

Owning a cat

Owning a cat comes with responsibilities. If you fail to comply with the laws associated with owning a cat you could face a fine.

Your responsibilities

As a pet owner you have a legal responsibility to provide adequate housing; ensure that your cat is not a nuisance to the community; and microchip your cat.

A person may keep two cats per household.

Home for your cat

Ensure you provide a clean, comfortable and safe environment including a good bed, a comfortable chair, box or basket.

Enclosing your cat

As a pet owner, it is your responsibility to contain your cat to your property. Cats can be challenging to contain, but it really is the safest option for your pet. Some examples of effective enclosures are:

- Keeping your cat inside your house;
- Providing a cat run/enclosure;
- Utilising rollers on the top of the fence to prevent the cat from jumping fence.



Microchipping your cat

All cats must be microchipped before:

- Reaching 12 weeks of age;
- Being sold;
- Being given away.

Microchipping will make it easier for your cat to be reunited with you if it becomes lost.

If your cat ends up at the Animal Management Centre and isn't microchipped, Council has no way of letting you know it has been impounded.

Microchipping can only be done by an authorised microchip provider such as a vet.

Once microchipped, ensure your contact and address details are current with both Council and the company in which your microchip was provided.

Fines apply if your cat is not microchipped or if the details are not current.

Desexing your cat

Desexing your cat effectively prevents unwanted pregnancies.

Desexed cats are:

- Better protected from certain diseases and illnesses;
- Less inclined to roam, therefore less likely to be injured by a car;
- Less inclined to fight other cats;
- Less inclined to mark their territory.

You can desex your cat from the age of eight weeks when surgery is simple and recovery is rapid.

Approvals

Approval is required for the keeping of three cats over the age of 12 weeks on any premises.

Conditions apply, including desexing.