning.
6	help/ advice with strategies to keep the animal happy and with its owner

20. In the event of a serious dog attack being proven and/or the owner convicted of the offence of serious dog attack, what action should council take? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 1 | Answered: 60 (98.4%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
the offending dog be destroyed	25.00%	15
the offending dog be declared dangerous; (this means the dog is kept in a secure enclosure, and always kept on lead and muzzled when outside the enclosure)	13.33%	8
determine the outcome for the offending dog on a case by case basis	46.67%	28
not sure	1.67%	1
Other	13.33%	8
Total	100.00%	60

20. In the event of a serious dog attack being proven and/or the owner convicted of the offence of serious dog attack, what action should council take?

Selected Answer: Other (please specify)

1	case by case. If the dog attacks someone in defence, on its own property or it is a guard dog on duty it is acceptable without issue
2	Put the owner down
3	Determine the outcome on a case by case basis which involves thorough and independent assessment, reviewing all circumstances
4	Probably the owners laziness not the dogs fault
5	The offending human destroyed.
6	Determined on a case by case basis. The dog may simply need to be relocated. Destroying the dog (what a disgusting term for it), should never be an option really.
7	once a killer always a killer ,in respect to stock ,but humans can be provocative so stock worriers should be put down and the others assessed
8	What about cat attacks on the wildlife!!!

21. Do you have any general or additional comments about animal management?

Long Text | Skipped: 27 | Answered: 34 (55.7%)

1	Put a ban in place that cats, just like dogs, cannot wander outside of their property. We are a wildlife haven. Cats kill millions of native animals every year. Including domestic cats. Get with the times. Do the right thing. Ban cats from wandering.
2	Fenced in area for dogs to go off lead would be ideal - Avenel
3	The appears to be community apathy "its always been ok to let dogs and cats roam" If anyone dares to say differently they are shouted down.
4	No, just that in Avenel, dogs escaping from yards and wandering seems to be an issue. Also people walking dogs off lead at Stewart's Park.
5	There is always a lot about dogs but nothing about cats. Dog owners must keep there dogs in a yard but cats wonder at will
6	Too many roaming dogs in Euroa; especially ones that run out at cars and people and other dogs from an unfenced yard just around from Branjee Rd; nothing is ever done about that blue staffy! It's dangerous!
7	I think the Ranger does a great job however they can't be everywhere at once. More education on just simple things for example what to do when people find a stray dog or cat; what happens when an animal is impounded; what happens when the impounded animal is not claimed. These simple Q & As would help allay a lot of people's ill conceived perceptions that all animals are destroyed when impounded, that they "must not" report found animals to the shire or ranger; instead that if they contact the shire, most pets are happily reconnected with their owners. The Animals of Mitchell Shire have a terrific Facebook page that is highly effective at advertising stray or lost animals and stock. If you have someone interested in undertaking and maintaining a similar fb page, this would be a very simple way of educating the general public.
8	My main concern is cats killing wildlife. Cats should be contained at their home, not allowed to roam freely. People not complying with cat control should be fined and educated. There should be a limit on the number of cats each home can have. Shire Rangers need to enforce this limit strictly. Cats should be sterilised, unless Registered breeder.
9	There is quite a few repeat offender dogs that are out and about in Avenel on a regular basis. There is one big dog in particular in Hughes St who will kill a little dog if he comes across it as he's tried it before. Not a safe place to walk. This dog will also jump the fence into Scobie St to chase you if he's not chained up.
10	I think the introduction of fines for non desexed pets needs to be a consideration if we want to have real impact on the number of animals ending up in shelters or euthanised. There are circumstances that would allow exemption from desexing but fir the vast majority it should be compulsory
11	I think the biggest issue that needs addressing is dogs being walked off lead, which leads to dog attacks (dogs attacking other on lead dogs).

12	I would love to see a curfew for cats, our pet birds and wild birds on our property have been killed by neighbour's cats.
13	No
14	Not sure why this survey is so focused on domestic animals. Drive around the roads and see sheep, cattle, horses, pigs roaming around for days and people are notified on Facebook. Landowners are becoming complacent about keeping their livestock under control and adequate fencing provided. With more Melbourne people owning land up this way they are not being responsible for their animals or fences and it gives the local landowners and generations of family famers a bad name.
15	I believe there is a very poor attitude by many pet owners to the impacts their pets have on other people (who choose not to have domestic pets). There is growing acknowledgment of the disastrous impacts of cats on local wildlife and a shift towards 24 hour containment. This is heartening, but as usual - the responsible owners are not the problem. As with many pet dogs, those owners who quickly tire of the responsibility to exercise their pet, are usually the ones whose dogs bark endlessly, or escape frequently. Incentives to share pets should be encouraged - to minimize numbers of uncared-for animals.
16	i believe we need more rangers patrolling as I have seen so many people walking dogs off leash with out any regard to others that walk dogs on the lead. As the owner of a service dog, my dog feels threatened when he is on his lead and approached by a dog off the lead and so many owners do NOT have voice control over their dog. Also people need to be made aware that there are fines for not picking up their dog excrement. More signage definitely needed. So many nature strips are unsafe to walk on with dog poo left behind. Bins need to be provide along the Apex walking track. Most responsible dog owners do tend to carry their own doggy doo bags.
17	Council run training classes to deal with problem pets/ owners before someone gets hurt or pets get put down
18	I believe cats are the worst here as owners are not penalised for them wandering having fights and killing native wildlife. We need a effective solution for cats more than dogs at current.
19	Please do something about the wandering dog situation in Strathbogie
20	Cattle out on roads is a growing issue. - Euroa
21	Covid has bought about a big increase in dog ownership with many owners not willing to control or manage their dogs. There are many times dogs roam around the streets without owners and bark continuously because owners are at work or out. – Avenel
22	Do something about the known cat breeders
23	Listen and act on complaints by rate payers/residents.
24	Pet ownership is a privilege, AND a responsibility. Not to be taken for granted. Animal welfare is important, as is freedom of others to not be bothered or harassed by these animals.

25	Cats wandering the neighbourhood at all hours and killing native birds and animals are my biggest concern.
26	<p>The amount of farm animals that are out after hours and the ranger won't respond to will eventually kill a person. We need a ranger that's available every day 24/7</p> <p>So maybe hire more rangers rather than office staff. The shire has a surplus budget. And our rates have just significantly increased in a global pandemic so use that money to help the actual residents.</p> <p>- Euroa</p>
27	<p>very disappointed that the pound was closed ,having previously offered to found a friends of the pound group</p> <p>there is a real need to educate the people of this district ,not only about pets but all livestock especially SLOW DOWN this is a rural area , horses are flight animals and easily startled , go through fences stop the air brakes ,horns and revving and if there is stock on the road ,open a gate and put them in ; a real problem now with farmers forced to padlock gates</p> <p>so more displays or ranger contacts would be handy</p>
28	Well done Strathbogie Shire on a Shire that is pet friendly and pet owner friendly. We love living here.
29	We need an off the leash park for dog so socialise - Nagambie
30	<p>My name is Ian Crook. I am the CEO of the Cat Protection Society of Victoria based in Greensborough. The Society has been in existence for 75 years and provides clinic and shelter/pound services. The Society has strict guidelines in regard to the responsible ownership of cats and kittens:</p> <p>i) All domestic cats and kittens must be desexed/vaccinated and microchipped</p> <p>ii) All domestic cats and kittens must be confined at all times</p> <p>The Society values highly the benefits that domestic animals provide to their owners (particularly in time of hardship like Covid), but at the same time we acknowledge that domestic cats and feral cats can be a nuisance and cause environmental damage if they are not controlled/managed.</p> <p>The Society has worked closely with our local Councils to support desexing programs and to provide educational material.</p> <p>I would be happy to further engage with Council if this would help. My number is 0417526667</p>
31	Restrictions on poultry ownership should be eased
32	I would really appreciate and welcome a tougher stance by Council in relation to off-leash and uncontrolled dogs. For the people who neglect their responsibility in relation to their pets, there appears to be little or no consequence. For me, who always has my dog on a leash and takes my responsibility seriously, my options for walking her safely continue to reduce. Please consider what behaviour and community you wish to foster when you are framing your policies and making your decisions.
33	We have written plenty of emails to council.
34	There's an increase in pet ownership since COVID lockdown however there is a lack of pet friendly social opportunities within the shire. Most pets are under stimulated and escape due to a lack of proper exercise and outdoor social interaction. There are A LOT of loose cats and attacks on wildlife are frequent

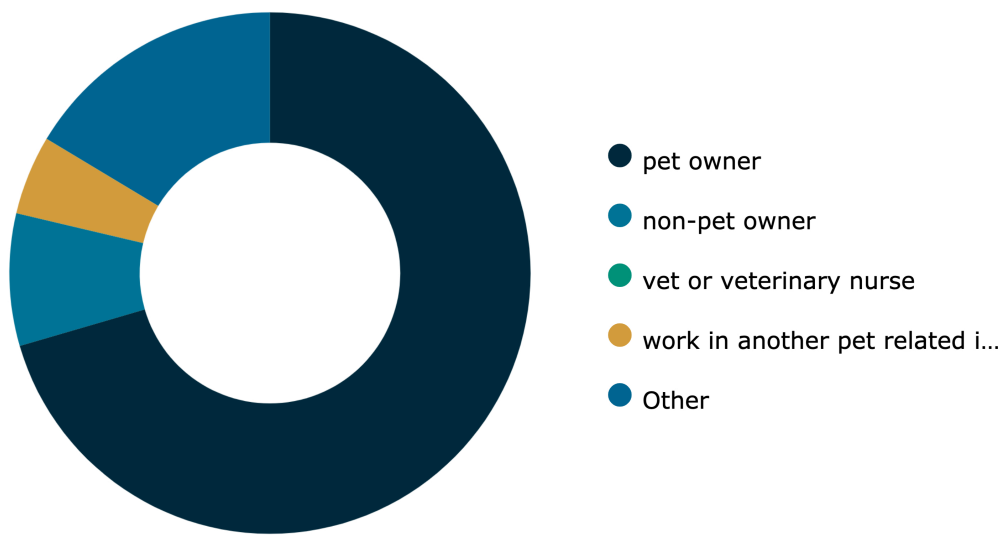
22. Where in the council do you live? Required

Short Text | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 61 (100%)

Townships:			
Avenel	12	Euroa	14
Longwood	5	Nagambie	8
Strathbogie	4	Violet Town	9
Other:			
Township	Creek Drive	Shire of Strathbogie	Tabilk
Sheans Creek	Highlands	Residential	Strathbogie road
South			

23. What best describes you? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 61 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
pet owner	70.49%	43
non-pet owner	8.20%	5
vet or veterinary nurse	0%	0
work in another pet related industry (trainer, dog walker, retailer)	4.92%	3
Other	16.39%	10
Total	100.00%	61

Selected Answer: Other (please specify)

1	Past pet owner, dogs and cats	2	Native animal lover
2	Academic	4	Farmer
5	Pet Owner & work in animal related industry	6	Pet owner, who has worked in various animal industries, in different roles for 30+ years
7	Pet owner & primary producer	8	CEO Cat Protection Society of Victoria
9	All the above and a wildlife rescuer and rehabilitator	10	farmer / pet owner