

KEEPING
DOGS & CATS
IN DUNGOG SHIRE



Dungog Shire
Life as it should be...

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 months require an annual permit.
- All dogs declared 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.
- Declared 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**

DUNGOG SHIRE COUNCIL

198 Dowling Street
DUNGOG NSW 2420

Phone: 02 4995 7777

Fax: 02 4995 7750

E-mail: shirecouncil@dungog.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.dungog.nsw.gov.