

POLICY NO: 3.9.9

DOG CONTROL

OBJECTIVES

To provide guidance and direction in regard to the administration of the Dog Act 1976, Dog Act Regulations and the Council's Local-law relating to dogs.

POLICY STATEMENT

That the Chief Executive Officer or nominee shall be authorised:

1. to take legal action/or issue infringement notices in cases where dogs are found" wandering at large" or the dog is off its leash in certain public places and the owner does not have a reasonable excuse for the dog not being under his/her control or off its leash;
2. to take the following action where a complaint has been received concerning a dog which creates a noise by barking or creates a nuisance which persistently occurs to a degree that is not normally habitual in dogs to a degree that it has a disturbing effect on a person:
 - in the first instance the owner of the dog shall be advised verbally and in writing of the complaint and be requested to abate the nuisance within seven (7) days;
 - in the event of non compliance with (a), a Dog Abatement Notice and/or Infringement Notice be issued against the owner of the dog;
 - as a last resort, legal action be instituted against the owner of the dog;
3. to issue infringement notices and/or initiate legal action where necessary, against the owner of a dog which is found to be unregistered and the owner has had reasonable time in which to effect registration;
4. to institute appropriate legal action against the owner of a dog which has bitten or caused injury or damage to another person, animal or property;
5. to waive, modify or reduce impounding fees and associated costs in cases of exceptional hardship or in special circumstances.

Date Adopted:	22 September 1997
Date Amended:	-
Date Reviewed:	22 July 2003, 13 May 2008
Date of Next Review:	May 2013