

TITLE

C 163 DOG MANAGEMENT POLICY

DEPARTMENT

Corporate Services

POLICY DIRECTIVE

A dog management policy and effective control provisions for the King Island Municipality as required by the *Dog Control Act of 2000* covering the following areas:

- a) the promotion of responsible ownership of dogs;
- b) a code relating to responsible ownership of dogs;
- c) criteria for granting exemptions;
- d) the provision of exercise areas and training areas;
- e) any other relevant matter.

HISTORY

Council Resolution No 449/01 adopted at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 16 October 2001.

POLICY

The promotion of responsible ownership of dogs

Persons are encouraged to take effective responsibility for their dog(s) at all times. The Council aids in this promotion by minimising fees and charges for the keeping of dog(s), providing adequate facilities and reasonable control requirements and imposing charges for those persons not adhering to the Policy Guidelines/Tasmanian Dog Control Bill.

A code relating to responsible ownership of dogs

Responsible ownership of dogs will be defined as persons who:-

- a) ensure the registration of their dog(s) at the age of six (6) months and the wearing of the registration disk on the dogs' collar whilst in a public place;
- b) maintain effective control of their dog(s) while in public places, which includes the use of a lead (and muzzle in the case of a greyhound), unless in permitted exercise or training areas;
- c) don't permit their dog(s) to enter prohibited private or public places;
- d) ensure their dog(s) does not become or create a nuisance to other persons, animals or property;

Criteria for granting exemptions

For a person to keep more than two (2) dogs over the age of six (6) months, or more than four (4) working dogs over the age of six (6) months, an exemption or a licence to keep the animals must be granted.

A person may apply to the Council to be exempted from the restriction of number of dogs to be kept or to have a licence for the extra dog(s) by submitting the appropriate form specifying the reasons for the exemption/licence.

Council may refuse to grant an exemption or licence, or apply conditions to the exemption/licence, as it considers appropriate.

An exemption or licence may be granted if the Council is satisfied that:-

- a) adequate provisions for the health, welfare and adequate control of all dogs on the premises are provided;
- b) nuisance to any other persons is unlikely to occur; and
- c) requirements under laws relating to public health and environmental protection are likely to be satisfied.

The provision of exercise areas and training areas

Council will provide an area(s) for owners to exercise and/or train their dog(s) within the Municipality.

Council will declare an area to be an area where dogs may be exercised or trained following:

- a) public notification of the proposed area and conditions relating to their use;
- b) invitation of submissions to be lodged within 10 working days of notification; and
- c) consideration of any submissions lodged.

Any other relevant matter

Further regulations are in accordance with the Dog Control Bill 2000, which will be enforced by the Dog Control Officer as required.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Dog Management Policy to come into effect upon the adoption of the Dog Control Bill 2000 by parliament.