

# Town of Gawler Dog Control



## Registration

All dogs should be registered with the Council to ensure that effective dog control can be carried out. Without dog registrations the Council is unable to provide an effective service. Imagine for a moment what it would be like without dog control. People could not walk in the park or in the streets without fear of harassment from dogs. Attacks would increase as would the frustration of people who choose not to own a dog.

Your cooperation in registering your dog is the first step towards responsible dog ownership. Registration helps us trace owners of lost dogs.

All dogs must be registered when they reach three months of age and then reregistered each year on 1 July. If you purchase or obtain a dog three months or older, then you have 14 days in which to register the dog. It doesn't matter at what time of year your first registration is done. Reregistering is required on July 1 of each year. If the dog is not registered in either of these cases then penalties apply.

## Barking dogs

The Town of Gawler deals with approximately 200 dog noise complaints each year. Residents are encouraged in the first instance to try and solve the problem with the owner of the dog(s). The complaint procedures for barking dog complaints are as follows:

1. Obtain a 7 day diary complaint form from the Customer Service Department at the Council Offices
2. Complete the 7 day diary and hand back to the Customer Service Department when completed
3. The dog management officer will then assess the 7 day diary and determine if the complaint is justified and sufficient evidence is obtained

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4. If further evidence is required, a door knock of the immediate area will commence to ascertain if further proceedings are justified
5. If the complaint of the nuisance dog(s) is found to be justified, then council may proceed to do the following directions;
  - Issue an Expiation notice, (section 45a, subsection 5)
  - Issue a Notice of Intention to issue an Order (section 52 of the Act)
  - Issue a Dog Control Order (section 50 of the Act)

## **Disputes**

Dog owners have a responsibility not only to their animal(s) but to the community. Respect and consideration between neighbours goes a long way in preventing problems with dogs. Penalties apply for various offences.

## **Animal Management Plan**

A Cat and Dog Animal Management Plan is available from council on [www.gawler.sa.gov.au](http://www.gawler.sa.gov.au)