MEETING OF THE
CITY PARKS, LOCAL LAWS & ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2018

MEETING COMMENCED
10.24 am, 13 February 2018

PRESENT

Councillor J R Breene (Chairperson)
Councillor L C Bradley
Councillor R B Lutton
Councillor L A Koranski
Councillor J S Raven ................................................................. 10.27 am - 10.39 am
Councillor S L McIntosh
Councillor L W Smith
Councillor C M Dalley ................................................................. 10.24 am - 10.30 am; 10.33 am - 10.39 am
Councillor P W Pidgeon
Councillor D R Power
Councillor T D Schwarz

IN ATTENDANCE

Director of Community Services  A Swain
City Standards & Animal Care Manager  S Mansfield ............ 10.24 am - 10.30 am
Amenity, Safety & Parking Program Leader  A Taylor ................. 10.24 am - 10.30 am
Parks Operations & Maintenance Prog. Leader  B Dowden ............ 10.30 am - 10.39 am
Parks Planning, Design & Capital Del. Prog. Leader  B O’Bree ............... 10.30 am - 10.39 am
Meetings Services Officer  K Verschuuren
Meetings Services Officer  F Fruean
Meetings Services Officer  A Parry

APOLOGIES

Councillor S F Swenson

MEETING TERMINATED
10.39 am, 13 February 2018

ORDER IN WHICH AGENDA ITEMS WERE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY PARKS, LOCAL LAWS & ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE:

PA1
LIST OF ITEMS
CITY PARKS, LOCAL LAWS & ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2018

PA1 File No: 1073184-1 Id No: 11706764
RSPCA QUEENSLAND'S DE-SEXING PROGRAM 'OPERATION WANTED'
REPORT OF: CITY STANDARDS & ANIMAL CARE MANAGER
REPORT OVERVIEW

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to obtain Council’s endorsement to support the RSPCA Queensland’s "Operation Wanted" (Id: 11729959), their major annual cat and dog de-sexing program and also endorse a financial contribution to their Program through the 2018/19 Budget.

Criteria: Performance

CORPORATE PLAN PRIORITY

QL - QUALITY LIFESTYLES

QL1 Residents are active and healthy and have access to the services they need

REPORT DETAIL

BACKGROUND

"Operation Wanted" is RSPCA Queensland’s major annual de-sexing program run in collaboration with participating veterinary clinics and local councils. In 2018 it will run from 1 June to 31 August 2018. The program involves participating veterinary clinics offering 20% discount on de-sexing for the three month period. The RSPCA Queensland’s de-sexing program has run for the past three years and has resulted in many thousands of animals being desexed.

In the 2017 program, a new RSPCA Queensland registration process was introduced that asked all pet owners, who wished to get 20% discount from participating veterinarians to register online. Pet owners could register multiple animals in the one registration.

In previous years, the reported numbers of animals de-sexed were gathered from the veterinarians directly and the numbers provided included all pets de-sexed for the three months. There was no differentiation of owners who knew about “Operation Wanted” and were motivated by the campaign and those who knew nothing about the campaign. Also, there was no way of identifying where the owners lived, whether they lived in the same Council area as the veterinarian who performed the surgery or not. Since not all veterinarians provided data, the numbers were, for some areas, estimates. A RSPCA Queensland survey of clients found that 50% knew about Operation Wanted and were motivated by the campaign.

The 2017 RSPCA Queensland’s "Operation Wanted" Program resulted in the following proportion of cats and dogs being de-sexed in Queensland:

- Dogs registered: 7,054 (65%)
- Cats registered: 3,802 (35%)

For the Logan City area in 2017, 13 veterinary clinics supported the initiative and 1,264 animals in the City were de-sexed preventing many more unwanted litters.

Report by: City Standards & Animal Care Manager
The RSPCA Queensland’s 2018 "Operation Wanted" de-sexing program runs from 1 June to 31 August 2018. Further to seeking Council’s continuing support this year, RSPCA Queensland is also asking Council to contribute financially towards the 2018 de-sexing program in order to enable the program to increase its numbers.

DISCUSSION

Council’s animal management local law currently requires in its prescribed criteria for keeping cats and dogs respectively, as follows:

- **The owner or keeper (where the owner is not the keeper) of a cat other than a prescribed cat or breeding cat, must ensure the cat is de-sexed.**
  - **A breeding cat is:**
    - a) Owner or kept by a current member of one of the following
      - Queensland Feline Association;
      - Independent Cat Council of Queensland;
      - Feline Control Council of Queensland;
      - A recognised association; and
    - b) Kept in compliance with the rules and codes of conduct however named of and entity specific in paragraph (a).
  - **A prescribed cat is a cat cared for by a recognised foster carer.**

- **The keeper of a dog weighing 10 kilograms or less which is kept on prescribed premises which is a prescribed lot is to ensure the dog is de-sexed.**
  - **A prescribed lot means:**
    - (a) A lot which is 300m² or less in area in a community titles scheme, a building units scheme or a group title scheme; or
    - (b) A lot or area subject to a lease or licence which is 300m² or less in area and either a caretaker’s dwelling, a multi-unit development or a relocatable home park.

- **The keeper of a female dog which has bred on one or more occasions is to ensure that the dog is desexed unless**
  - The keeper of the dog is the holder of a licence under Local Law No.9 (Licensing) 1999 for the operation of a kennel which approves the keeping of the dog; or
  - The keeper is a member of a canine control organisation approved by the local government who keeps the dog for show or breeding purposes.

Council’s recently adopted 2018-2022 City of Logan Animal Care Strategy contains at Objective 2, “Reduce the number of unregistered, unidentified and unwanted cats and dogs in Logan, the following key actions:

- Continue our strict local law provisions to prevent unnecessary breeding of cats and dogs resulting in unwanted animals in the City;
- Promote opportunities to offer the community discounted microchipping and de-sexing.
The following tables illustrate Council’s de-sexing services undertaken in accordance with the Combined Vets of Logan City veterinary services (as at 31 December 2017) as part of Council’s continuing strategy:

**Table 1 - Animals de-sexed prior to release to owner**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>This Month</th>
<th>17/18 YTD</th>
<th>17/18 Proj</th>
<th>16/17</th>
<th>15/16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cats de-sexed</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dogs de-sexed</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Animals De-Sexed</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td><strong>218</strong></td>
<td><strong>436</strong></td>
<td><strong>424</strong></td>
<td><strong>519</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2 - Animals de-sexed for the Sales and Re-homing Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>This Month</th>
<th>17/18 YTD</th>
<th>17/18 Proj</th>
<th>16/17</th>
<th>15/16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cats de-sexed</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dogs de-sexed</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Animals De-Sexed</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>199</strong></td>
<td><strong>398</strong></td>
<td><strong>334</strong></td>
<td><strong>355</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CONCLUSION**

The recognition and capacity of the RSPCA Queensland to achieve a large number of desexed cats and dogs in the City via a dedicated three month program is extremely valuable to Logan City. In 2017, RSPCA Queensland achieved approximately 1264 cats and dogs being de-sexed in Logan City under the banner of its “Operation Wanted”.

The 2018 RSPCA Qld’s “Operation Wanted”, a State wide de-sexing program for cats and dogs, is recommended to be supported with an appropriate contribution of $15,000.

**RECOMMENDATION**

IT IS RECOMMENDED:–

1. That the City Standards & Animal Care Manager be requested to write a letter to RSPCA Queensland advising of Council’s support of ‘Operation Wanted’, a state-wide de-sexing program for cats and dogs.

2. That the Finance Manager be requested to include the request for a contribution of $15,000 to RSPCA Queensland’s ‘Operation Wanted’ program, as detailed in Clause 1 above, in the Future Budgets Register for future consideration, along with other budget matters, as part of the 2018/2019 budget process.

During discussion on Item PA1, the time being 10.27 am, Councillor Raven attended the meeting.

*The City Parks, Local Laws & Animal Care Committee recommended:*

That the report be received and adopted.

*Adopted by Council at its meeting of 20/02/2018 Minute No 48/2018*

*Report by: City Standards & Animal Care Manager*
What is the Operation Wanted?
Operation Wanted (OW) is a major annual desexing initiative marking the collaboration of local councils, local participating veterinary clinics and RSPCA Qld. It runs from June 1 to August 31. It involves participating veterinary clinics offering 20% discount on desexing for the three months. It has run for the past three years and resulted in tens of thousands of animals being desexed.

YOUR CHANCE TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

JUNE 1 TO AUGUST 31, 2018

What supporters of Operation Wanted are saying:
Craig Shepherd from Mackay Regional Council says, ‘Partnering with RSPCA for Operation Wanted allowed Council to highlight the benefits of desexing pets while further encouraging responsible pet ownership in the region.’

Mark Townend, CEO, RSPCA QLD says, ‘The continued support of councils and local veterinary clinics ensures the success of Operation Wanted and increases the number of animals that are desexed. In turn this ensures more animals remain in homes and don’t end up in RSPCA shelters or council pounds.’

SUPPORT FOR OPERATION WANTED

- 26 Councils have supported this initiative each year since 2014
- 200 veterinary clinics have contributed their time and resources
- Media outlets have provided maximum coverage to drive this campaign across Queensland

Vet Sam has participated every year and believes OW has increased his clientele, boosted his business and helped desex lots of pets.
2017 STATS
For the last 2 years participating clinics have desexed 20,000 pets over the three months of the program each year. 50% of this number was a direct result of Operation Wanted.

65% Of the animals Were dogs and 35% Cats
50% Were male and 50% Female
58% Of cats Were over 6 Months of age
41% Of dogs Were 12 months Or older

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!
For more information:
operationwanted.com.au
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M) 0418 874 049