

By-law development in a remote Aboriginal context A Journey

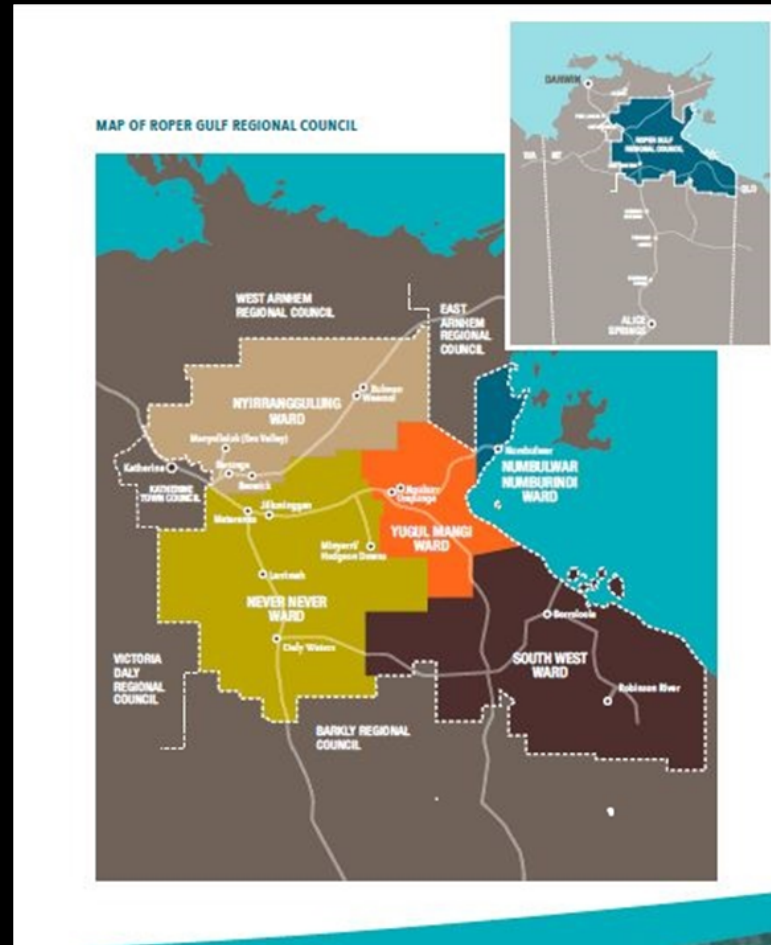


“First do no harm”



Challenges

- 186,000 km²
- 2 staff
- 1 pound 600 kms from HQ
- 12 communities, some cut off in wet season
- Cross cultural environment with very different histories



- No by laws
- No dangerous dog legislation
- > 2000 free roaming dogs
- Value on hunting or guard dogs
- Little to no fencing
- Highest rates of dogs bites and hospitalisation per capita

***Two cultures
Two laws
Two histories***



Perceptions of ownership, fault, fairness and forgiveness



DANGEROUS DOGS - A SENSIBLE SOLUTION



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De-identified Health Clinic Data Based around Dunbar Dog Bite Scale



What could by laws be? Introductory survey

1. Dangerous Animals (11)
2. Registration (9)
3. Abandoned Animals (9)
4. Nuisance Animals (8)
5. No go zones (8) – shops, clinic, school, football field etc.
6. Animal numbers per house (7)
7. Seizing Animals (5)
8. Pounds (3)



Cats breeding and threatening country

**Individual
dangerous animals**

DANGEROUS ANIMALS

**Large numbers of
animals per house**
Pack formation

Livestock

Uncontrolled breeding of animals in homes
Zoonoses and mental health risks to people

In every challenge there lies a wonderful opportunity for change

This takes expert opinion on both sides

Honesty

A lack of judgement

Good listening skills

and

TIME!