By-law made under the Local Government Act 1999 and the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995

CATS BY-LAW 2025

By-law No. 6 of 2025

For the management and control of cats within the Council's area.

Part 1 – Preliminary

1. **Short Title**

This by-law may be cited as the *Cats By-law 2025.*

2. **Commencement**

This by-law will come into operation four months after the day on which it is published in the *Gazette* in accordance with Section 249(5) of the *Local Government Act 1999.*

3. **Definitions**

In this By-law:

3.1.1 **authorised person** has the same meaning as in the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*;

3.1.2 **cattery** means a building, structure, premises or area approved by the relevant authority pursuant to the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 for the keeping of cats on a temporary or permanent basis;

3.1.3 **cat** means an animal of the species 'Felis catus' over four months of age;

3.1.4 **designated day** means the day set by the Council by resolution and published in the *Gazette* and on a website determined by the Council's Chief Executive Officer;

3.1.5 **keep** includes the provision of food or shelter;

3.1.6 **premises** includes:

land;
(b) a part of any premises or land;

3.1.7 **prescribed manner** means the manner in which a cat is to be identified at all times while the cat is not effectively confined to premises of which the owner of the cat is the occupier is by means of a collar around its neck to which a tag is attached legibly setting out:

3.1.7.1 the name of the owner of the cat, or of a person entitled to possession of the cat; and

3.1.7.2 either:

3.1.7.2.1 the address of the owner or other person; or

3.1.7.2.2 the telephone number of the owner or other person;

3.1.8 **prescribed premises** means:

3.1.8.1.1 a cattery;

3.1.8.2 a veterinary practice;

3.1.8.2.1 a pet shop; or

3.1.8.2.2 any premises for which the Council has granted an exemption.

3.1.9 for the avoidance of doubt, the Council can, at its discretion, determine not to set, or to revoke once set, a designated day.

Part 2 – Cat Management

4. **Limit on Cat Numbers**

4.1 Subject to subparagraphs 4.3 and 4.4, the limit on the number of cats to be kept on any premises is two.

4.2 A person must not, without permission, keep a cat on any premises where the number of cats being kept on those premises exceeds the limit.

4.3 Permission under subparagraph 4.2 may be given if the Council is satisfied that:

4.3.1 no insanitary condition exists on the premises as a result of the keeping of cats; and

4.3.2 a nuisance is not caused to any neighbour as a result of the keeping of cats on the premises.

4.4 Subparagraph 4.1 does not apply to prescribed premises.

Part 3 – Registration and Identification of Cats

5. **Registration of Cats**

5.1 A person must not, after the designated day, keep a cat in the Council's area for more than 14 days unless the cat is registered in accordance with this By-law.

5.2 Subparagraph 5.1 does not apply to prescribed premises.

6. **Registration Procedure for Cats**

6.1 An application for registration of a cat must:

6.1.1 be made to the Council in the manner and form approved by the

Council; and

6.1.2 nominate a person of or over 16 years of age who consents to the cat being registered in their own name; and

6.1.3 nominate, with reference to an address of premises, the place at which the cat will usually be kept; and

6.1.4 include the unique identification number assigned to the microchip implanted in the cat; and

6.1.5 be accompanied by the registration fee and, if applicable, any late payment fee set by resolution of the Council for the cat.

6.2 Subject to subparagraph 6.3, on application and payment of the registration fee and any fee for late payment of the registration fee, the Council must register the cat in the name of the person nominated and issue to that person a certificate of registration in the form approved by Council.

6.3 The Council may refuse to register a cat under this by-law if:

6.3.1 the number of cats kept or proposed to be kept at premises exceeds the prescribed limit;

6.3.2 keeping a cat at the proposed premises would be contrary to any Act, Regulation or By-law.

6.4 A cat registered in the name of a particular person who consents must, on application to the Council by another person, be registered in the name of that other person who is stated in the application and is of or over 16 years of age.

7. **Duration and Renewal of Registration**

7.1 Registration under this by-law remains in force until 30 June next ensuing after registration was granted and may be renewed from time to time for further periods of 12 months.

7.2 If an application for renewal of registration is made before 31 August of the year in which the registration expired, the renewal operates retrospectively from the date of expiry.

8. **Accuracy of Records**

8.1 The person in whose name a cat is individually registered must inform the Council as soon as practicable after any of the following occurs:

8.1.1 the cat is removed from the place recorded in the register as the place at which the cat is usually kept with the intention that it will be usually kept at some other place (whether in the area of the Council, in a different Council area or outside the State);

8.1.2 the cat dies;

8.1.3 the cat has been missing for more than 72 hours;

8.1.4 the residential address or telephone number of the owner of the cat change;

8.1.5 the ownership of the cat is transferred to another person.

8.2 Information given to the Council under this paragraph must include such details as may be reasonably required for the purposes of ensuring the accuracy of records kept under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* and this by-law.

8.3 If ownership of a cat is transferred from the person in whose name the cat is individually registered, the person must give to the new owner the certificate of registration last issued in respect of the cat.

9. **Identification of Cats**

9.1 Every cat must be identified in the prescribed manner at all times while the cat is not effectively confined to premises of which the owner of the cat is the occupier.

9.2 If a cat is not identified in the prescribed manner required by paragraph 9.1, any person who owns or is responsible for the control of the cat is guilty of an offence.

9.3 A person is not guilty of an offence by reason of the fact that the cat is not identified in the prescribed manner if:

9.3.1 the cat:

(a) is travelling with the person; and

(b) is not usually kept within the area of the Council; or

9.3.2 the person is responsible for the control of the cat only by reason of the cat being kept, for business purposes, at prescribed premises; or

9.3.3 the Council has granted the owner of the cat an exemption from the requirements of this paragraph or an extension of time within which to comply with the requirements.

Part 3 – Miscellaneous

10. **Notices**

10.1 The Council may serve notice on the occupier of premises or the owner of a cat requiring action to be taken to ensure compliance with this by-law.

10.2 The person to whom notice is given must comply with the notice.

10.3 If the person to whom notice was given does not comply with the notice, an authorised person of the Council may carry out the terms of the notice and recover the costs of so doing from that person.

11. **Revocation**

Renmark Paringa Council

Council's *Cats By-law 2017*, published in the *Gazette* on 11 July 2017, is revoked on the day on which this by-law comes into operation.

The foregoing by-law was duly made and passed at a meeting of the Council of the Renmark Paringa Council held on the 16th day of December 2025 by an absolute majority of the members for the time being constituting the Council, there being at least two thirds of the members present.

.....

Mr Tarik Wolf
Acting Chief Executive Officer