

Animal Keeping (Domestic Animals)

August 2024

Council has a strict policy allowing residents in the region to only keep two dogs, and no more than two cats over the age of six months per property, unless an animal keeping approval is held.

Under Council's *Subordinate Local Law No. 1.5 (Keeping of Animals) 2011*, residents can apply for an animal keeping approval.

Do I need to apply for an Animal Keeping approval?

If you only wish to keep two domestic dogs and two domestic cats - Council approval is not required.

If you wish to keep three or four domestic dogs **or** three or four domestic cats - Yes, an Animal Keeping (Domestic Animals) approval will be required.

If you wish to keep three or four domestic dogs **and** three or four domestic cats - Yes, an Animal Keeping (Domestic Animals) approval will be required however you will need to submit two separate applications (one for dogs and one for cats).

If you are wishing to breed or keep more than four dogs and/or cats, a local law approval is not required however a development approval may be required. Please contact Council's Development Assessment and Engineering team on 07 5540 5111.

Application process

Step 1 - Complete registration for two dogs residing at the property (registration applicable to dogs only as Council does not register cats).

Step 2 - Complete and submit an Animal Keeping (Domestic Animals) application form.

Documentation required when submitting and application:

- completed and signed application form;
- site plan and current photos of the enclosure or shelter identifying distances from boundaries and residences;
- copy of drivers licence including residential address
- photos of each animal together with copies of desexing and microchipping certificates;
- written consent from property owner or common area management to which the keeping of the animal/s relate (if applicable);
- payment of application fee.

Step 3 - Council will assess your application and if granted, you will be issued with an animal keeping approval and provided with an additional registration form to complete for the approved additional dog/s.

Dog registration requirements apply under the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* and must be completed and submitted for the additional dog/s within 14 days of the approval being issued.

Is my approval transferable if I move?

No, approval is issued to the person and property named on the application and is not transferable.

If you move to a new property, you will need to make application to assess the suitability of the new property and enclosure/s.

More information

For further information, please contact the Health Services team on 07 5540 5111.