



Dog Management Policy

REFERENCE NUMBER: P-07
ORGANISATION UNIT: Works
RESPONSIBLE POSITION: Director Works
RELEVANT DELEGATIONS: NA
DATE ADOPTED: 7 Feb 2014 (695/2014)
REVIEW DATE: Annually – 7 Feb 2015

Objectives

The health and welfare of residents and their dogs is important to the Central Desert Regional Council.

Council respects the cultural and social role that dogs play in communities.

Policy framework

- This Policy ensures that Council has an effective Dog Management Policy in place for all communities within the Central Desert Regional Council area.
- This Policy forms part of Council's Dog Management Plan and Animal Management By-laws.

Scope

- The Dog Management Policy applies to all Central Desert Regional Council communities and outstations, plus Ti Tree.

Policy

- Council encourages responsible dog ownership through education, encouragement, assistance and (if necessary) regulation.
- Aim for no more than two dogs per household.
- Facilitate de-sexing of dogs where owners are willing.
- Provide veterinary visits two times per year where funding permits.
- Abide by NT animal welfare regulations, in all communities.
- Enact Council's Animal Management Bylaws.
- Encourage Local Authorities and their members to contribute strongly to policy decisions, and to assist with onsite rulings about offending dogs.
- Council does not allow the keeping or presence of animals in the following Animal Restriction Areas: Council office; landfill site, libraries.
- Council will adhere to animal-related policies for properties or programs managed by Council on behalf of other Government agencies.

- Respect reasonable Local Authority directives for other animal-related rules

Objectives

- To help residents manage their own dogs responsibly and effectively within communities and outstations.
- Achieve an acceptable level of dog numbers, dog health and dog well-being in communities and outstations
- Establish Animal Management Bylaws to facilitate management of animals in communities
- Minimize incidents of dog attacks, menace and nuisance
- Reduce incidents of dog-created health infections and problems for residents
- Assist dog health through twice-yearly vet visits and other services within Council's financial and logistical abilities
- Encourage registration and micro-chipping of all owned dogs
- Use a cooperative approach with residents and Local Authorities rather than a strict law enforcement approach.

Legislation and Reference

- Central Desert Regional Council Animal Management By-Laws 2014
- NT Local Government Act (Section 195)
- Central Desert Regional Council Plan 2013-14
- Northern Territory Animal Welfare Act
- Northern Territory Public and Environmental Health Act
- RSPCA Policy

History:

First Adopted: 8 October 2008

Revised: 3 February 2012 (Resolution No: 268/2012)

7 February 2014 (Resolution No: 695/2014)

Next revision due: February 2015 (annually)