



Prescribed dogs

The Prescribed Dogs Register

Owners should be aware that dogs which have received a substantiated complaint for menacing or attacking a person or animal or dogs found at large or impounded will be placed on a Prescribed Dogs Register. Entry on the Register means conditions are placed on the dog's registration.

Where a first entry relates to attack or menace the owner is required to erect suitable fencing within 28 days or such time as the Council may permit.

Where two entries are made and both relate to dog at large or an impounded dog, the owner is required to erect suitable fencing within 28 days or such time as the Council may permit

An owner whose dog has two entries for attack or menace or three entries for at large or impounded must comply with the following conditions:

- Provision of suitable fencing to contain the particular dog;
- Within 24 hours of notification by Council, obtain from Council and display a 'Dangerous Dog' sign on the property and make arrangements to contain the dog in a manner which allows legitimate visitors access to the front door of the premises, as required under the by-laws;
- A 'Dangerous Dog' identification collar is to be purchased from Council and worn by the dog whenever it is in a public place;
- The dog is to be on a lead controlled by a competent person over the age of 16 years whenever the dog is in a public place;
- The dog is also to be adequately muzzled whenever in a public place.

Any breach of these conditions could lead to the immediate cancellation of the dog's registration.

As it is an offence to keep an unregistered dog, once a dog has had registration cancelled it must be voluntarily removed from the municipality otherwise Council may seize the dog.

Removal of dogs from the register

Where a dog has a single entry on the Prescribed Dog Register

relating to at large or impounding only and no further complaint relating to at large, menace or attack has been received in the following twelve months the owner may apply in writing to Council to have that entry removed where the fencing has been upgraded to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Services.

Infringement Fines

Infringement fines of \$150 for attack, \$100 for menace and \$80 for a dog being at large can be issued to owners of dogs committing these offences. Should the matter be dealt with in court, fines of up to \$3,000 can be received.

Dog Attack

Most dog attacks on people happen because their owners fail to provide adequate control, sufficient socialisation and/or even the most basic training for their pets.

It cannot be taken for granted that your dog will not attack in a moment of anxiety, overplayfulness or when under threat. It is very important to take precautions and act responsibly before this happens, and hopefully it then won't happen at all!

Further Advice

Enquiries or complaints on dog control PH: (08) 8930 0605. For assistance with dog socialisation and dog training PH The Petcare Helpline: (08) 8930 0606.