## The 2016 Cherbourg Dog Management Program:

#### A successful stakeholder collaboration story



#### Steven Hill

- Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council

#### Bonny Cumming

Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous
 Communities

#### Amanda Hutchings

Queensland HealthDarling Downs Public Health Unit

#### Gregory Simmons

- University of Queensland School of Veterinary Science

NATSIEH Conference Sept 2017







Queensland Government



#### Our story...

- Video: Cherbourg Dog Management Program Community Perspectives
- Steven Hill: Thoughts from Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council's Environmental Health Worker
- Bonny Cumming & Amanda Hutchings: The 2016 Cherbourg Animal Management Program and Future plans









#### **Community Perspectives Video**

https://youtu.be/My18uVDojcY











#### Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council's Perspective











The 2016 Cherbourg Animal Management Program

- Animal Management Background
- The Collaboration
- Program Components
- Program Outcomes
- Future Plans











## Animal Management Background

Animal Management within Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council:

2 x Animal Management Workers

1 x Environmental Health Worker

1 EH Consultant

Pound (not operational)

Animal Management Local Laws (little implementation or enforcement)





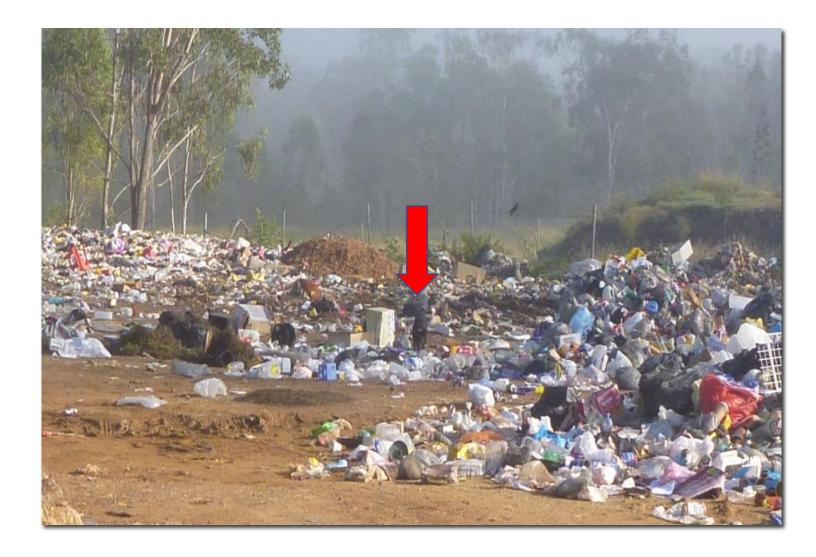








#### Animal Management Background











#### The Collaboration



Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council (CASC)



AMRRIC – Animal Management in Rural & Remote Indigenous Communities



Queensland Health – Darling Downs Public Health Unit (DDPHU)



University of Queensland - School of Veterinary Science (UQ SVS)









#### The Collaboration



Some of the collaboration's team members, from left to right: Dr Greg Simmons (UQ SVS), Amanda Hutchings (DDPHU), Shamus Cobbo (CASC), Shamus' dog 'Bobus', Lara Marwedel (Merial), Melissa Pepper (AMRRIC).









## The Collaboration's Process

Mapping

- Identify relevant stakeholders
- Defining stakeholder expertise and opportunities for input

Planning

- Define the issue
- Develop short- and long-term goals
- Identify required components to achieve goals
- Tailor components to Cherbourg community physical, social, cultural and economic needs

Implementing

Implementing project as planned

Reviewing

- Debrief with all stakeholders, seeking feedback on achieving goals and each stage of process
- Documenting review for future reference and improvement



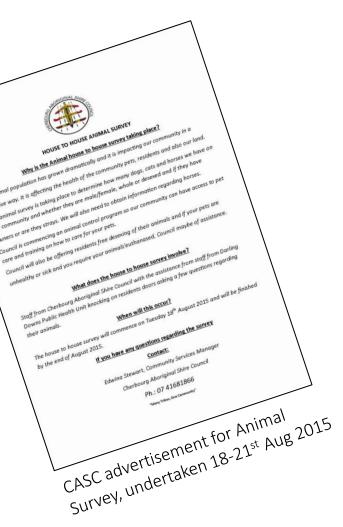






### The Collaboration's Plan

- Long term view
- Best-practice methods
- Evidence-based
- Defined goals
- Recognition that dog management program was a component of broader CASC animal management plan











#### CHERBOURG DOG MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

**Program Evolution** 

## The Program Timeline

he 2016 Cherbourg Dog Management Program Greg Simmons Cairns, Sept Steven Hill, Bonny Cumming, Amanda Hutchings, Confere VATSIEH



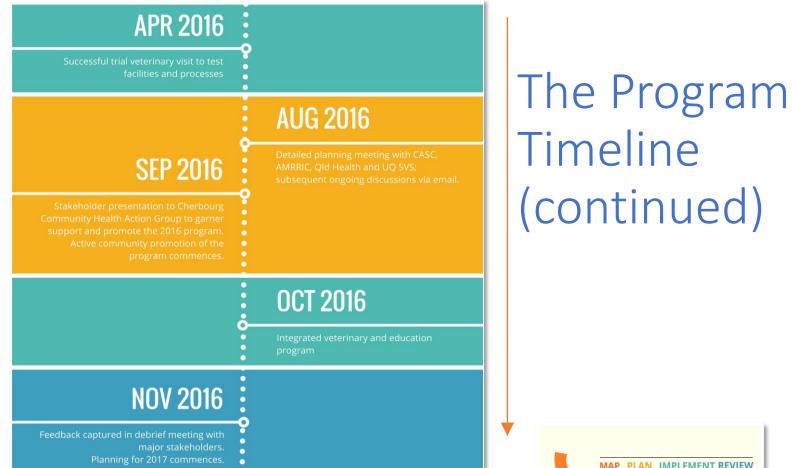






# MAY 2015 JUL 2015 AUG 2015 **SEP 2015 JAN 2016 FEB-MAR 2016**

MAP PLAN IMPLEMENT REVIEW



The 2016 Cherbourg Dog Management Program Steven Hill, Borny Cumming,



Cairns, Sept 201

Amanda Hutchings, Greg Simmons

NATSIEH Conference,









#### 2016 Dog Management Program: Components

- Establishment of dog <u>registration system</u> using the AMRRIC App
- Free <u>veterinary treatments</u>: surgical desexing and parasite treatments on offer to Cherbourg residents who had registered their dogs
- Responsible pet ownership <u>education</u> <u>program</u> directed at school children and broader Cherbourg community









he 2016 Cherbourg Dog Management Program Greg Simmons Steven Hill, Bonny Cumming Amanda Hutchings, NATSIEH Conference

The proposed Cherbourg Community Dog Management Program is a collaborative effort between Cherbourg Aborginal curve curve curve curve curve curve and curve curve

The proposed Cherbourg Community Dog Management Program is a collaborative effort between Cherbourg A Shire Council (CASC), the University of Queensiand (UQ), Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities (Communities (Commu Shire Council (CASC), the University of Queensland (UQ), Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC), and Queensland Health, with assistance from Bosecurity Queensland and South Burnets And American A Communities (AMRRIC) and Queensand Health, with assistance from Biosecurity Queensiand and South Burnett Regional Council, it is proposed that the program will deliver ongoing, annual animal health and education services to Regional Council, it is proposed that the program will deliver ongoing, annual animal health and education services to the community of Cherbourg. This program is part of the broader animal management program being implemented by -------

Program Aims The program aims to establish effective and sistalnable dog management at Cherbourg community by focusing on dog

 Appropriate numbers of pets per nousenoid (e.g. 2 dogs per housenoid);
 community members (including children) with adequate knowledge of how to care for their animals, so that good animal health and wellare is maintained; Better control of community animals to aid in prevention of management issues (e.g. knocking over of bins). In stakeholder meetings, all parties have agreed that an educative, rather than enforcement approach is likely to be

In stakeholder meeungs, all parties nave agreed that an exucative, rather than emorecement approach to likely to better accepted by community members, encouraging community engagement and sustainable animal managem better accepted by community members, encouraging community engagement and sustainable animal management practices. It is acknowledged that council has local laws that manage animal risks in the community that can and will be

nbors with manageapie numbers or urgs, leading to: Improvement in owner responsibility if each household has fewer dogs to look after: Improvement in owner responsibility if each household has fewer dogs to look after: Improvement in safety for both community members and service providers, and fewer number of dog

Increased community pride; Fewer community dogs hassing nearby livestock (detexed dogs are less likely to roam and form packs);

Reduced health risks associated with rubbish spread and faecal contamination:

revere community aces contributing to will ace populations.
 reduced risk of zoonotic disease transmission (i.e. disease transferred from animals to people).

To address the animal management concerns at Cherbourg will require a long-term approach. The following document outlines a plan for 2016 however it should be noted that the 2016 organisms will not be sufficient to eain control over To address the animal management concerns at Cherbourg will require a long-term approach. The following docume outlines a plan for 2016 however it should be noted that the 2016 programs will not be sufficient to gain control over chembaure's date nonvitations and resultar weterinary and education droprams will be required for **at loast** 5 wars in a outlines a plan for 2016 however it should be noted that the 2016 programs will not be sufficient to gain control over Cherbourg's dog populations and regular veterinary and education programs will be required for **at least** 5 years in order to work towards achieving the program aim.

Program components and stakenoider Involvement the University of Queensiand School of Veterinary Scince will provide basic veterinary services at no cost to community

Cherbourg Community Dog Management Program

Funding Proposal

r دور سه سویی می مواند. The benefits of an effective dog population management program include: Terris or an energy way way way and the second of the second second second second second second second second s Households with manageable numbers of dogs, leading to:

rewer community dogs contributing to wild dog populations

 Fewer unwanted dogs. Reduced numbers of stray and roaming dogs, leading to: Reduced nuisance and noise from dogs;

Increased community pride;

Incompany to superior source on y seterant source and provide ones, we members who have repistered their animals with CASC. These services include:

Improved community amenity and function.

Healthy dogs with improved welfare and better behaviour.









## **Program Components: Funding**

Estimated value of total program: \$30,000

\$13,132 in actual costs

\$5000 funding contributed by CASC to fund part of both vet and education program

Remaining costs absorbed by CASC, AMRRIC, DDPHU and UQ SVS

#### 2016 Dog Management Program: Components – Vet program

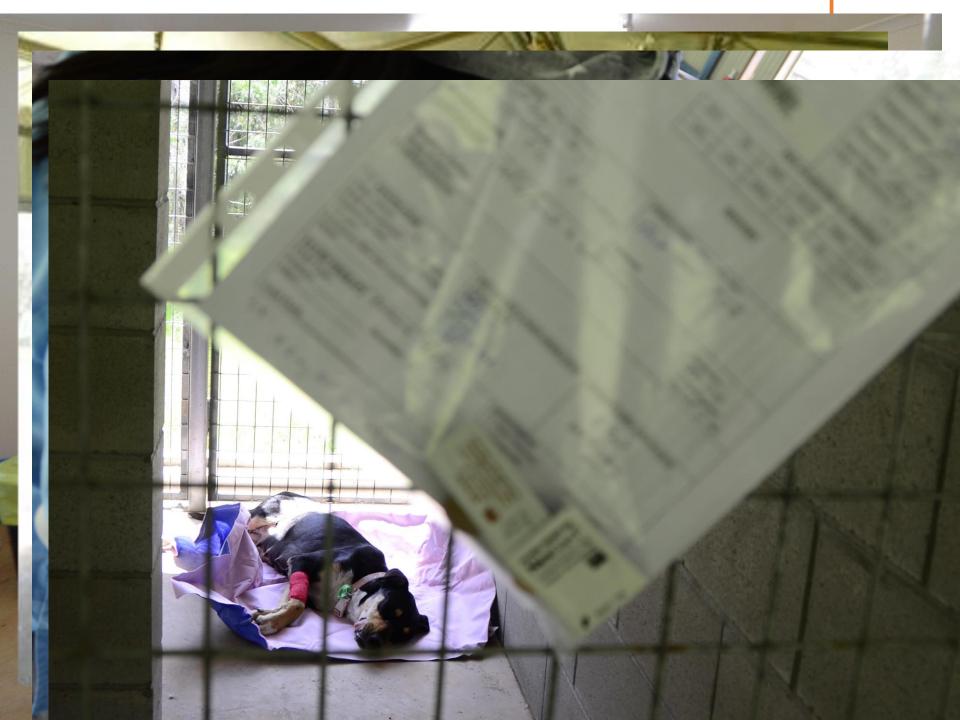
- UQ Vet team = 2 experienced vets, 1 vet nurse, 3 final year vet students
- Available treatments/procedures:
  - General health checks, education about animal health, disease prevention, responsible pet ownership etc;
  - Surgical desexing of dogs;
  - Microchipping;
  - Parasite treatments;
  - Emergency treatments to address animal welfare concerns; &
  - Euthanasia (only with full & informed consent of animal's owner).
- AMRRIC's App used to record treatments and population.











### 2016 Dog Management Program: Components – Education program

- AMRRIC Education
   Officer worked with
   CASC EHW & AMW to
   deliver school lessons –
   'Caring for Dogs'.
- 131 Students were engaged in lessons – from pre-prep to Year 6.
- Posters were on display at Community Dog Health Day













2016 Dog Management Program: Components – Community Dog Health Day

- Collaborative event hosted by DDPHU, UQ Vet School, CASC, Merial & AMRRIC
- Included:
  - Free dog checks and parasite treaments by UQ Vet students
  - Community BBQ
  - Best Looking Dog Competition
  - Healthly dogs posted by school students
  - Free dog registration
- Attendance by UQ Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit staff











# **OUTCOMES** 2016 Cherbourg Dog Management Program









## Program Outcomes: Two-way Learning

- Relationship building & Reconciliation
- "During the two weeks at Cherbourg, we had a lot of opportunity to communicate with the local residents and look after a number of dogs. We not only learnt about veterinary science, but also about the history and culture of Cherbourg. This furthered our understanding and appreciation of the interactions between animals and human kind. Our horizon was widened in this journey."
  - -UQ Final Year Veterinary Students Shirley Lee, Danielle Hindmarsh and Caroline Edgehill

## **The 2016 Cherbourg Dog Management Program** steven Hill, Bonny Cumming, Amanda Hutchings, Greg Simmons VATSIEH Conference, Cairns, Sept 2017



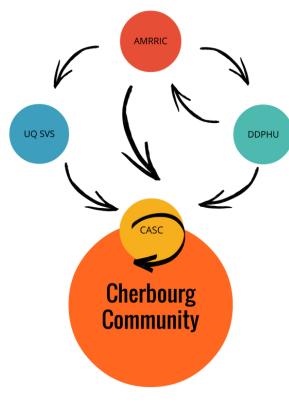






## Keys to effective collaboration

- Identifying all the relevant stakeholders
- Mutually agreed issues
- Clearly identified goals
- Collaborative planning
- Clearly understood roles and responsibilities
- Regular face to face and email/phone communication



Flow of information and services in collaboration

#### Future Plans: 2017 Animal Management Program





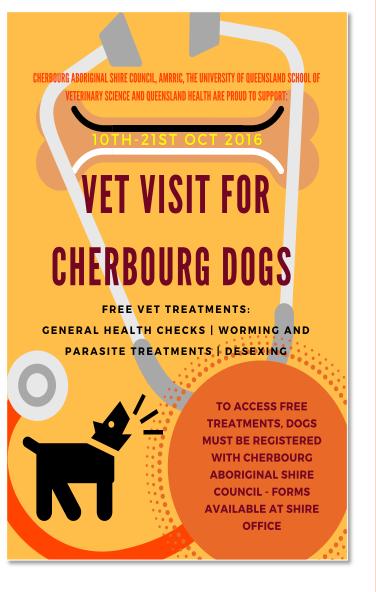






#### Acknowledgements

- Cherbourg community residents
- Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council Staff and Councillors
- Merial and CH2; Program sponsors
- Stacy Harris (Biosecurity Queensland) and Dr Ben Allen (University of Southern Queensland) for their catalytic initial involvement
- Local vet clinics South Burnett Vets, Kingaroy Veterinary Surgery for their support and assistance
- University of Queensland School of Veterinary Science Staff who championed UQ's involvement
- University of Queensland– Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit
- Queensland Health Darling Downs Public Health Unit staff
- AMRRIC staff
- Australian Government, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet; AMRRIC funder











#### Abbreviations

CASC: Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council

AMRRIC: Animal Management in Rural & Remote Indigenous Communities

DDPHU: Darling Downs Public Health Unit

UQ SVS: University of Queensland School of Veterinary Science

EH: Environmental Health







