



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - DOGS

Who is responsible for a dog?

Apart from the owner of the dog, the occupier of any premises where the dog is ordinarily kept or permitted to live, or a person who for the time being has the dog in his or her possession or control.

If you own a dog you have a legal responsibility to keep it under control, either within a fenced area on your property or on a leash in public.

Where can I let my dog off the lead?

There are several Dog Exercise Areas throughout the town. These are sign posted for your use remembering you should only let your dog off lead if you can maintain full control of your dog. Fines may apply for if you act contrary to these signs. A map of dog exercise areas is provided [here](#).

What do I do if I find a wandering dog?

Contact Ranger Services on 0408 931 274, Rangers receive many calls about wandering dogs each year resulting in some dogs been impounded, Rangers can also carry out yard inspections and require measures which could be put in place to prevent a reoccurrence of the wandering.

This could easily be avoided if all fences and gates where the dog is kept are made secure with gates which are fitted with springs and are self latching.

We understand occasionally dogs may get out especially during bad weather and request all wandering dogs are reported ASAP enabling Rangers to find and contain them before an incident occurs e.g. an attack or been hit by a vehicle, this can be distressing for all parties concerned. We also understand as residents when you find a dog you want to be able to contact the owner either directly or by social media to get the dog home and avoid the owner any costs. This can be helpful after hours but we still encourage you to report this, as all after hours calls are emailed to Rangers and the owner may have already reported their dog missing allowing Rangers to contact them straight away.

During working hours please contact Ranger Services ASAP who will pick the dog and scan for a microchip enabling them to make contact with the owner, getting the dog home and checking for any containment issues.





What do I do if my dog is missing?

If your dog is missing please contact Ranger Services on 0408 931 274, as we may already have your dog safe and secure in our Animal Management Facility.

If not we will be able to make contact as soon as we receive any reports or find your dog, please ensure your dog is microchipped, registered and all your details are kept up to date.

What do I do if I see a dog attacking another dog or a person?

If you are a victim of, or have witnessed a dog attack, please contact Ranger Services immediately on 0408 931 274 or 9734 9000.

A dog attack can take many forms, from a person or animal being chased and growled at, to a physical contact resulting in the death of an animal or serious injury to a person. All attacks should be reported to Rangers Services, regardless of the severity of the attack. All complaints are confidential. A dog that has shown the propensity to attack may be declared as a Dangerous Dog and be subject to additional control requirements e.g. containment measures and muzzled in public.

Please note, Rangers do not have the powers to make the offending dog owner to pay any vet costs etc., as this would be civil matter between the parties involved.

What do I do if I hear consistent and excessive barking?

The dog owner is responsible for ensuring that your dog is not a public nuisance from barking. Anyone who believes that a dog is creating a nuisance from barking are encouraged to speak to the owner of the dog(s) creating the nuisance, if they are concerned about excessive barking.

If the barking continues residents are encouraged to contact Ranger Services, they will request that you complete a "Nuisance Barking Diary" for a period of 14 consecutive days. They will also liaise with the dog owner and provide suggestions on how the barking may be reduced. Rangers are limited in their powers in relation to dog barking and do not have the authority to remove a dog from a residence.

