## KEEPING DOGS & CATS IN DUNGOG SHIRE







#### What are my legal Requirements?

- All dogs and cats to be permanently identified/ microchipped by 12 weeks of age or by sale.
- All dogs and cats to be Lifetime Registered with Council by six months of age.
- All undesexed cats over the age of four month require an annual permit.
- All dogs <u>declared</u> as Dangerous or Restricted require an annual permit.

## What are my responsibilities as a dog owner?

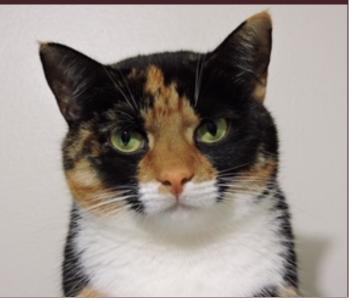
- If you are walking your dog in a public place, it must be under effective control of a competent person by means of an adequate chain, cord or leash.
- If your dog defecates in a public place, it is an offence to not remove the faeces immediately.
- Your dog must not become a nuisance to the community by either barking, roaming or displaying aggressive behaviour.
- Council encourages you to desex and fully vaccinate your dog.
- Your greyhound must be muzzled at all times when in a public place.
- <u>Declared</u> dogs must wear their prescribed collar and muzzle when being exercised in public.
- Council recommends a maximum of two dogs per household under its Local Orders Policy for the Keeping of Animals.

# What are my responsibilities as a cat owner?

- Council encourages you to desex and fully vaccinate your cat.
- Council recommends a maximum of two cats per household under its Local Orders Policy for the Keeping of Animals.
- Council encourages you to keep your cat inside to minimize their impact on wildlife, lowers their risk of becoming injured or sick and becoming a nuisance to the community.

Under the Companion Animals Act 1998 a cat is a nuisance cat if it:

- makes persistent, excessive noise that reasonably interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of any person in any other premises; or
- repeatedly damages anything outside the property on which it is ordinarily kept.



#### What is a working dog?

The Companion Animals Act 1998 defines a working dog as "a dog used primarily for the purpose of droving, tending, working or protecting stock and includes a dog being trained as a working dog."



## Does my working dog need to be microchipped and Lifetime Registered?

Yes! All dogs and cats within the Dungog Shire are legally required to be microchipped and Lifetime Registered. A dog that Council believes satisfies the criteria of a *working dog* is then Lifetime Registered as a *working dog*. The fee is of 'nil' value regardless of whether your dog is desexed or not.

Hunting dogs, guard dogs and 'therapy dogs' do not have special status as *working dogs* under the *Companion Animals Act 1998.* Likewise, a dog that is a 'traditional breed' of *working dog* but is not used for stock work or fit the criteria in any other way, is not a *working dog.* 

## Designated off leash dog park

#### Frank Robinson Park—Stroud Hill Road, Dungog



Rules of Use:

- It is recommended that your dog is dog friendly.
- Even though your dog is permitted to be off leash, it must be under reasonable control and supervision of a competent person.
- It is recommended that your dog is fully vaccinated and is not on heat.
- You are to pick up and dispose of your dog's defecation.
- Leave the park clean and tidy and take any of your rubbish away with you.

For more details relating to any of this information please contact Council on 4995 7777



### Further Information

Online microchip updates and Lifetime Registration payments: www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au

Selling or giving away pets: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/companion-animals

Responsible Pet Ownership: www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/dogs-cats

Choosing the Adoption Option: www.petrescue.com.au

Financial Assistance for Desexing: www.ndn.org.au or www.facebook.com/Hunter-Animal-Watch-Inc

Dungog Shire Council Impound Facebook page: Lost and Found at Dungog Pound www.facebook.com/pg/Lost-and-found-at-Dungog-Pound

For offences refer to the *Companion Animals Act* 1998 and *Companion Animals Regulations* 2008: www.legislation.nsw.gov.au

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