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Cat laws welcomed

21/Jun/2011

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THE Town of Victoria Park has cautiously welcomed new statewide domestic cat control legislation due to come in to effect next year.

Local Government Minister John Castrilli announced the introduction of the Cat Bill 2011 in Parliament last week, which would reduce the number of stray cats being put down each year.

Mr Castrilli said the legislation would provide for better management of the effects of cats on the community and environment, and improve cat welfare.

"Allowing unwanted cats to face starvation and neglect is unacceptable to both the community and State Government," he said.

From November next year, owners will be required to register, sterilise and place adequate identification on their domestic cats, while local councils are to administer and enforce the legislation.

Town of Victoria Park chief executive Arthur Kyron said how the Act would ultimately affect the Town's rangers was still unknown.

"Once the Town knows the full details of the local law, we will undertake a review of resources to ensure that we are prepared for its implementation," he said.

"One specific aspect likely to be required will be a review of the shared pound facility to accommodate for cats."

He said the Town was supportive of legislation to better control cats and regulate cat ownership.



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