

Hon Ian Hunter MLC

Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation

Tuesday, 4 July 2017

SA software developer will bring dog and cat management online

A South Australian software developer has won the contract to build the state's new Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) system – a one-stop online service for all registration payments, microchipping and breeder information.

SRA Information Technology was awarded the contract after a competitive tender process and is now working to develop the system for launch in July 2018.

Founded in 1992, SRA is a true South Australian success story, with offices around Australia and now in the USA and Singapore.

DACO will replace 68 individual council dog and cat registers with a single, central online database that is accessible 24/7, including via mobile devices.

Background

The online system is the final piece in South Australia's dog and cat law reforms, and coincides with the introduction of mandatory microchipping, breeder registration and mandatory desexing.

DACO will allow pet owners to instantly update their registration or microchip details if they move house or change phone numbers, and will help councils and shelters reunite lost pets with their owners by easing information sharing.

The site will also be a hub for prospective buyers to check that their new pet comes from a registered breeder, and in the process, help weed out puppy farmers by shining a light on the industry.

DACO will save councils money by reducing duplication, and provide the Dog and Cat Management Board with instant access to up-to-date information from around the state.

All work on the development of DACO will be carried out from SRA's Adelaide headquarters.

Quotes attributable to Sustainability, Environment and Conservation Minister Ian Hunter

Today's announcement marks a significant investment in local jobs, and the beginning of a better way to manage dogs and cats for the future.

The DACO tender process attracted interest from interstate and from New Zealand; for SRA Information Technology to be the standout bidder shows the breadth of IT talent available here in South Australia.

DACO will bring together important information in a single database, breaking down barriers to information sharing and empowering pet owners to better manage their own information.

Quotes attributable to Dog and Cat Management Board Chairperson, Dr Felicity-ann Lewis

DACO is a prime example of local government and the Board working together to improve efficiency and deliver better value and service to South Australian dog and cat owners.

DACO will mean savings for councils, by replacing the 68 individual registration systems currently in place, and by giving animal management officers instant access to information in the field to speed up collection and return of stray animals.

DACO empowers local government to focus on service delivery under the new laws, which includes new investigative powers for councils to tackle the growing problem of dog attacks, and through increased fines and expiations.

Quotes attributable to Steven Rowe, CEO, SRA Information Technology

We applaud the DCMB for taking on such a challenge and their foresight of knowing that an innovative solution would need to be developed in a very inclusive and collaborative manner.

We expect this project to allow us to employ extra staff in South Australia, which is a further example of the procurement process achieving great results for the State.

The sensational outcomes this project will achieve align with SRA's vision of adding value to the community and engaging multiple levels of Government to achieve innovative and cost effective results.