

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
Unknown/Online	1.	I think if your wanting to try and restrain cats to a property you can provide grants for a certain to allow owners to create cat runs especially during this financial struggle.	<p>The proposed local law does not prohibit the wandering of cats, although the Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The local law proposes that any property that has more than two cats will be required to have a permit and have all cats contained to the property. This new section will not affect the cats already registered within the Shire. However, any further cat brought onto the property taking the total number to more than two cats after the law is implemented will require a permit, and all cats being contained.</p> <p>Therefore, no further cost will be incurred by this law being implemented for current cat owners who have all cats registered, microchipped and de-sexed as already required under state law.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	2.	This is ridiculous that the Shire gets to dictate how many pets your permitted especially if you live on a large parcel of land.	<p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents.</p> <p>There are options to gain a permit for more than the two cat proposed limit and provisions to have a cattery application.</p>	Implement Local Law as advertised.

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			There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.	
Unknown/Online	3.	All cats should be confined to their owners property, especially at night. My cat was continually getting into fights which resulted in a \$1,000 vet bill. After this we decided to install cat netting to keep our cat inside our property at all times. This has stopped any issues. However we still see many many other cats roaming around and our CCTV is consistently picking up cats from around the Neighbourhood in our front yard. These laws will be good but into if they are enforced, if the Council is serious they need to be enforceable.	<p>The laws being proposed in the Cat Local Law are enforceable with the owner being liable for a \$200 fine if any offences are made against the Local Law. In saying this, the Community Safety team, as standard, attempt to gain voluntary compliance through education prior to issuing infringements.</p> <p>This proposed local law does not prohibit cats wandering outright, this cannot be implemented due to the Cat Act provisions that this local law is made under.</p> <p>The local law will however require owners with more than two cats to gain a permit and will require all cats subject to the permit to be contained.</p> <p>Additionally, the proposed law will require owners to not allow their cats to create a nuisance. This would require evidence similar to when the Shire receives a nuisance dog complaint, showing when and what is occurring and how this is a nuisance to a person. The Shire's expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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			property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.	
Unknown/Online	4.	Great idea provided all residents follow new laws. Forever finding cats hunting birds and bandicoots/Quendas in my yard.	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	5.	Prohibited land should include Lambkin Nature Reserve Serpentine and Flora and Fauna reserve in Mundijong - all reserves in the locale should be prohibited land. I also support a curfew for cat owners in the Shire and agree to abide by a curfew as a cat owner in the Shire.	<p>A curfew on cats would not be legally able to be implemented in a cat local law. The Cat Act that this law is made under does not permit the prohibition of cats wandering in public. The Shire can however implement prohibited areas. If the areas prohibited start to border on prohibiting cats from wandering, for example, if the Shire list "every reserve" the law may be made to be repealed by the Joint Standing Committee.</p> <p>Officers are thankful that you have highlighted Lambkin Nature Reserve. Officers will add this to the prohibited area list prior to being deliberated by Council. Officers will also speak again to the Shire's Reserves Officer to see if any further recommendations can be made for prohibited areas.</p> <p>Further reply:</p> <p>Officers have looked into the request to include Lambkin Reserve onto the cat prohibited areas.</p> <p>The Lamkin Reserve, Lot 122 Tonkin Street is under the control of the Department of</p>	<p>This land is already prohibited for cats under separate legislation.</p> <p>Implement Cat Local Law as proposed.</p>

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			<p>Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and already prohibits animals being on the land, although Officers note that dogs may be permitted if advertised as such.</p> <p>Being that cat prohibition on this land is already covered under the <i>Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002</i>, DBCA have voiced concerns that the Shire may create an inconsistency in law if the Shire implement this in its local law, which would require the local law to be repealed if such inconsistency was created.</p> <p>In summary, cats are prohibited on this land already and currently DBCA may be able to assist if you have concerns regarding cats being in this land. DBCA: 9219 9000 or enquiries@dbca.wa.gov.au</p>	
Unknown/Online	6.	No comment – just objects the local law	NA	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	7.	The issue are the "owners" of the cats and not the cats. As a responsible cat owner and lover of animals, I am concerned with the "overflow" of cats in households if owners are to dispose of extra cats. Cat Haven and other kennels are not the answer. Flexibility should be made for people who are willing to foster these cats until finding their forever home. People on semi-rural properties should not be classed under residential laws.	The Shire is not looking to penalise any animals, its focus is on promoting responsible ownership of animals. If any offences were to be made against the proposed local law the owners would be liable for a \$200 infringement notice, although the Community Safety Team attempt to gain voluntary compliance prior to considering any infringement notice.	Add and exemption for payment on the permit for registered bodies foster cats.

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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>While this proposed law would limit the number of cats, requiring a permit for over two cats or application for a cattery, this would not be retrospective.</p> <p>Any cat owner who currently has more than two cats registered to the property would not be required to get a permit for three to six cats, however, if the owner acquired any further cats after the local law was implemented, they would require a permit.</p> <p>Catteries are only permitted in certain zoned areas, being Rural and Rural Smallholdings.</p> <p>Someone wanting to foster cats can do so both now and if the local law is implemented.</p> <p>Under the <i>Cat Regulations 2012</i>, cats being fostered through Cat Haven, RSPCA or SAFE are not required to be registered. All other agencies would require cats over the age of six months to be registered.</p> <p>Officers are thankful you have raised this with the Shire, as Officers will enquire if they can implement an exemption on the payment for a permit for three to six cats where the cat is subject to foster care. If implemented, this may only be applicable to the registered bodies listed above. Officers note that a permit would still be required, but the Shire may be able to remove the payment requirement for foster</p>	

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			groups, hopefully assisting with the fostering of cats prior to finding their forever home.	
Unknown/Online	8.	Excellent proposal. Cats are detrimental to wildlife, and unsupervised are vulnerable to cruelty. Please implement changes for cat ownership urgently.	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	9.	I think restricting properties to two cats only is a little unfair especially if we are on acreage. I understand perhaps in suburbia but on larger properties I don't agree with limiting us to two only.	<p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents.</p> <p>There are options to gain a permit for more than the two cat proposed limit and provisions to have a cattery application.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	10.	Need to be contained in their own property	<p>As per the details in the local law and the FAQ section of the page, the prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>There is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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			include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.	
Unknown/Online	11.	No comment – support LL	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	12.	There are already laws for cat owners. Responsible owners only will follow them. Our cats do not go outside unless on a lead. They have a secure outdoor area. This protects them from vermin and native animals from them. I do not agree with further measures, including limiting the number of cats I am able to own.	<p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents.</p> <p>There are options to gain a permit for more than the two cat proposed limit and provisions to have a cattery application.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	13.	No comment – supports LL	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	14.	Cats, like my two, should be indoor only to not be a disturbance to the Shire. If going outside, should be restricted to a cat run (or the likes). To keep both the cats safe and the wildlife etc.	<p>As per the details in the local law and the FAQ section of the page, the prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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			<p>contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>There is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p>	
Unknown/Online	15.	<p>I don't think it goes far enough, and will have very little effect. It should be mandatory for ALL cats to be registered with the Shire, as it is with dogs, and ALL owners should have to keep their cat contained within their property. There is no excuse for cats to be roaming outside, dogs are not allowed to and neither should cats. They do such damage to our native wildlife.</p>	<p>All cats over the age of six months of age are required to be registered, microchipped and sterilised.</p> <p>As per the details in the local law and the FAQ section of the page, the prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>There is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may</p>	<p>Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.</p>

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			include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.	
Unknown/Online	16.	I hate cats shitting and pissing in my garden. They dig up my plants and annoy my dog.	<p>As per the details in the local law and the FAQ section of the page, the prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>There is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	17.	I think it's wrong to limit the amount of cats you own if contained on your property also as with ALL our animal laws you have no one to police them so what's the point	<p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents.</p> <p>There are options to gain a permit for more than the two cat proposed limit and provisions to have a cattery application.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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			<p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p> <p>The community Safety Team would be promoting responsible ownership of animals and gaining voluntary compliance where possible. Owners who commit an offence in relation to the proposed local law would be liable to an infringement notice where applicable.</p> <p>Most complaints of “inaction” against offences relating to the applicable Acts, Regulations and Local Laws in place stem from the Shire not receiving complaints or information these offences are occurring, in some cases inaction is directly linked to aggrieved residents refusing to supply a statement on the matter. If you have a specific matter you would like addressed, please contact the Shire if relating to Community Safety or Ranger Services or other matters contact the Shire on 9526 1111 or through the online reporting portal on the Shire website.</p>	
Unknown/Online	18.	Cat needs to be microchipped and kept inside or in a cat enclosure to protect our wildlife	All cats over the age of six months of age are required to be registered, microchipped and sterilised.	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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			<p>As per the details in the local law and the FAQ section of the page, the prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>There is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p>	
Unknown/Online	19.	All cats should be registered, one cat per household, cat to remain inside at all times. Any roaming and nuisance cat should be destroyed.	<p>All cats over the age of six months of age are required to be registered, microchipped and sterilised.</p> <p>As per the details in the local law and the FAQ section of the page, the prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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			<p>well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>There is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p> <p>Any impounded cat will be held for the required timeline, being three days for cats with no identified owner and seven days for cats with a known owner. All unclaimed cats will be given all reasonable efforts to be re-homed. It is a rare occasion that a cat cannot be re-homed and the Shire thanks all rescue groups and vets involved in this process.</p>	
Unknown/Online	20.	<p>I don't mind how many cats people have as long as they are totally inside/in an enclosed area for cats. None of this business about "cats have rights to roam etc" that's rubbish. They are introduced killing machines if left to their own devices. On saying this I have had cats for years and they have always been inside cats with a large old bird cage that they used to spend time in while I was at work so they could get sun for their bone health. Cats are killers and need to be contained.</p>	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering, This proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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			<p>the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p> <p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents.</p> <p>There would be options to gain a permit for more than the two cat proposed limit and provisions to have a cattery application.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p>	
Unknown/Online	21.	No comment made, Supports the proposed local law	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	22.	Limiting the amount of cats people can have is a great idea. They also need to be restricted to their own property the same as dogs.	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>cats wandering. This proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p>	
Unknown/Online	23.	I think it will foster more responsible cat ownership. I love cats but they can be a nuisance in the environment. As a cat owner myself, I don't believe it's too much to ask to get owners to contain their cats.	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	24.	No cat should be roaming at night locked up I see so many.	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering. This proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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			<p>requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p>	
Unknown/Online	25.	I don't believe it should be reduced to two per house hold.	<p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents.</p> <p>There would be the options to gain a permit for more than the two cat proposed limit and provisions to have a cattery application.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	26.	I am in FULL support of these local cat laws being put in place. Thank you so much for making this happen. Having lived next to a known unlicensed and uncontrolled problem cat breeder since moving to the Shire, I can only hope these laws get approved so the issue can be addressed and contained. Having been on the receiving end of one of the ferals, and not being able to use my hands for two months, I have seen first hand the damage these animals can do when uncontrolled.	Thank you for the support, the intention is to help with ongoing resident complaints and help protect the flora and fauna where possible, while working within the restraints of the Cat Act, which this proposed local law is made under.	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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Unknown/Online	27.	I disagree with ALL The proses ideas	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	28.	Whilst many of us try to keep our cats within our houses and/or on our properties, they have the ability to escape. I think dogs roaming the streets in the Shire is a much bigger and dangerous problem.	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering. This proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p> <p>Any issue with wandering dogs should be reported to the Shire at the time by calling 9526 1111. Ranger Services also patrol the Shire and action any wandering dogs sighted. Across all the laws the team enforce, education is the preferred outcome in relation to these type of offences, and infringements or</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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			<p>prosecution can be implemented where required for further or serious offences.</p> <p>Please report any issues to the Shire, if the Ranger team does not witness the issue, a witness, being yourself or other, may provide a signed statement of the issue if officers are able to identify the owner of the dog the Shire can action this matter</p>	
Unknown/Online	29.	Support this and there should be similar laws for dogs...living next to a property with three or more domestic dogs plus a run of five greyhounds is not fun...	<p>Thank you for your support in this local law.</p> <p>In regard to the further information regarding dogs, there is currently a limit on the number of dogs within the Shire, being two registered dogs on residential and similar properties. On properties zoned rural, there is the allowance for four registered dogs.</p> <p>Residents can get a permit for up to six dogs, and this would be reviewed if a substantial complaint was to be made. In addition to this, dogs are required to be on lead at all times when in public.</p> <p>Please submit an online request or call the Shire on 9526 1111 and the Ranger team can investigate any concerns raised.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	30.	I do not agree, I am a responsible cat owner	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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Unknown/Online	31.	It's a great start to making people aware that cats are a problem in our environment	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	32.	It doesn't go far enough. I would like SJ Shire to transition urgently to laws that include a cat curfew - where the cat must be confined to the owner's property. Representation needs to be made to the state government to put in place laws across the state and the country to confine cats within their property. Better for the cats and better for Australia's endangered wildlife. Domestic cats kill huge numbers of Australian fauna and feral cats impact greatly on our wildlife across the country leading to potential whole species extinctions.	<p>The Cat Act, which this proposed local law is made under, does not currently permit the prohibition on cats wandering.</p> <p>Working within the current Cat Act, Officers believe the Shire has gone as far as the Shire can regarding requiring cats subject to a permit or cattery to be confined to the property. Other councils have tried to implement further restrictions and have all been made to repeal the law.</p> <p>Officers believe the Cat Act will be getting reviewed by State Government, but Officers note that the <i>Dog Act 1976</i> is currently undertaking a major review with changes being implemented that will affect breeding and various other aspects, which is currently a large workload for the State Government and somewhat impacting Local Government.</p> <p>Officers will enquire regarding the representation that the Shire could put forward regarding the Cat Act review and possible implementation of the prohibition of cats wandering. It is noted a mix of feedback from our engagement on this proposed local law regarding cats wandering, both for and against.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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Unknown/Online	33.	Good – supports LL	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	34.	All cats should have to be confined to the owners property to prevent nuisance issues and for their own safety	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering. This proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	35.	As a foster carer for local cat rescue group, and also someone who actively traps stray cats within Byford around Coles and Caltex, I oppose the two cat per household rule. Not only does this affect me directly as a foster carer with two of my own permanent cats and an ever changing rotation of fosters in a household I own, I can only see this meaning cats are disposed of and dumped within the community. Please talk to local cat	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>While this proposed law would limit the number of cats, requiring a permit for over two cats or application for a cattery, this would not</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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		<p>rescues such as Perth Rescue Angels, Animal Protection Society, Cat Haven and etc to get the most benefits from new cat law suggestions. A community plan to encourage and assist financially to get their cats desexed, and to keep pets in loving homes and not dumped. Furthermore discussion with the Flour Factory in Byford to force their micers to be desexed and cared for. In general I support keeping cats contained on properties, but also understand that there are some cats that will not be contained. I have a large cat run myself, however one cat will not be contained in my home or in the run. Furthermore, please keep in mind that there are a lot of cat haters within the community. Please reach out to cat rescues for their input.</p>	<p>be retrospective, where people already have registered cats on the property.</p> <p>Any cat owner who currently has more than two cats registered to the property would not be required to get a permit for three to six cats, however, if the owner acquired any further cats after the local law was implemented, they would require a permit.</p> <p>Catteries, more than six cats are only permitted in certain zoned areas, being Rural, and Rural Smallholdings.</p> <p>Someone wanting to foster cats can do so both now and if the local law is implemented.</p> <p>Under the <i>Cat Regulations 2012</i> cats being fostered through Cat Haven, RSPCA or SAFE are not required to be registered. All other agencies would require cats over the age of six months to be registered.</p> <p>Officers are thankful you have raised this with the Shire, as the Shire can implement an exemption on the payment for a permit for three to six cats where the cat is subject to foster care. If implemented, this may only be applicable to the registered bodies listed above. Officers note that a permit would still be required, but the Shire should be able to remove the payment requirement for foster groups, hopefully assisting with the fostering of cats prior to finding their forever home.</p>	

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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			If there are any further concerns regarding foster groups, please advise the Shire as soon as possible so officers can see what other changes may be applicable.	
Unknown/Online	36.	No comment – objects to LL	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	37.	Please enforce these new laws and the associated fines to save our wild life. The laws are reasonable and fair.	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	38.	I do have a permit to keep cats but agree that people's cats should be contained and not allowed to roam. There are far too many cats being found deceased on the side of the roads because owners act irresponsibly.	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering, this proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
Unknown/Online	39.	<p>My husband and I have been building our house in Byford since 2019. It has taken this long and our house is still not done. We chose to move to Byford as between my parents (who we currently live with, and will be moving to Byford to live next door to us) and us we have six cats, and when we researched the Shire of Serpentine and Jarrahdale did not have a cat limit. It is unfair that we would be punished for circumstances outside of our control if you change the laws to only having two cats per household. We are not getting rid of two of our six cats, all of which we've had for over 10 years, because the Shire we moved to changed their minds before our build is finished. Fair enough that you encourage cats to be indoors, or in a cat run if outside, that is a fair and reasonable decision, but to limit pet amounts when you know so many families who are building in the Shire are still in limbo due to Covid delays is completely unfair.</p>	<p>This was previously flagged as urgent and responded to.</p> <p>The Shire is not intending this local law to be retrospective, therefore if a person has more than two cats registered to the Shire prior to implementation of the law, this will not be an offence to have more than the prescribed number of cats. Although the cat local law is not approved and changes may be implemented, an option would be to transfer your registration of the cats over to the Shire, under property you are building. There is no fee in transferring the cat to a different council, you will need to provide the registration numbers and what Council they are registered to. If your cats are not registered, there would be applicable fees to register the cats. Cats are also required to be de-sexed and microchips prior to registration. Registration, sterilisation and microchipping are requirements under state law, not local law. Additionally, as you do not live in the Shire of SJ yet, if you were to transfer the registrations to SJ Shire, you will need to include the "residential address" as the SJ Shire address and put a postal address of your address you are currently at. Alternatively, if the above was not completed and in place prior to the law being implemented, as the proposed law sits</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			currently, you would still have the option to gain a permit for three to six cats.	
Unknown/Online	40.	I find the proposed new law to be good.	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	41.	All cats to be contained to owners property at all times by way of inside a home or secure cat enclosure. I don't believe there should be a restriction on ownership numbers as long as they are spayed and registered. Owners who permit their cat to roam outside of their secure property should face penalise in way of infringement and repeat offenders should have to surrender their pet or erect a suitable containment area that needs to be inspected by the Shire.	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering, this proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p> <p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>There would be the options to gain a permit for more than the two cat proposed limit and provisions to have a cattery application.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p> <p>The Shire would not be able to require surrender of an animal.</p>	
Unknown/Online	42.	I think more than two cats should be allowed as long as sterilised and indoor only.	<p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering, this proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>The proposed local law would require a permit for three to six cats. There is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p> <p>Under State law, unless a cat is subject to a breeder's permit, the cat is required to be sterilised prior to the age of six months.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
Unknown/Online	43.	<p>You should not have to apply for a permit if you want to have more than two cats on your property. Especially if they are indoor or are contained to your yard. The rest of the nuisance laws seem fine to penalise people who let their cats roam and cause damage to the environment.</p>	<p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents.</p> <p>There would be the options to gain a permit for more than the two cat proposed limit and provisions to have a cattery application.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering, this proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>The proposed local law would require a permit for three to six cats. There is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p>	<p>Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.</p>
Unknown/Online	44.	<p>This going to affect foster carers as they are going to be limited in the cats that they can have on their property. These people are usually very responsible when it</p>	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and</p>	<p>Add an exemption for payment on the permit</p>

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
		<p>comes to having cats. I would also like to know how this is going to be enforced as there are so many people who haven't registered the cats that they have?</p>	<p>well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents.</p> <p>There would be the options to gain a permit for more than the two cat proposed limit and provisions to have a cattery application.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p> <p>The proposed law has been put forward to assist with ongoing complaints regarding cats within the Shire. Officers would expect most of the education and enforcement measures would be as a response to a complaint received on the specific matter.</p> <p>This will assist with nuisance cats, cat hoarders creating health concerns and similar.</p> <p>Someone wanting to foster cats can do so, both now and if the local law is implemented.</p> <p>Under the <i>Cat Regulations 2012</i> cats being fostered through Cat Haven, RSPCA or SAFE are not required to be registered. All other</p>	<p>for registered bodies foster cats.</p>

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>agencies would require cats over the age of six months to be registered.</p> <p>The Shire has received multiple submissions regarding concerns for foster carers. Officers are looking at implementing an exemption on the payment for a permit for three to six cats where the cat is subject to foster care. Note that a permit would still be required, but the Shire should be able to remove the payment requirement for foster groups, hopefully assisting with the fostering of cats prior to finding their forever home.</p>	
Unknown/Online	45.	<p>I believe the proposed new laws will benefit the community. However, it would be better if owners were to keep all cats contained. This would benefit all wildlife and owners. Cats are a nuisance in the way they enter other people's yards and do the toilet in their garden. This is a health risk to others and their pets.</p>	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering, this proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without</p>	<p>Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.</p>

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.	
Unknown/Online	46.	Cats shouldn't be allowed out.	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering, this proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	47.	No comment – supports LL	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	48.	Does not go far enough. There is no requirement to keep your cat on your own property. The 'Nuisance' definition does not include the destruction of wildlife (ie animals not owned by someone).	The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering, this proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p> <p>The definition of “nuisance” is already determined by state law and cannot be altered outside of this. There is current provisions for a cat attack under the Cat Act (state law) that only has a penalty of euthanising a cat. Unfortunately, this penalty is unlikely to be undertaken against a family pet. The Cat Act should be being reviewed by State Government, but until changes are made to this, the Shire cannot implement a Local law outside of the Cat Act provisions.</p> <p>Officers believe that the definition “(b) <i>an unreasonable interference with the use and enjoyment of a person of his or her ownership or occupation of land</i>” could cover attacks occurring on private property.</p>	

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>This proposed local law also prohibits cats on certain environmentally sensitive reserves and Local Government land. Note that DBCA have a conservation based law prohibiting cats on state forest and national parks, so the cats should not be on this land to begin with.</p>	
Unknown/Online	49.	<p>Cat laws won't make any difference. It comes down to irresponsible ownership. I don't support the law as it criminalises cats and causes them more harm by animal cutely. The Shire should focus on free chip and snip incentives with the local vets.</p>	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The proposed local laws do not target cats, it is designed to promote responsible ownership. There is no requirement within this proposed law that would cause harm to a cat. RSPCA promotes housing cats indoors for their safety and have information available regarding how cats will live a happy full life within a house or cat run.</p> <p>The Shire promotes incentives regarding cat sterilisation and microchipping, however the cost should remain with a person who chooses to own a cat and not cost the greater community and rate payers.</p> <p>All cats impounded under the Cat Act are rehomed where possible. Officers highlight the outstanding work that the local vets and rescue groups assist the Shire with being able</p>	<p>Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.</p>

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			to rehome and find forever homes for cats with no owners.	
Unknown/Online	50.	No comment – support LL	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	51.	Cats should be contained wholly within their own property even if it is just after dark. Cats are a nuisance and danger to our native wildlife. There should be infringements for owners of cats that endanger our wildlife. City of Stirling have done the right thing so should SJ Shire. To note, I am a cat owner and foster carer for Cat Haven.	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The Cat Act that is implemented by State Government, does not allow the prohibition of cats wandering, this proposed local law is made under the Cat Act.</p> <p>However, in the proposed local law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p> <p>Officers have reviewed the City of Stirling's (CoS) Cat Local Law, where it includes the following penalties:</p> <p>3.2(1)(a) Failure of an occupier to hold a permit</p>	Add an exemption for payment on the permit for registered bodies foster cats.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>2. 3.2(1)(b) Use of premises as cattery without permit</p> <p>3. 3.8 Breach of a condition of a permit</p> <p>4. 3.9(4) Breach of notice to keep a cat on premises</p> <p>5. 4.2 Cat in Cat Prohibited Area</p> <p>6. 7.1 Abandonment of cat</p> <p>The proposed SJ Shire local law has the same restrictions although worded differently.</p> <p>Officers highlight CoS section 3.9(4) this only applies to cats subject to a permit – a permit for three to six cats. The SJ proposed law has this same provision.</p> <p>The only significant difference in enforceable measures in the CoS local law would be the abandoning of cats. Officers are satisfied that the <i>Animal Welfare Act</i> has legislation in place for the abandonment of all animals.</p> <p>If there is something over-looked, please contact the Shire.</p> <p>As you have noted you are a foster carer, Officers highlight the following further information. As a result from other feedback, the Shire is looking at implementing an exemption on the payment for a permit for three to six cats where the cat is subject to foster care. Note that a permit would still be required, but the Shire should be able to</p>	

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			remove the payment requirement for foster groups, hopefully assisting with the fostering of cats prior to finding their forever home.	
Unknown/Online	52.	I do not support the proposed local cat law. I think it is too strict on cat owners. If we have laws like this, it will snowball into less freedoms.	N/A – non specific.	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	53.	This law is long overdue and as long as it is enforced, I am in agreeance. We have families of Bandicoots on our property, and they are continually in danger of being taken by the stray cats that come on our property. With the number of private homes being built in our area, the number of cats coming on our property is increasing.	N/A – non specific.	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	54.	I think all cats should be registered and sterilised. I think all cats must be contained to a person's property, exactly the same as dog laws.	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>Under state law, all cats over the age of six months of age are required to be registered, microchipped and sterilised.</p> <p>The prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>There is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.	
Unknown/Online	55.	Support to the new laws to get them off the streets and back into the yard they beyond and to protect our wildlife.	N/A – non specific feedback.	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	56.	Agree to two cats per property.	N/A – non specific feedback.	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	57.	I think people with more than the two cat rule should be allowed to keep their cats plus be provided with a rebate for building a cat run.	<p>Under the proposed local law, residents with more than two registered cats prior to the law being implemented will be permitted to keep their cats with no further action required. This law is not to be enforced retrospectively.</p> <p>All cats over the age of six months old are required by State Law to be registered, sterilised and microchipped.</p> <p>People who wish to apply for a permit for three to six cats would be required to keep all cats to the property, in the house, cat run or similar.</p> <p>The cost of owning a pet should remain with a person who chooses to own a cat and not cost the greater community and rate payers.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	58.	Everything in the document is fine but it does nothing to address the real cat issues in our community. Cats are being allowed to roam at night. They kill the local wildlife.	The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
		<p>We used to have many birds in our garden but local cats have scared them all away. Cats should not be allowed to roam outside. At the very least they should be required to wear a bell on their collar to alert wildlife when they are around. There should be a fine for anyone allowing cats to roam. Also any cats found roaming should be taken to the pound, just like dogs. Cat owners can lead train their pets so they can be walked outside. The proposed cat law addresses none of these issues. I don't object to the proposed cat laws but I can't really agree either because they really won't make any difference.</p>	<p>well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>In the proposed law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p> <p>Cats are currently impounded with the Shire, most commonly caught by people trapping (humanely) on private property where they have an issue with wandering cats. Traps can be hired from Landcare in Mundijong.</p> <p>Often cats that are found are taken to a vet rather than the Shire. The vets can either hand them to the Shire or call the owner and reunite the cat with the owner at their discretion.</p> <p>Impounded cats incur the same cost as impounded dogs.</p> <p>Officers hope the overdue State Government review of the Cat Act may make more helpful changes to the law, but the Shire cannot work outside what is currently in place. Officers are</p>	

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			hoping the "Nuisance" provisions within the proposed law will go some way to assisting with the ongoing cat complaints.	
Unknown/Online	59.	<p>These new laws show no regard for how damaging cats are to the native environment that we all live in. This problem is massively enhanced by how rural so much of this Shire is. Cats should be banned but at least ban cats from leaving the owners property. I have so many cats come onto my property and kill wildlife and these new laws do nothing to address this Shire wide problem. It's time to take our environment seriously as a Council and make a grown up decision to faze out cat ownership, not to encourage cat ownership as these laws do.</p>	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>In the proposed law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p> <p>An outright ban or phasing out of cats has not been shown to Officers to be a concern to the greater community, as people have pets of all types, although, this type of law would not be able to be implemented at a Local Government/Council level and would lie with the State Government. The concern of cats wandering has been a very evident concern</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>however, highlighted clearly from the feedback in this community engagement.</p> <p>Officers hope the overdue State Government review of the Cat Act may make more helpful changes to the law, but the Shire cannot work outside what is currently in place. Officers hope the "Nuisance" provisions within the proposed law will go some way to assisting with the ongoing cat complaints.</p>	
Unknown/Online	60.	<p>I don't believe it goes far enough. After seeing the carnage first hand when it comes to our native birds and mammals, including endangered species I believe cats should have to be kept inside or in a cat run. I used to have guinea pigs loose on my vegetable patch to control weeds. I can no longer do this as the neighbours cats would stalk and kill my pets on my property. If I still had a dog and it did that it would be destroyed.</p>	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>In the proposed law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise, damaging property or injuring/killing pets and similar situations.</p> <p>Officers hope the overdue State Government review of the Cat Act may make more helpful</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			changes to the law, but the Shire cannot work outside what is currently in place. Officers hope the "Nuisance" provisions within the proposed law will go some way to assisting with the ongoing cat complaints.	
Unknown/Online	61.	Perhaps a discount for cat owners to install outdoor enclosures to keep both cats and wildlife safe. I don't believe home owners should be limited to two cats but a cap on four would be better.	<p>The "cap" on cats will be six with a permit, with people keeping two cats not requiring a permit, more than six would be considered a cattery.</p> <p>Under the proposed local law, residents with more than two registered cats prior to the law being implemented will be permitted to keep their cats with no further action required. This law is not to be enforced retrospectively.</p> <p>All cats over the age of six months old are required by State Law to be registered, sterilised and microchipped.</p> <p>People who wish to apply for a permit for three to six cats would be required to keep all cats to the property, in the house, cat run or similar.</p> <p>The cost of owning a pet should remain with a person who chooses to own a pet and not cost the greater community and rate payers.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	62.	No comment - Objects to Local Law.	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	63.	The proposed cat laws should include provisions for cats to be kept safely on their owners property. Responsible ownership is more important than the number of cats that	The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
		<p>people have. Enclosures keep cats safe from accidents and disease and also protect the native wildlife, which attract so many people to our Shire.</p>	<p>well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>In the proposed law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application.</p> <p>There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise, damaging property or injuring/killing pets and similar situations.</p> <p>Officers hope the overdue State Government review of the Cat Act may make more helpful changes to the law, but the Shire cannot work outside what is currently in place. Officers hope the "Nuisance" provisions within the proposed law will go some way to assisting with the ongoing cat complaints.</p>	
Unknown/Online	64.	No comment – Objects to Local Law.	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
Unknown/Online	65.	I don't agree with having to apply for more than two cats but they could register for more than two so you are aware of how many they have.	<p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents. The proposed law has been put forward to assist with ongoing complaints regarding cats within the Shire.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p> <p>All cats over the age of six months old are required by State Law to be registered, sterilised and microchipped.</p> <p>Under the proposed local law, residents with more than two registered cats prior to the law being implemented will be permitted to keep their cats with no further action required. This law is not to be enforced retrospectively.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	66.	I think that this is a great thing for our community. I agree that pets should be kept on the property and not be permitted to roam.	N/A -non specific.	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	67.	Cats need to be contained within the owners property boundaries like the dog requirements. Consequences need to be similar to the penalties for dog offences.	The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction.</p> <p>In the proposed law, there is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application.</p> <p>There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise, damaging property or injuring/killing pets and similar situations.</p> <p>Officers hope the overdue State Government review of the Cat Act may make more helpful changes to the law, but the Shire cannot work outside what is currently in place. Officers hope the "Nuisance" provisions within the proposed law will go some way to assisting with the ongoing cat complaints.</p>	
Unknown/Online	68.	No comment – supports Local Law	N/A	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
Unknown/Online	69.	I feel it's important to have separation of cattery laws vs pet ownership. Responsible breeding should be recognised and monitored.	<p>Within the Proposed local law, a cattery would be a property with more than six cats or more than three breeding cats. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents. The proposed law has been put forward to assist with ongoing complaints regarding cats within the Shire.</p> <p>Therefore, within this proposed local law a cattery is clearly defined.</p> <p>Breeders are required to gain a permit, outlined within the existing Cat Act and relevant regulations.</p> <p>Note this is an expansive topic, limited feedback has been provided to give a detailed targeted response.</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.
Unknown/Online	70.	Hi there, I think your proposed cat laws are an excellent initiative. However, I think it might be prudent to speak with cat breeders in the area, as the limit of three cats is very limiting for them. Kind regards,	<p>Any person was able to supply feedback on this proposed local law, including the breeders within the area.</p> <p>The Shire has previously engaged with some local breeders on this matter.</p> <p>Within the Proposed local law, a cattery would be a property with more than six cats or more than three breeding cats. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents. There was also consideration for land usage</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

**Summary of Submissions
Cat Local Law 2023**

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>and operating as a business when drafting this local law.</p> <p>All feedback received during this consult period will be considered and published for deliberation by Council.</p> <p>Could you please provide feedback on what numbers you believe would be suitable? As this would assist in considering any changes.</p>	
Unknown/Online	71.	<p>3.2 (1) - What is the rationale for limiting cat numbers to two per house? A person with one cat can be an irresponsible owner just as much as a person with three or four can. You speak to any cat rescue organisation and they will tell you the massive problem they have with the number of cat surrenders from both the public and local government pounds. Limiting cat numbers so severely makes rehoming animals to good homes even tougher as you are adding an additional barrier to a home for a cat. The broad scope you have included in 2.1 around a cat being a nuisance along with the Health Act provisions for sanitation provide multiple avenues for addressing irresponsible ownership and hoarding activities, there is no need to punish responsible owners because of the irresponsible ones. You also have failed to include an age for cat and distinguish between cat and kitten for cat numbers. You have included age ranges in your proposed dog laws, why has this not been extended to cats? 3.2 (2) - There a multiple registered animal charities who work to rehome unwanted cats and kittens beyond RSPCA and Cat Haven (the only other charity listed in Reg 4 of the Cat Regs). Your own Council</p>	<p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents. The proposed law has been put forward to assist with ongoing complaints regarding cats within the Shire.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p> <p>The provision for a property with more than two cats requiring a permit will not be retrospective where the cats are registered prior to the law being implemented.</p> <p>Section 3 of the proposed law, titled permits for keeping cats, includes the interpretation "In this Part, and for the purposes of applying the definition of 'cattery', cat does not include a cat</p>	Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.

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		<p>Rangers use vet clinics who rehome to these rescue groups like Perth Rescue Angels, 9 Lives, SAFE and WA Pet Project to name only a few of the many. Pound facilities across Perth use a multitude of animal rescue organisations to take on cats. Cat Haven also utilise other organisations and refer surrenders and pound facilities across Perth to them as they are unable to take the sheer number of cats surrendered and unclaimed on a daily basis. I make the same point as above - you are reducing the capacity of these organisations to help these animals when you effectively don't allow foster carers beyond two organisations to take in animals for rehoming. This needs additional wording around ACNC registered animal welfare charities to protect their volunteers in assisting your own ranger team, residents and vet clinics to rehome animals.</p>	<p>less than six (6) months old." Therefore, not requiring cats under the age of six months old to be subject to a permit or cattery licence when there are more than two cats under this age on a property.</p> <p>Someone wanting to foster cats can do so both now and if the local law is implemented.</p> <p>Under the <i>Cat Regulations 2012</i> cats being fostered through Cat Haven, RSPCA or SAFE are not required to be registered. All other agencies would require cats over the age of six months to be registered.</p> <p>The Shire has received multiple submissions regarding concerns for foster carers. Officers are looking at implementing an exemption on the payment for a permit for three to six cats where the cat is subject to foster care. Noting that a permit would still be required, but the Shire should be able to remove the payment requirement for foster groups, hopefully assisting with the fostering of cats prior to finding their forever home.</p>	
Unknown/Online	72.	<p>Cats should be microchipped and stay on the persons property, not just if a nuisance. Having cat exclusion areas won't work as the nature of cats is they hunt at times when they can't always be seen.</p>	<p>The Shire promotes responsible cat ownership, whereby the animals should be contained to the property for the safety and well-being of the animal and the protection of wildlife and flora.</p>	<p>Implement Cat Local Law as advertised.</p>

**Summary of Submissions
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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>Under state law, all cats over the age of six months of age are required to be registered, microchipped and sterilised.</p> <p>The prohibition on cats wandering cannot be implemented as the Cat Act (which this local law is made under) does not permit such restriction. The Shire can however implement prohibited areas.</p> <p>There is the requirement for cats to be contained where the cat is subject to a three to six cat permit or cattery application. There is also a requirement for a cat not to be a nuisance. Officer expectation is that this may include cats digging or defecating on property without consent, cats creating noise and similar situations.</p> <p>Some areas have been zoned prohibited areas due to the environmentally sensitive nature of the area. If cats were to be identified in this area, the owner would be liable for an infringement being issued, again going back to the Shire's stance on promoting responsible cat ownership. This should be a deterrent to the owner allowing this type of activity and consider keeping a cat inside or implementing a cat run.</p>	
Unknown/Online	73.	I appreciate the opportunity to be able to comment. I am a pure Bengal breeder. I take the utmost pride at my breeding small program. All the families that have gone	Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of	Change limits to: Approved breeders are subject to

Summary of Submissions Cat Local Law 2023

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
		<p>through my program and successfully adopted a kitten from me can vouch that all my cats get the best care, and they don't deserve anything less than the best. I love my cats and give them the best life. My breeding cats are just like pet cats to me. I was asked to reduce from four breeding cats to the limit of three breeding cats. We had to make a very difficult decision to pick a cat we have to say goodbye to, my kids were devastated by this. It was also hard as I was able to provide snow, silver and brown Bengals. However my brown program has not been successful as some females take longer than others and you have to be patient. When breeding cats, it is a not like breeding with dogs.</p> <p>One breeding male cat with two females is not enough and especially not when considering the welfare of the cats. It is good that you have to apply for a permit but this permit process should have an avenue for breeders to be classed separate to boarding facilities. Small breeders should be able to have a limit of 12 cats. This will allow small breeders to be able to retire existing breeding cats and retain future breeding kittens from their own programs without having to get rid of their cats. Once the future breeding cats are ready to be bred, then the retired breeding cats are desexed. This allows not only the opportunity to better the breed standard in our own programs, but we are able to keep our cats. They can enjoy a long and happy life with us. At the moment, the limit is three breeding cats and if more then you are considered a boarding facility. There is no in between. I prefer having my cats enclosed with a cat run, although I love seeing cats outside but the fear of them getting</p>	<p>the animals and the neighbouring residents. The proposed law has been put forward to assist with ongoing complaints regarding cats within the Shire.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p> <p>The updated proposed local law is as follows: Approved breeders are subject to limitation on the considered number of unsterilised cats on a property. Where an approved single dwelling exists, Land zoned -</p> <p>(a) Residential, Urban Development, Neighbourhood Centre, District Centre, Mixed Use and Rural Townsite will allow a maximum of three unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>(b) Rural Residential, Rural and Rural Smallholdings where the lot size is less than 2 hectares will allow a maximum of four unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>(c) Rural Residential, Rural and Rural Smallholdings where the lot size is at least two hectares will allow a maximum of six unsterilised cats to be considered.</p>	<p>limitation on the considered number of unsterilised cats on a property. Where an approved single dwelling exists, Land zoned -</p> <p>(a) Residential, Urban Development, Neighbourhood Centre, District Centre, Mixed Use and Rural Townsite will allow a maximum of 3 unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>(b) Rural Residential, Rural and Rural Smallholdings where the lot size is less than two hectares will allow a maximum of four unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>(c) Rural Residential, Rural and Rural Smallholdings where the lot size is</p>

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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
		<p>killed on the road, catching nasty diseases and spreading it, killing wildlife and causing problems for neighbours etc scares me so I keep mine enclosed. I really hope the Shire can find a pathway to help small breeders in the community. We are a great small group of people but we love our cats and just want to give them the best life like any other breeder or pet owner.</p>	<p>Further to this, up to 12 breeding cats would be permitted in a cattery, whereby a cattery will only be permitted on land zoned Rural and Rural Smallholdings</p>	<p>at least two hectares will allow a maximum of six unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>Further to this, up to 12 breeding cats would be permitted in a cattery, whereby a cattery would only be permitted on land zoned Rural and Rural Smallholdings.</p>
Unknown/Online	74.	<p>I support the proposed local laws however I feel cat breeders in the Shire, if they meet the requirements listed including being on a suitable property and keeping the cats fully inside or enclosed, should be allowed 12 cats to maintain a healthy program and have the ability to request a higher number and have that number approved if it is reasonable.</p>	<p>Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents. The proposed law has been put forward to assist with ongoing complaints regarding cats within the Shire.</p> <p>Due to the feedback from the engagement process the updated permitted breeding numbers in the proposed local law are as follows:</p> <p>Approved breeders are subject to limitation on the considered number of unsterilised cats on a property as follows-</p> <p>(a) Residential, Urban Development, Neighbourhood Centre, District Centre,</p>	As above

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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>Mixed Use and Rural Townsite will allow a maximum of three cats to be considered.</p> <p>(b) Rural Residential, Rural and Rural Smallholdings where the lot size is less than two hectares will allow a maximum of four unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>(c) Rural Residential, Rural and Rural Smallholdings where the lot size is at least two hectares will allow a maximum of six unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>Further to this, up to 12 breeding cats would be permitted in a cattery, whereby a cattery would only be permitted on land zoned Rural and Rural Smallholdings</p>	
email	75.	<p>1. Permits/registrations must be obtained for all cats, not just 2-6 cats. That way the Shire has an accurate record of all cats in the area. This also brings it in line with dog registrations, or dog owners may feel discriminated against.</p> <p>2. I can't see any information on cats not being allowed to roam freely (only 2+ cats). All cats should be kept</p>	<p>1. Currently, and continuing with the proposed Local Law, all cats are already required to be registered and microchipped. Further to this, unless the owner is a registered breeder, the cat(s) are also required to be sterilised. The permits required within the proposed law require further permits to have more than two cats, and subsequently the Shire can impose the conditions of containing the cats. This is similar to the current Dog Local Law, whereby owners require a permit for three to six dogs.</p> <p>2. The proposed local law does not outright prohibit cats from wandering. This is</p>	

**Summary of Submissions
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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
		<p>on the owners premises or walked on a lead, the same as for dogs.</p>	<p>because a Cat Local Law is made under the <i>Cat Act 2011</i>. The <i>Cat Act 2011</i>, which is implemented by the State Government, does not allow the outright prohibition of cats wandering, some Councils have attempted this, but all have been forced to repeal this under direction of the Joint Standing Committee (JSC).</p> <p>The Shire has tried to work with the laws that are in place, hence implementing the "Nuisance" section which Officers envision would assist with trespassing cats, cats digging on private property and similar issues. The nuisance section would hold the owner liable for infringements or court action, in a similar fashion that the Dog Act hold owners liable for nuisance dogs barking.</p> <p>The Shire is also proposing a few prohibited areas within Shire owned public places. This can only be implemented within reason, as if the Shire blanket large portions or the whole Shire as "Prohibited" it will effectively be prohibiting cats from wandering, which again, will be overturned by the JSC.</p> <p>The Cat Act may be revised by the State Government, but for the moment, this appears as far as the law can be implemented.</p>	
Email	76.	As attached below	Many Councils have implemented restrictions on both Cats and dogs. This is on	Change limits to:

**Summary of Submissions
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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>consideration of the health and well-being of the animals and the neighbouring residents. The proposed law has been put forward to assist with ongoing complaints regarding cats within the Shire.</p> <p>There is already a limit on cat numbers in place for the Shire, although the proposed local law clarifies this matter and the application process for more than two cats or a cattery.</p> <p>Breeders who wish to keep more than two cats would be required to gain a permit, where there are requirements to contain the cats. Officers understand most breeders would contain the cats regardless. Breeders would be exempt from the payment of the permit, as there is already a fee to be a breeder.</p> <p>The updated breeding cat permitted numbers would be proposed as follows:</p> <p>Approved breeders are subject to limitation on the considered number of unsterilised cats on a property. Where an approved single dwelling exists, Land zoned -</p> <p>(a) Residential, Urban Development, Neighbourhood Centre, District Centre, Mixed Use and Rural Townsite will allow a maximum of three unsterilised cats to be considered.</p>	<p>Approved breeders are subject to limitation on the considered number of unsterilised cats on a property. Where an approved single dwelling exists, Land zoned -</p> <p>(a) Residential, Urban Development, Neighbourhood Centre, District Centre, Mixed Use and Rural Townsite will allow a maximum of three unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>(b) Rural Residential, Rural and Rural Smallholdings where the lot size is less than two hectares will allow a maximum of four unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>(c) Rural Residential, Rural and Rural</p>

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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>(b) Rural Residential, Rural and Rural Smallholdings where the lot size is less than 2 hectares will allow a maximum of four unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>(c) Rural Residential, Rural and Rural Smallholdings where the lot size is at least two hectares will allow a maximum of six unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>Further to this, up to 12 breeding cats would be permitted in a cattery, whereby a cattery would only be permitted on land zoned Rural and Rural Smallholdings</p> <p>These numbers have been implemented under consideration of zoning, property size, the number of kittens that could be bred and the Town Planning Scheme 3 implications. Your feedback for the request to have up to 12 breeding cats has been heard by Shire Officers, and has been agreed that this can be approved, but only on suitable land use and size as above.</p> <p>Further to this, you have submitted feedback on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of cattery: <p>This has been changed so as not to capture foster carers and is now presented to Council as:</p>	<p>Smallholdings where the lot size is at least two hectares will allow a maximum of six unsterilised cats to be considered.</p> <p>Further to this, up to 12 breeding cats would be permitted in a cattery, whereby a cattery would only be permitted on land zoned Rural and Rural Smallholdings</p>

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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p><i>Cattery means any premises where cats are kept, boarded, housed or trained temporarily for profit, and where the occupier of the premises is not the ordinary owner of the cats, or the keeping of more than six (6) cats.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 3.6: This section has been implemented on the basis of other local laws gazetted already implemented. Not all circumstances fit into one black and white law which is likely why this is a common wording for this section, allowing Officer discretion. The Shire would mitigate the concerns of inconsistency with procedures and checklists for inspections of proposed cat properties. • Section 3.12(2) Now presented as: <i>In the case of a cattery or cat management facility, the permit shall be displayed in a prominent place within the premises.</i> • Schedule 1 A(2) This requirement to update the permit if a cat is replaced is similar to the breeding cat records or even a registration, as they must be updated to the specific cat and cannot have cats interchanged. Officers note again a permit for more than two cats would 	

Summary of Submissions Cat Local Law 2023

Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
			<p>be at no charge to a breeder, as they already pay a breeder fee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule 1B <p>The Cattery definition is changed as above no longer capturing breeders specifically.</p> <p>Planning approval would still be required for a cattery.</p>	

Proposed Cat Local Law 2023

E22/8054 (refer Submitter No. 76)

I have been breeding, exhibiting and judging cats for nearly twenty years and I have lived in the Shire for around nine years. I am registered with the Shire as a breeder but I am constantly worried that this could change. I am also concerned that other people that want to share my hobby are not being treated fairly.

One of the biggest issues cat breeders face in dealing with local Councils is the lack of understanding of our hobby. This was the case when the Cat Act was formulated and is still the case today.

So many assumptions are made about the way we manage our cats as well as our motivations behind breeding in the first place. Hobby breeders breed kittens to breed show cats. It's not financial. Health and happiness is our priority not money. We breed cats to compete with at shows. We are not breeding for pet sales. Yes, we sell kittens as we can't keep them all but that is not why we breed.

It also doesn't help that we are a tiny group of people in WA. We don't have visibility because of our limited numbers but also because in the past our members have struggled when it comes to dealing with local Councils. Breeders keep their breeding hobby very quiet so as not to attract the attention of authorities.

This all means that our relationship as breeders with our local Councils has not been good but I have a lot of hope that it can be better going forward. The new Cat Local Law could go a long way in that regard.

One of the biggest things that affects us is restrictions on the number of cats we can keep. We understand that it can't be a free for all. That we can't cram fifty cats onto a cottage block. But surely there can be a space made for us in the Shire's local laws to have a reasonable number of cats over and above a pet owner without being classified as a commercial operation.

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In recent dealings with the Shire that is what we have pushed for. That we don't just have pet owners with two cats or a commercial facility with zoning and planning approval issues. There should be space for us in between.

Specific Clauses and my comments

1.4 Repeal

Repeal of "LOCAL LAW RELATING TO KENNEL AND CATTERY ESTABLISHMENTS" is great news as it was a local law that grouped the keeping of dogs and cats into one local law. They are both companion animals but the way they are kept is very different. This is especially true in recent years where cat ownership even as pets has moved to indoor only as the standard for responsible ownership.

1.5 Definitions and Interpretation

Cattery – This is a really good definition of a hobby breeder and creates a space for us between pet owner and boarding facility. It also covers pet owners with more than the normal number of cats ie someone who is in the cat fancy as an exhibitor but not a breeder.

Local Planning Scheme – I am assuming this will be "Draft Local Planning Scheme No. 3"

3.2 Cats for which a permit is required

3.2 (1) (a) "not more than six(6)" - I don't understand what thought has gone into this number. I don't feel any consultation has been made with cat breeders as to the number of cats needed to have a healthy, viable breeding program. I would say, once established that twelve would be a much more reasonable number.

Cats are not the same as dogs and horses. They cannot use artificial insemination for breeding due to the nature of their embryos (thin membrane, not viable after freezing). This means that a breeder must keep more animals as they need both male and females to breed.

Cats do not travel as well as dogs for matings. Dogs are often taken in and out of their environment and can happily go to another person's house, mate in the yard and go home. Cats don't cope well with environmental changes. Also, as induced ovulators, they need to have a series of matings over a period of days. They need to have a pen for the actually mating as well as a pen for separation before, during and after the mating process. It is a lot more involved than dogs and very few breeders have the facilities to have visiting queens. Many breeders don't want their queens stressed by such visits. As such they need to keep sufficient males and females themselves so as not to be breeding inbred cats.

Cat breeders cannot pet out their breeding animals on contract like dog owners because the Cat Act will not allow someone who is not a registered breeder to own an unsterilised cat. We don't have a way to do it within our association's rules. We have to own and keep them.

The Cat Fancy in WA is tiny. There are some breeds with only one or two breeders of the same breed. Some people are the only breeders in WA of certain breeds. There are often no options to have a small number of cats and use other peoples stud cats as there are none to use. This means keeping two or three separate lines and carefully doing matings to avoid inbreeding. This requires more animals.

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Cat breeders cannot import frozen semen to bring in new genes and expand the genepool keeping it healthy. We have to import cats from overseas, normally \$7,000 to \$15,000. It takes time and generations to then work these genes into our breeding and we often need to overlap cats so that we don't lose that investment in diversity.

Hobby cat breeders do not let their cats out to roam. We don't want illness or disease and we don't want them getting pregnant. They have cost us a huge investment of money, time and love. They are 100% inside only or in enclosures. Having six cats vs nine cats or twelve cats makes no difference to anything around them. There is no greater impact on wildlife as they are fully contained. There is no greater impact on noise as they are not loud animals and certainly quieter than two or three dogs. There may be more waste but not more than a normal household would produce and fit in a regular wheelie bin every week.

The Act also has the ability to use section 3.5 to determine the suitability of a premises for hobby cat breeding. This means allowing twelve cats with a permit is still subject to where the applicant lives. The Cat Fancy in WA doesn't want a person to have twelve breeding cats in a small house on a cottage block as this is not a good environment for the actual cats. But the same twelve cats would be fine and not a problem for anyone else if they were kept at a large home on an 800sqm block with a double garage and a big cat run down the side.

The Cat Act legislates cat breeders and the Council. The Shire cannot refuse a breeding permit to a member of one of the prescribed bodies in the Act. The reason for this is that all of the bodies have a set of breeding rules and a disciplinary process. Member breeders are held to a higher standard on top of what the Act and the Council requires. The standard of care and housing is the same for six or twelve cats in that instance.

The difference between six and twelve cats has little impact on anyone else. The difference for the breeder in terms of being able to breed healthy cats is huge.

Example of Twelve Cats – Hobby Breeder

Stud Cat 1	Older, investment stud imported from overseas
Stud Cat 2	Younger stud from interstate breeder
Queen 1	Older queen retiring this year
Queen 2	Older queen retiring this year
Queen 4	Queen in her first season
Young Queen 1	Young adult coming on, replaces retiring queen
Young Queen 2	Young adult coming on, replaces retiring queen
Young Stud 1	Being kept for one season so his daughters can be kept next season
Show Cat 1	Desexed show cat

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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
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Retained Cat 1		Kept as has a health issue and breeder acting responsibly by keeping not passing on to pet owner, desexed		
Retained cat 2		Older cat that breeder bred whose owner went into nursing home and family could not rehome, desexed		
Retained Cat 3		Elderly pet cat from before breeder started breeding, desexed		

3.3 Application For Permit

This is unclear for me. Under the *Cat Regulations 2012* which is subsidiary to the *Cat Act 2011*, there are rules around who automatically gets approved by a local Council as a cat breeder.

23. *Person who may not be refused approval to breed cats (s. 37(5))*

A local government is not to refuse an application for the grant or renewal of an approval to breed cats if the applicant —

- (a) has attained the age of 18 years; and*
- (b) has not been convicted within the previous 3 years of an offence against —*
 - (i) the Cat Act 2011; or*
 - (ii) the Dog Act 1976; or*
 - (iii) the Animal Welfare Act 2002;*
- and*
- (c) is a current member of one of the following organisations —*
 - (i) Cat Owners' Association of Western Australia Incorporated;*
 - (ii) the Feline Control Council of Western Australia (Inc);*
 - (iii) Australian National Cats Incorporated;*
 - (iv) Cats United WA Incorporated.*

I understand that this relates to being given approval to breed cats and that the shires proposed local law relates to the approval for the number of cats being kept at a premises but the two things overlap. It doesn't make sense that I could be approved to breed cats under a state law but not to keep enough cats to actually

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breed them in a healthy and viable way under a local law. It seems reasonable to show that the premises is suitable etc but why would there need to be a reason or justification in the application for a member breeder? Because the Shire cannot say that the reason or justification is not good enough. The Act says we are automatically considered approved as a breed by virtue of membership. This needs to somehow be included.

3.5 Factors relevant to the determination of application

This section also omits any consideration of the Cat Act as per above.

(1)(c) the suitability of the zoning of the premises under any local planning scheme which applies to the premises for the proposed use;

One of the things that has come up in previous discussions with the shire is that the local law that is being repealed by this law considered anyone with more than three cats as having a being a cattery establishment (even though that was defined in a way that was actually a boarding facility). A cattery establishment was not a permitted use in the Shire's zonings that included residential dwellings such as Residential, Urban Development, Special Residential, Rural Residential and Rural.

Looking at the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale Scheme No 3. I cannot see cattery establishment in any of the permitted uses. I interpret this to mean that if there was something it would apply but in Scheme No 3 there isn't so section (1)(c) doesn't have any effect (but could later if the Scheme changed) Is this correct?

(2) & (3) state the local government "may" require consultation with neighbours but doesn't define when this would be the case. Who makes this call?

3.6 Decision on Application

This clause seems to say that despite all the requirements the Shire can approve but restrict a permit, reduce the number of cats applied for or refuse it but it doesn't say on what basis. It seems to be entirely at the whim of who is doing the approval process?

3.12 Permit to be kept at premises and available for view

(2) "registered cattery" what is this as it is not defined anywhere. Registered in what way?

Schedule 1

A. Permit to keep more than two cats

(2) this clause really just creates extra admin for the shire when it comes to breeders as we do have cats coming in and out of our programs. It doesn't seem to understand how our hobby works. We retire breeding cats and rehome them into loving pet homes. If a breeding cat passes away, we need to replace them to maintain that number of cats we need to breed healthy animals. Could there be some sort of blanket consent to breeders that as long as they have a breeding permit they can replace cats that leave or pass up to the number of cats they are approved to have. There is still the annual registration process along side this.

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B. Permit to use premises as a cattery or cat management facility

In the definitions of the Local Law “cattery” is clearly defined so as to include a hobby cat breeder. This clause however reads as a commercial cattery type facility. There are requirements that are not possible or necessary for a hobby breeder. For example cat runs are treated the same as a pet cat owner would have them and would be cleaned but not daily. We don’t have a register of cats going in and out as they are all our own cats, our enclosures may not be well lit etc.

It also states that there may additionally require planning permission. This is where we have had issues in the past. The planning approval treats breeding as a commercial boarding facility. It is like treating a person who has chickens in their backyard that they take to poultry shows and sell eggs to people at work in the same way as a commercial poultry farm with chicken sheds.

Is this still the case with this new local law and Planning Scheme 3?

There needs to be a way for hobby breeders (remembering this is a tiny group of people) to exist in a regular dwelling as long as it is not a tiny block next to an area that is protected. We can be ringfenced by virtue of our membership to a prescribed body under the Cat Act.

Note: I am interpreting the Local Law as to be requiring two permits as a breeder, one to have more than two cats and one to have a cattery. I note that clause 3.2 says a permit is required to have more than two cats OR to have a cattery. This is confusing.

Things that I feel should be included in the Local Law

There should be something somewhere in this local law that says an applicant (I would suggest a breeder who is a member of a prescribed body under the Cat Act) can ask for a number over and above what the local law allows and that the shire should grant the request if it is not unreasonable based on all the things it considers with an application.

The reality is that there are three, maybe four people in the shire breeding cats currently and all live on acreage in circumstances that are completely reasonable. They all comply with their registering bodies rules. To my knowledge as a cat breeder who has lived in the shire nearly ten years I don’t think any have ever had any complaints.

If there is a way that there could be an application to have more cats than the local law allows then this could be easily dealt with on a case by case basis because there is so few of us. What is much harder, expensive and takes up the shires resources is dealing with a breeder who doesn’t apply for a permit because they want to have more cats than allowed. They fly under the radar till a neighbour dispute or another breeder dobs them in and then the council has to fight with them over the situation.

This ability to request a higher number still needs to be justified by the breeder as per the application process but may be:

- because of breeding for some time and having a few cats that cannot be homed due to health and behavioural issues,
- returned cats that can’t be rehomed due to age (responsible breeders always take back their cats regardless of age),

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Submitter	No	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment	Officer Recommendation
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- maybe its due to the need to overlap a few more cats because of a new colour gene or to breed out a carried health issue,
- Breeding a minority breed and needing to keep a healthy genepool.

The reality of it is that very few people have the number of cats we have. This means assumptions get made about how they live, what our homes are like, how much impact they have. The truth is that having the mix of cats I described in my example of twelve above would not really change much if it was increased to fifteen or lowered to nine.

No breeder wants too many cats. We all want to have as few as we can to be able to achieve our breeding and show goals. Registered breeders don't breed for kitten sales or profit. Extra cats is extra extra work and extra costs. Sometimes we need them though to breed healthy kittens.

It would be less time and resources for the shire to manage us as a separate group to pet owners and as a separate group to a commercial boarding cattery. We can be easily identified by our membership to a prescribed body under the Cat Act.

In summary

The most important thing to me as a cat breeder who lives in the shire is that the number of cats a registered breeder can keep be increased from six to twelve with scope to apply for and be granted a reasonable higher number. If we apply that to the current cat breeders in the Shire we are talking 24 to 36 cats. If a few more registered breeders took up the hobby or moved to the area maybe it could be a few more.

In my own street if everyone had the standard two cats that is 36 cats. And unlike breeding cats they can be allowed outside. We may have more cats than the average person yes but twelve cats kept inside only is actually less of a nuisance or wildlife risk than that one street of pet cats. A few more if you are on a larger suitable property would make no difference.

Thank you for taking my concerns into consideration. I am hopeful of a good outcome for breeders and for the Shire.