

Policy 4.04 Companion Animal Management

Directorate	Community, Environment and Planning
Responsible Officer	Director Community Environment and Planning

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1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Scope

This policy prescribes the processes implemented to facilitate the management of companion animals across the Bega Valley Shire.

1.1.2 Purpose

To control, regulate and manage companion animals in the Shire in accordance with the *Companion Animals Act 1998* and Regulations, and accepted best practice.

1.2 Definitions

Word or Terminology	Description
Companion Animal	As per the definition in the Companion Animals Act 1998 “a dog” or “a cat” or “any other animal that is prescribed by the regulations as a companion animal

1.3 Legislation

Companion Animals Act 1998
Companion Animals Regulations 2018

1.4 Implementation

1.4.1 Policy Statement

Bega Valley Shire Council will address the matter of ‘Companion Animal Management’ in a systematic manner by:

- Managing companion animals for which Council has an identified legislative responsibility in accordance with the companion animal legislation.
- Declaring, promoting and regulating leash free areas, wildlife protection areas and other control areas as required by the legislation.
- Operating a companion animal management facility in accordance with the relevant legislation and best practice.
- Delivering companion animal education programs aimed at promoting responsible ownership through the identification of companion animals, de-sexing and the protection of our local native wildlife.

1.4.2 Responsibilities

This Policy is the responsibility of Council’s Manager Certification and Compliance.

1.5 Supporting documents

1.5.1 BVSC Procedures that relate to this Policy

Procedure No.:	Procedure Name	External or Internal Procedure
4.04.01	Companion animal re-homing	External
4.04.02	Companion animal - feral and infant animals	Internal
4.04.06	Companion Animals Control Areas	External
4.04.07	Guideline - Companion Animal Dangerous and Menacing Dog Declaration Review	External

1.5.2 BVSC Policies that Relate to this Policy

Policy No.:	Policy Name
4.03	Public Regulation
4.05	Enforcement & Compliance

Note: Policy details may change from time to time. To ensure you are viewing the most recent version please view Council's adopted Policies and Procedures on Council website: