

Conversation Co.



# *Domestic Animal Management Plan*

Moreland City Council

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Summary of Stage 1 and 2  
Engagement Report

May 2021

# Domestic Animal Management Plan

Conversation Caravan was engaged by Darebin City Council, Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to design and deliver their wider consultation program, to consult the community about their needs and priorities to inform the Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) 2021-2025.

1

Understand the evidenced needs and understood needs of the community regarding animal management

2

Understand the competing community priorities regarding animal management

3

Identify potential partners for delivery of DAMP actions.

# DAMP engagement stages

DAMPs outline how Council will support domestic animal management including the safety and wellbeing of the wider community.

## Stage 1



**Wider Community Engagement**  
March – April 2021

## Stage 2



**Key Stakeholder Interviews**  
March – May 2021

## Stage 3



**Domestic Animal Management  
Plan Exhibition**  
September-October 2021

# Engagement activities and participation

3,049 contributions from approximately 1,624 people



## Online Community Survey

648 surveys  
completed from  
Moreland

(1255 surveys  
completed from the  
three councils)



## 15 Community Pop-Ups

54 participants from  
Moreland

(Approximately  
369 participants from  
the three councils)



10 key stakeholder  
interviews

# Moreland Pop-Ups

The Stage 1 Engagement community pop-ups were conducted in the following locations:



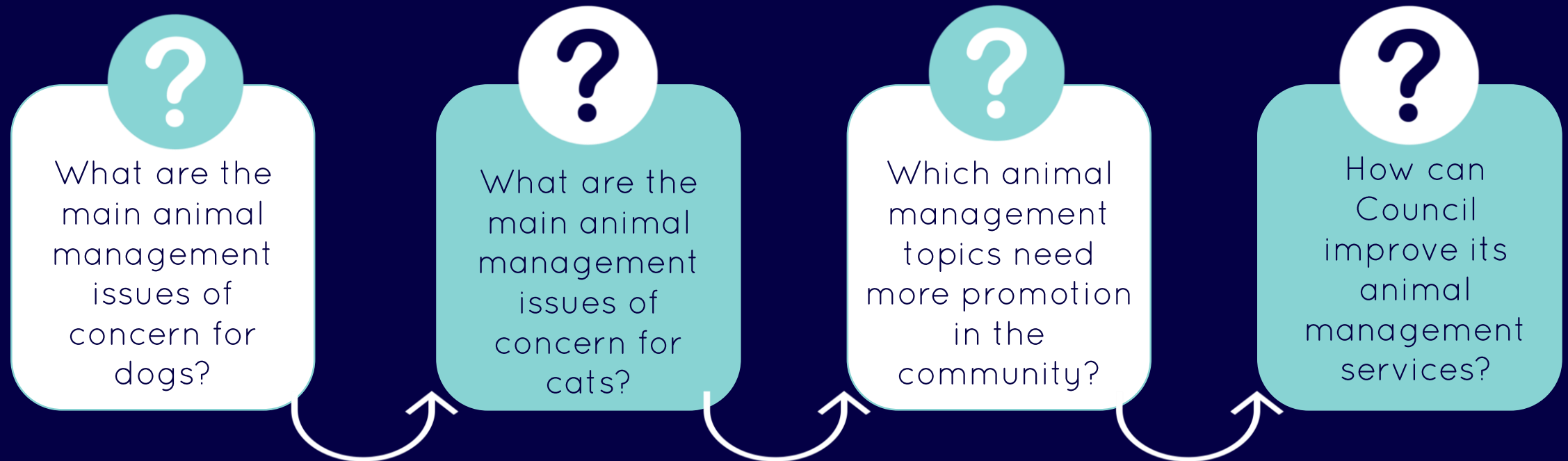
# Key stakeholder interviews

The Stage 2 Engagement key stakeholder interviews were conducted with the following groups:

- Maneki Neko Cat Rescue
- Friends of Merri Creek
- Wiltja Dog Obedience Club
- Reservoir Vet Clinic
- Wildlife Victoria
- Cat Protection Society
- RSPCA Epping
- Darebin Domestic Animal Management Reference Group
- Bundoora Vet Clinic and Hospital
- Pascoe Vale Veterinary Hospital.

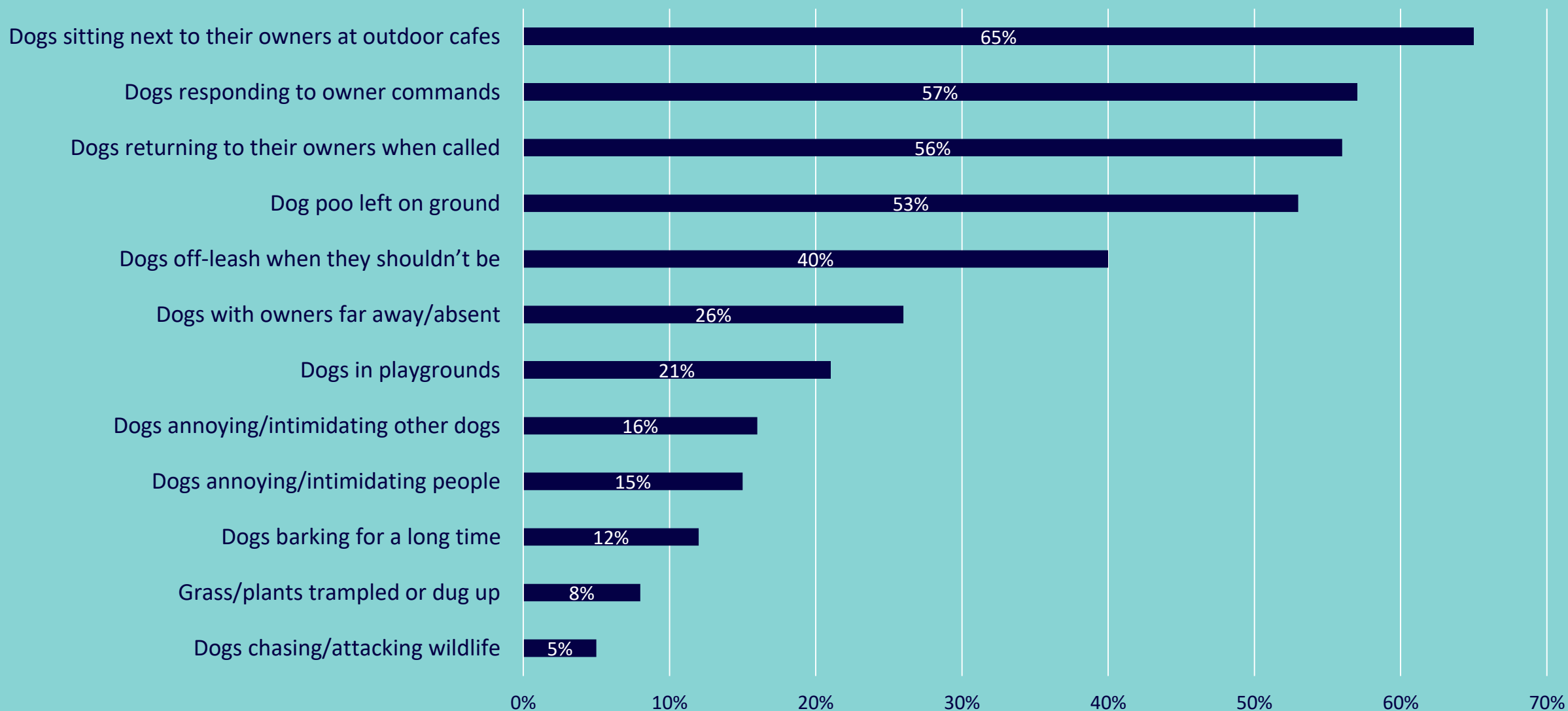


# Key Questions



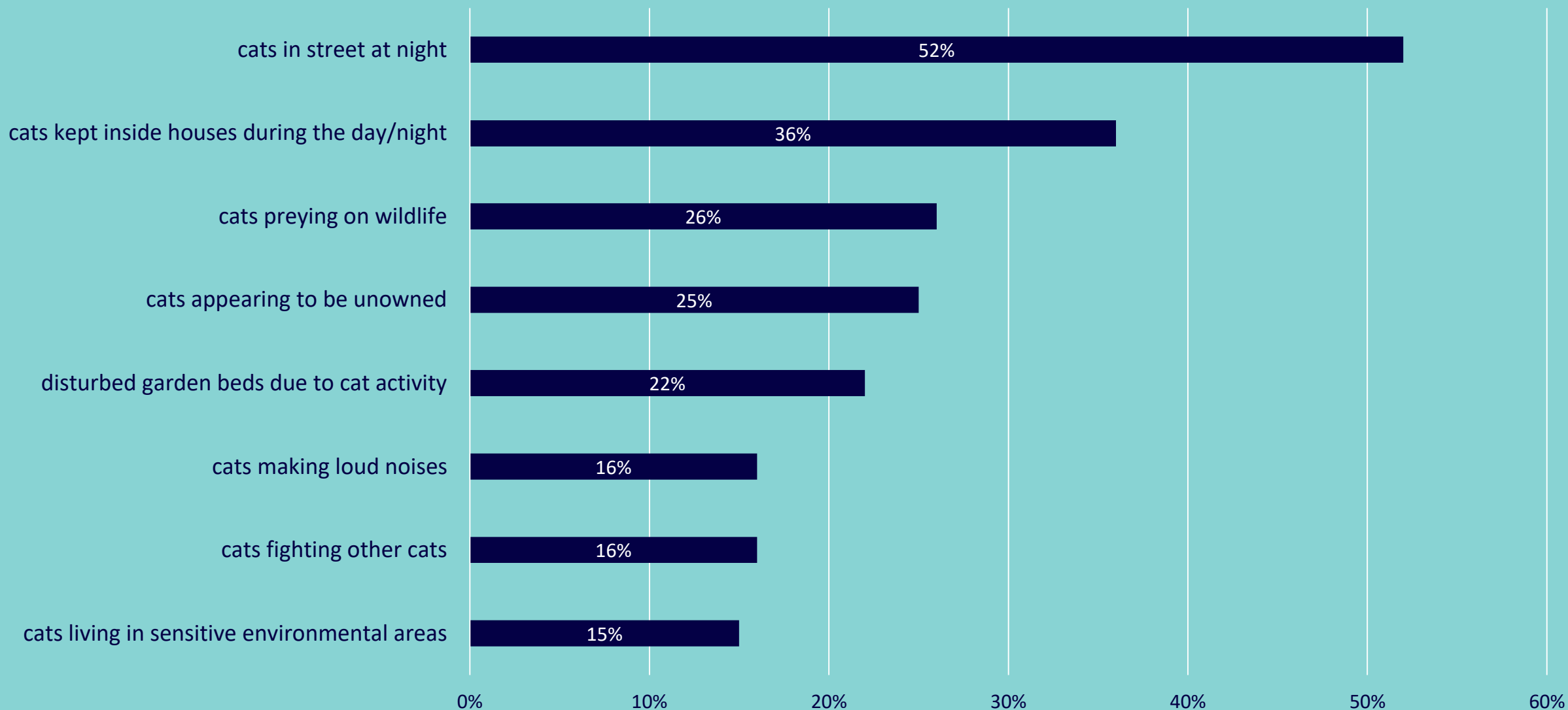


# Observed Behaviour dogs- Moreland





# Observed Behaviour cats- Moreland



# Community Priorities by mentions

Top 10 Topics	# of mentions	% of overall mentions
Improved/ new facilities	612	9.36%
Community education	545	8.33%
Dog off-leash areas	397	6.07%
Dog poo	380	5.81%
Enforcement/ Fines	303	4.63%
Cat curfews	261	3.99%
Providing dog poo bags and/or bins	251	3.84%
Responsible dog ownership	248	3.79%
Patrols	170	2.60%
Increased signage	165	2.52%

# Community Priorities by themes

Data collected was analysed and grouped into eight themes consistent with the Domestic Animals Act (1994).

## Responsible pet ownership

- Improving owner behaviours and control of animals
- Increasing community education and training

## Over population of cats and dogs

- Increasing cat desexing
- Introducing cat trap, neuter, release program

## Dog attacks

- Improving safety of dog parks

## Registration and identification of cats and dogs

- Reducing registration fees
- Providing free/reduced microchipping
- Reviewing the ease of registering a pet
- Allowing vets and Council to check pet's microchip before taking animal to the pound

# Community Priorities by themes (all)

Data collected was analysed and grouped into eight themes consistent with the Domestic Animals Act (1994).

## Protection from nuisance

- Addressing dog poo in public places
- Addressing cat poo in private properties
- Addressing excessive noise from dog barking and cats fighting
- Increasing the provision of dog poo bags and bins
- Addressing stray cats to protect wildlife (cat traps)
- Enforcing cat curfews
- Introducing bells for cat collars to protect wildlife\*\*

## Dangerous and restricted dogs

- Improving signage
- Addressing aggressive dogs in off-leash parks
- Addressing specific needs of greyhound dogs\*\*

## Training for authorised officers

- Providing training to encourage positive interactions with the community

## Review of Council services

- Improving/increasing relevant signage
- Increasing patrols and visibility
- Increasing community education
- Increasing dog off/on leash areas
- Improving safety of Council parks
- Improving fencing for animals
- Increasing fines for people doing the wrong thing
- Reviewing practices of Epping pound in regard to euthanasia