**Latrobe City**

**Municipal**

**Emergency**

**Animal Welfare**

**Sub Plan**

**Municipal Emergency Animal Welfare Sub - Plan**

## Version Control

The Latrobe City Municipal Emergency Management Emergency Animal Welfare Plan is a sub plan of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan. Major changes to is Plan must be approved and authorised by the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC).

This document will be reviewed by the Emergency Animal Welfare Sub Committee annually or after an event. Any changes to the document will be forwarded to the MEMPC for adoption.

The record below is to be completed by the person making the amendment(s). Each new page will have a revision number and date of issue printed on it.

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| Plan adopted by MEMPC | All | 7 August 2015 | Plan Adopted | MEMPC |
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## Acronyms

|  |  |
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| AVA | Australian Veterinary Association (Victorian Division) |
| CFA | Country Fire Authority |
| DHHS | Department of Health and Human Services |
| DEDJTR | Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources |
| DELWP | Department of Environment, Land, Water And Planning |
| EMMV | Emergency Management Manual of Victoria |
| IC | Incident Controller |
| IMT | Incident Management Team |
| IMS | Incident Management System |
| LGO | Local Government Officer |
| MAV | Municipal Association of Victoria |
| MECC | Municipal Emergency Co-ordination Centre |
| MERC | Municipal Emergency Response Co-ordinator |
| MERO | Municipal Emergency Resource Officer |
| MFB | Metropolitan Fire Brigade |
| PAS | Pet Animal Shelter |
| POCTA | Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1986 |
| PV | Parks Victoria |
| RSPCA | Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals |
| SEAWC | State Emergency Animal Welfare Coordinator |
| SCC | State Control Centre |
| SERCC | State Emergency Response Co-ordination Centre |
| SERO | State Emergency Response Officer of Victoria Police |
| SES | State Emergency Service |
| SIGs | Special Interest Groups |
| VEAWC | Victorian Emergency Animal Welfare Committee |
| VicPol | Victoria Police |
| VFF | Victorian Farmers Federation |

## Purpose

This Municipal Emergency Animal Plan has been produced pursuant to Section 20 (1) of the *Emergency Management Act 1986* and assists in the management of animal welfare during an emergency. The Plan has been developed with reference given to the Victorian Emergency Animal Welfare Plan.

The purpose of this document is to provide the Latrobe City community and emergency services with a Plan that integrates existing, everyday legislative requirements for animal welfare with the State’s formal emergency management arrangements, to achieve efficient and effective management of animals, and coordination of animal welfare support services before, during and after an emergency event. The Plan describes:

• The planning requirements for animal welfare support services in emergency preparedness, response, relief and recovery,

• The roles and responsibilities of agencies, organisations, owners and carers that have a role in planning for and providing emergency animal welfare support services, and

• Operating arrangements during an emergency for animal welfare agencies and organisations, emergency service agencies and animal owners and carers.

## Scope

The scope of this Plan is to provide a coordinated approach to the management of animal welfare impacts to companion animals, livestock, and wildlife, as a direct result of an emergency incident in Latrobe City Council municipality. This Plan provides a framework during any emergency that impacts animal welfare, to clarify responsibilities and highlight existing emergency response plans and procedures. This Plan does not replace specific agency operational emergency management plans, rather it provides for the overarching coordination between agencies and organisations

Flood, fire and emergency animal disease have been identified in Municipal Emergency Management Plan’s risk register as having a high or moderate risk which could impact the welfare of companion animals and livestock within the municipality. Consequently, this plan has been developed to guide local emergency animal welfare arrangements for these risks with emphasis given to:

* Identification of affected animals
* Management of evacuated animals at Emergency Relief Centres
* Animal welfare assessment
* Veterinary treatment and triage
* Carcass disposal
* Provision of emergency pet food

## Aim and Objectives

The aim of the Latrobe City Municipal Emergency Animal Welfare Sub - Plan is to define agreed arrangements for the management of emergency animal welfare within the Municipality including:

* Roles and responsibilities of key agencies and stakeholders
* Operational interactions between key agencies and stakeholders
* Resources (personnel. facilities, equipment, services) to be used in the delivery of animal welfare services

The overarching objective of the Plan is to:

* contribute to enhanced public safety and community resilience within the municipality through effective planning and management of animals in emergencies: and
* ensure animals within the municipality are better considered and protected from suffering during and immediately following emergencies.

## 

## Part One - Plan Activation

The Municipal Emergency Resource Officer (MERO) will activate the Plan following advice from the Municipal Emergency Response Coordinator (MERC). Triggers for plan activation may include:

* opening of a Municipal Emergency Relief Centre;
* carcass disposal need; and /or
* stock water supply need
* livestock and domestic animal management across municipality where this is the responsibility of Council

In large scale emergencies, the Coordinator Local Laws will oversee the implementation of the Plan in consultation with the DEDJTR Animal Welfare Liaison Officer assigned to the emergency.

All Plan activations will be logged under the relevant event in Crisisworks.

## Part Two - Roles and Responsibilities

Municipal staff involved in Animal Welfare/Management activities.

* Will be determined by Council’s allocation or call out arrangements
* The Coordinator of Local Laws will be contacted directly by the activated MERO during emergencies.
* Only Latrobe City Council’s staff trained in Animal Management will undertake these roles and responsibilities.

## Part Three - Other agencies

Refer to the Victorian Emergency Animal Welfare Plan for guidance

<http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/emergencies/response/victorian-emergency-animal-welfare-plan>

## 

## Part Four - Operational Arrangements

Describe key animal welfare interactions in the preparedness, prevention, response/relief and recovery phases

**Preparedness:**

* Animal welfare support services will be represented by council and DEDJTR at the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee.
* Emergency animal welfare services will be built into at least one exercise per year, where practicable.
  + Council officers will undertake appropriate training, including Certificate 4 Animal Control and Regulation
  + First Aid (all council laws officers)
* Latrobe City MEMP Committee will ensure information in this Plan is reviewed and updated annually.

**Prevention:**

* The DEDJTR will encourage emergency animal welfare planning to residents of, and visitors to, the municipal district by promoting information sources through various means, Latrobe City Council website will assist with this where practical.

**Response / Relief:**

* In the event of an emergency impacting animals, an appointed DEDJTR MECC Liaison Officer or DEDJTR Animal Welfare Liaison Officer will interact with the MERO or their delegate to ensure animal welfare arrangements are in place that allow effective scoping, management and referral of animal welfare needs as well as distribution of relevant public information.
* In situations where a MECC has not been established, interaction will occur between the Council contact and the DEDJTR Animal Welfare contact listed in this Plan.

**Recovery:**

* Longer term animal welfare needs will be documented and addressed through Municipal Recovery Plans where appropriate.

## 

## Part Five - Emergency animal welfare services

List the emergency animal welfare services likely to be required in the municipal district

Provide a description of relevant activities, relevant municipal policies and implementation arrangements.

Describe arrangements to be used for recording reports of animals requiring emergency welfare in the municipal district, or another municipal district being supported by the council, and coordinating services for those animals. This might include injured wildlife, uncontained or injured livestock, or uncontained companion animals.

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| **8 Animal Welfare Services**   * + Stray and wandering livestock/domestic animals   + Injured animals   + Management of displaced animals   + Food and water   **8.1 Identification of affected animals**  In the event of an emergency, information on registered animal populations can assist scope the effort required to address animal welfare issues. Animal registers can also help identify stray or roaming animals, or those presenting at relief centres.  Council will work with the appropriate agencies to identify affected animals.  **8.2 Management of displaced animals**  Managing animals presenting at emergency relief centres will be coordinated through the MERO and Coordinator Local Laws.  Council will assist to relocate animals presented at Emergency Relief Centres where appropriate and advertise suitable alternative and short term accommodation options to encourage owners to plan in advance.  Provide short term accommodation  Emergency containment of displaced (un-confined animals)  Unconfined animals can pose a danger and require emergency containment or impoundment, this will be dealt with on a case by case basis, or where the owners cannot be identified.  **8.3 Animal welfare needs assessment (including veterinary treatment, humane destruction, salvage slaughter, fodder, water and carcass disposal)**  DELWP will assess the needs of wildlife, in partnership with Parks Victoria and registered wildlife groups.  DEDJTR will assess livestock and companion animal welfare support needs on private property.  Livestock and companion animal welfare assessment needs on private property will be reported to DEDJTR for actioning through the DEDJTR Liaison Officer at the Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre or Incident Control Centre, or the DEDJTR Animal Welfare Liaison Officer. In smaller scale incidents where these roles have not been activated, reports can be sent to the DEDJTR Animal Welfare Officer listed in this Plan. DEDJTR will liaise with both council officers and RSPCA to ensure a coordinated and appropriate response.  Wildlife welfare assessment needs will be reported to the Incident Controller or Planning Officer in the Incident Management Team, or Wildlife Welfare Officer if in place. In smaller scale incidents where these roles have not been activated, reports will be sent or the DELWP /Parks Victoria contact listed in this plan.  **8.4 Veterinary Treatment**  Refer Veterinary Contracts. **See Appendix 2**  **8.5 Coordination of carcass disposal**  Local government is responsible for the coordination of clean-up activities including disposal of dead animals.  DEDJTR will provide any information it has on carcass disposal needs (number and type of animals and location) to assist council.  **Disposal sites** - Latrobe City council has identified the Morwell and Traralgon landfills as possible sites for carcass disposal depending on EPA and Council approvals.  Site locations:   * Maryvale Road Morwell * Old Traralgon Landfill, Liddiard Road (subject to approval)   **8.6 Emergency Fodder**  In large scale emergencies, fodder may be donated for distribution to affected animal owners.  DEDJTR will work with the VFF or local government in the establishment of distribution sites and draw on the following groups to assist  **8.7 Emergency Water**  In the event emergency water supplies are needed for livestock location will be advertised at the time.  **8.8 Recording reports of animals requiring emergency welfare support**  Logged onto Crisisworks. |

## Part Six - Appendices

### Appendix 1- Contact information

**Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources**

Michael Roberts

John Bodey

All contact information for other support agencies needs to be accessed through the Coordinator Local Laws and the Local Laws team, as these arrangements will change to meet operational requirements.

### Appendix 2 – Veterinary Contacts

##### Council Contractors

**Moe Veterinary Centre**

31 Lloyd Street

Moe 3825

Phone - 5127 3511

**Greencross Vets Morwell**

5203 Princes Highway

Morwell 3840

Phone – 5134 2868

##### Non Council contractors

**Latrobe Veterinary Group**

180 Princes Street

Traralgon 3844

Phone – 5174 6999

6 Hoyle Street

Morwell 3840

Phone – 5133 8005

**Traralgon Veterinary Centre**

162 Argyle Street

Traralgon 3844

Phone – 5174 1656

**Newborough Veterinary Centre**

3/43 Monash Road

Newborough 3825

Phone – 5126 2880

**Traralgon Animal Clinic**

1/6 Rocla Road

Traralgon 3844

Phone – 5176 4677

**Old Sale Road Veterinary Service**

259 Old Sale Road

Newbororugh 3825

Phone – 5127 4645