

Animal Management Advisory Committee

Meeting Details

Meeting No.	23
Meeting Name	Animal Management Advisory Committee (NAMAC)
Date	November 9 2025
Time	9.30am – 2:00 pm
Venue	Kingsford Room, Cairns Regional Council - Online
Meeting Contacts	Travis Sydes 0448 852 732

Minutes

1.	Attendance Kirsty Lamperd CCRC, Mick Malley DSC, Tina Martin CRC, Abby Seymour CRC, Stacey Bambrick TPHS, Michelle Nicholls TPHS, Peter King RSPCA, Michelle Taylor TRC. Online: Tamarah Moore LGAQ, Matt Gardiner CCRC, Onesimo Mukodi HVASC, Bindi Kelly TRC
2.	Apologies Benn Washington MSC, Finn Bailey DSC, Shiralee McHardie TRC, Kylie McAllister CSC
3.	Guests Lana Kajlich, Joseph Armbruster, Jared King, Lucas Ryan – DPI (Safer Communities) Louise De Lai, Jennifer Wilke – Biosecurity Queensland (Biosecurity Boost)
4.	Acceptance of previous minutes Moved: Kirsty Lamperd Seconded: Tina Martin
5.	Business arising from meeting #22

6.	<p>6.1 Stronger Dog Laws, Safer communities – consultation – Biosecurity Queensland – Lucas Ryan (and team)– Biosecurity Queensland</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local Government Toolkit -with resources for officers and community (we'll help anyone there get access) 2. When and how we can offer support for any serious dog attacks in their community via catsanddogs@dpi.qld.gov.au 3. How to access the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 online and how to read for identifying provisions and offences 4. How to declare a dog (AMCDA form) and how to fill the form in and how to fill in the RDR state register (and why!)
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Lucas Ryan and the team provided an update on the rollout of the program and shared perspectives on the council-to-council consultations they have undertaken over the course of the week. The program has focused on the Act changes, implementation and rollout. The program is currently resourced to mid-2026 with inspectors' roles extended beyond this date to provide support to councils.

It was useful for the team to meet individually with councils AM teams to discuss/review their operational needs, processes and procedures. The committee acknowledged how useful it was for officers to meet with inspectors to ask one on one questions regarding process and procedure and would welcome any opportunities for this to continue.

The Regulated Dogs Register is now established, and the revision of the destruction orders process should address some of the procedural issues raised in the previous iteration.

As tools and materials are developed they will be added to the [Local Government Toolkit](#)

6.2 QCAT Review and LGAQ update – Tamarah Moore LGAQ

please see [link](#) to the Congruent article on the QCAT review.

Tamarah provided an overview of LGAQ's QCAT review consultation process and key areas of focus. It was highlighted that not all discussion papers were loaded onto the consultation landing page yet. LGAQ is utilising case studies provided by councils to demonstrate issues within the QCAT process.

Key discussions and points raised by the committee included:

- The QCAT review process often results 2-year extension of process for the same outcome
- LG's felt that the same onus was not placed on defendants to adhere to process as them.
- Last minute changes and poor communications often left LG's with very short timeframes to prepare for hearings (often that communication came from the defendant, not the tribunal)
- Case managers were almost always unavailable to support defendants often leaving council to guide them through the process of self-representation. This consistently led to long procedures as every part of the process may require facilitation. The process itself is hard to follow for most defendants.
- Defendants were often under the impression that lodging the appeal was the final stage not the initiation of the hearing process.

Suggested amendments to QCAT include:

- More stringent pre-screening process to identify if claim or appeal is legitimate course of action. This would need to be a facilitated/case managed process.
- More support for defendants to understand full process and requirements for self-representation.
- Stronger definitions around reasonable excuse (this includes for no-show, non-submission and deadlines not being met)
- Sunset clauses on specific cases (involving impounded animals)
- Clearer communications and resources to guide defendants
- Resourcing of case managers
- Better channels of communication with LG as prosecutor

6.3 Business case for workforce capability and workforce modernisation review

Travis provided an update of the draft business case proposal and the committee discussed key messages. Additional considerations for inclusion included: One health, One Welfare program approach, euthanasia avoidance programs e.g. – getting to zero, desexing, rehoming, AMW program as a well-established example of an integrated welfare approach.

It was agreed to include a 12-month snapshot of the CRC/RSPCA collaboration underway.

	<p>Action: 1. recirculate updated options paper to committee. 2. Collate case study of CRC/RSPCA collaboration. 3. Seek feedback from DPI policy</p> <p>6.4 Training</p> <p>6.5 Conferences and forums</p> <p>6.6 Disaster scenario exercise Action: circulate date claimer for 1.5-hour online exercise (include non -LG committee members)</p> <p>6.7 Updates from around the room</p> <p>RSPCA – Dogs in hot cars media release out now - RSPCA Queensland Dogs die in hot cars LGAQ – Policy Statement refers to current policy positions from conference motions, LGAQ conference include 2 Animal Management motions</p>
7.	Points for noting to FNQROC Board
8.	Next meeting
9.	Meeting close

Actions arising

Action Item	Action
21.1	<p>Coen Animal Management Facility</p> <p>Cook has offered to facilitate a field trip for interested staff and parties to inspect new facility and program once it is operational.</p>
22.1	<p>Business case for workforce capability and workforce modernisation review Action: 1. circulate revised business case for review. 2. Collate brief case study of West Cairns pilot project to include business case. 3. Table proposal for Stage 1 to the FNQROC Board December 4, 2025.</p>
22.2	<p>Training and staff development Action: 1. Identify suitable agent to deliver government investigations training. 2. circulate survey</p>
22.3	<p>Disaster scenario exercise planning and scheduling for last quarter of 2025 Action: 1. Circulate outcomes report from 2024 event to committee. 2. Circulate proposed dates for 2025 exercise.</p>
23.1	<p>Business case for workforce capability and workforce modernisation review (replaces 22.1) Action: 1. recirculate updated options paper to committee. 2. Collate case study of CRC/RSPCA collaboration. 3. Seek feedback from DPI policy</p>
23.2	